

Preface

The term *canola* refers to varieties of rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.) that produce high quality, edible oils with less than 2% erucic acid and defatted seed meals with less than 30 micromoles of aliphatic glucosinolates/gram. Canola seeds contain about 40 percent oil by weight. The oil is used primarily as a salad or cooking oil and in processed foods. Canola oil contains less than half the saturated fat of any other vegetable oil, has a favorable mix of mono- and polyunsaturated fats, and like other vegetable oils contains no cholesterol. The seed meal produced after oil extraction is approximately 35 percent protein and is used as feed for poultry or livestock.

In 1985, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration changed its regulations to allow the use of low erucic acid rapeseed oil (canola oil) for human consumption in the U.S. The U.S. food industry quickly recognized the nutritional benefits of canola oil and began to market canola oil as a cooking oil and to utilize it in a growing number of processed foods.

Mild winters, adequate winter rainfall, and the potential to double-crop make the southeastern U.S. a promising site for canola production. Research conducted at the University of Georgia indicates that canola can be grown successfully in this region as a fall-planted winter annual. Machinery required and production costs for canola are similar to those for wheat and profit potential is equal or better than that of wheat.

Variety evaluation trial results are reported from three locations in 2007-2008. Locations were Tifton in the Lower Coastal Plain region, Plains in the Upper Coastal Plain region, and Griffin in the Piedmont region. For identification of the trial locations, see the map on following page.

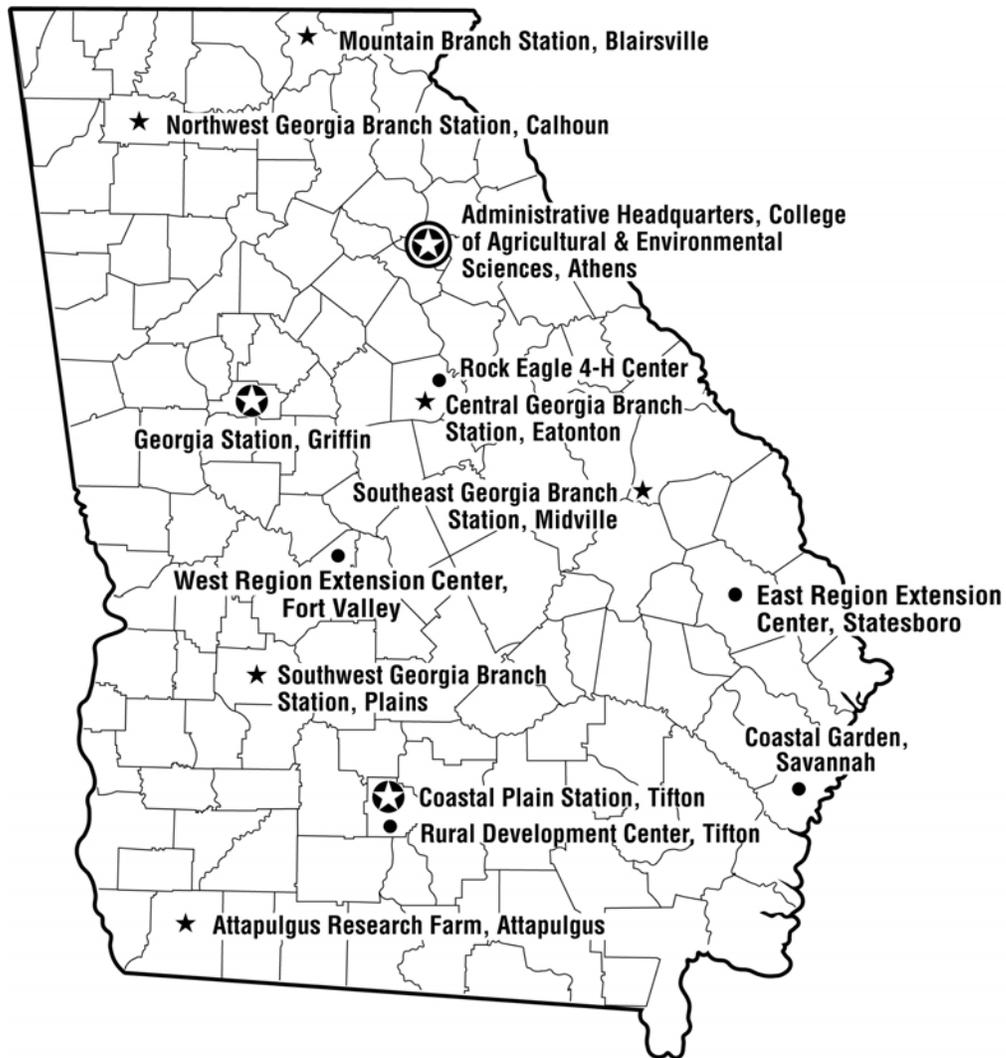
Yields are reported in pounds per acre at 8.5% moisture. Yields may be converted to bushels per acre by dividing by 50 (50 lb/bu). Additional data such as oil content, beginning bloom date, maturity date, plant height, lodging, seed shatter, winter survival, and disease incidence are included when available. Information on cultural practices is presented in footnotes.

The least significant difference (LSD) at the ten percent level has been included in the tables to aid in comparing entries within trials. If the yields' difference of any two entries exceeds the LSD value, they may be considered different in yield ability. **Bolding** is used in the performance tables to indicate entries with yields statistically equal to the highest yielding entry in the test. The standard error (Std. Err.) of an entry mean is included and provides a general indicator of the level of precision of each experiment. The lower the value of the standard error of the entry mean, the more precise the experiment.

This report is one of five publications presenting the performance of agronomic crops in Georgia. For information concerning other crops, refer to one of the following

research reports: 2007 Corn Performance Tests (Report 712), 2007 Soybean, Sorghum Grain and Silage, Summer Annual Forages, and Sunflower Performance Tests (Report 713), 2007 Peanut, Cotton and Tobacco Performance Tests (Report 714), and 2007-2008 Small Grain Performance Tests (Report 715).

This report, along with performance test information on other crops, is also available at our web site www.swvt.uga.edu. Additional information may be obtained by writing to Mr. J. LaDon Day or Dr. Paul L. Raymer, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, Griffin Campus, 1109 Experiment Street, Griffin, GA 30223-1797.



⊙ Main Experiment Station ★ Branch Station ● Extension Center

Cooperators

Dr. G. Hoogenboom, Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department,
Griffin Campus, Griffin, Georgia.
Mr. S. R. Jones, Southwest Research & Education Center, Plains, Georgia.
Mr. H. G. Kendrick, Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Georgia.
Dr. D. V. Phillips, Plant Pathology Department, Griffin Campus, Griffin, Georgia.
Mr. R. R. Pines, Southwest Research & Education Center, Plains, Georgia.
Mr. T. E. Ross, Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Georgia.

Contributors

The following individuals contributed to the gathering of data and the preparation of this report: R. Brooke, R. Connell, D. Dunn, M. Flynn, M. Gilmer, J. Harrison, M. Hassey, R. Jackson, P. McLaren, D. Seyle, D. Spradlin, G. Ware, L. White, A. Wright, and D. Wyatt.