



PAMI RELEASE

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Immediate Release

Chickpea and Air Seeders

Ever heard of kabuli or desi? These are two different types of chickpea. Chickpea is one of the most widely produced pulse crops throughout the world and its popularity in the last few years has grown on the prairies. There are many varieties of chickpeas. The small-seeded desi type is used primarily in splits or flour. The large-seeded kabuli or garbanzo type is used for canning and salad bars.

Chickpea is very susceptible to damage that will cost the producer money. Funding from the Agriculture Development Fund from the Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food, and Rural Revitalization allowed PAMI to find out the susceptibility of chickpea varieties to impact damage. The impact tests were carried out on four varieties of large kabuli, three varieties of small kabuli, and three varieties of desi chickpeas. These varieties were selected because of their popularity on the market or future potential. The test created large impact forces to generate significant damage to the chickpea varieties. This was done to show damage differentiation among the varieties giving producers knowledge about which varieties are more susceptible to handling and seeding damage.

This information also aided PAMI in choosing the varieties of chickpeas that would be used in testing air seeders to see what impact damage would occur to the seed during the seeding operation. Because damaged seed will not germinate properly, knowing what is happening to your seed is important to keeping input costs as low as possible. The air seeder tests showed that proper operation of the air seeder can result in very little chickpea damage.

To find out the particulars about the comparison of chickpea varieties to impact damage call PAMI and ask for Research Update #755. You can use our toll free number 1-800-567-7264 or check on our website at www.pami.ca. Results indicate that a properly operated air seeder will have metering and distribution damage at less than 3%. To find out how to operate air seeders to minimize damage, ask for Research Update #756 for chickpea seeding with the Bourgault Air Seeder, #757 for chickpea and the Case IH Air Seeder, #758 for chickpea and the Flexi Coil Air Seeder, #759 for chickpea and the Morris Air Seeder. A small charge to cover shipping will apply.

- 30 -

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