

## 1973 RAPESEED VARIETIES

Almost 86% of the acreage seeded to rapeseed in Canada in 1973, was given over to low erucic acid varieties, according to a survey conducted and compiled by the three Wheat Pools in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The "Span" variety led with 60.2%, followed by "Zephyr" with 19.8%, the balance being "Oro" with 4% and the two most recently licensed varieties, "Midas" and "Torch".

Total acreage seeded in 1973, estimated by Statistics Canada, was 3,150,000 acres and of this area, 2,706,700 acres were allocated to low erucic acid varieties and only 443,300 acres to the older high erucic rapeseed. The latter were mainly seeded under contract and for specific markets, and accounted for 14.1% of the total acreage, according to the survey results.

The schedule of targets and their probable dates, as set by the plant breeders in Western Canada, show no change from previous indications. It would appear that seed of low erucic varieties will be available for the 1974 crop to enable 100 per cent recovery of yield, oil content and maturity in low erucic rapeseed, possibly wholly in the *B. napus* group, and partially in the *B. campestris*.

## NEW CRUSHING PLANT

Canada will have a new rapeseed crushing plant in operation, hopefully, late in 1974. A consortium of United Grain Growers Ltd., a farmer-owned co-operative, British Columbia Packers, and the Japanese firm of Mitsubishi Canada Ltd. will construct and operate the plant which will be located at Lloydminster, a city bordering on Saskatchewan and Alberta, and in an important rapeseed growing area.

This will be a 7 million dollar plant with an estimated daily capacity of 700 tons. It will raise to five the number of plants now processing rapeseed in the three Prairie Provinces. It is understood that no financial assistance, either federal or provincial, has been required by the group.

## EXPORT CONTROLS RELAXED

Relaxation of export controls on vegetable oils as well as protein meals and other products, was announced by the Dept. of Industry, Trade & Commerce, Ottawa, on September 17, 1973. Export permits will be issued for shipments up to December 31, for a majority of the items while contracts for shipment to January 31, 1974, will be given export permits in the case of fishmeal.

When the United States terminates its export restrictions on October 1, 1973, it is fully anticipated that Ottawa will indicate further relaxation of the controls in Canada. The Department will continue to monitor the effect of shipments in order to protect the interests of domestic users and traditional importers from Canada.

In making the announcement, the Minister said that action was being taken at this time in the light of the significant improvement in the protein supply situation following the early results of the new harvest.