

Testimony Economics of some Oilseed Crops in the Willamette Valley

Expected time of development and anticipated gross income per acre for various oilseed crops are shown in Table 1. Net income per acre would be a better measure of economic potential, however at this time cost of production for most of these crops is not known in the WV, nor is the cost of handling, storage, and freight to the point of sale. Gross income minus all these costs would be net income. Canola is the only crop that has immediate viability. Infrastructure, handling or processing facilities need to be available before any other oilseeds can be viable.

Table 1. Economic potential for some common oilseeds in the Willamette Valley

Crop	Prevailing Price \$/cwt March 2023	Acreage Potential	Time required to reach viability	Expected yield lb/acre	Anticipated gross income \$/acre
Canola	\$32	>10,0000	Exists now	3600-4000	1100-1300
Camelina	\$31	<2000	5-10 years	1500	450 to 500
Sunflower	\$30.50	2000 to ?	5-10 years	1500-2000	450 to 650
Mustard	\$45	1000?	5-10 years	1000-1500	650-900
Flax	\$35	2000 to ?	5-10 years	1800	500 to 700