

RECENT PROGRESS IN SELECTION OF RAPESEED IN FRANCE

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Principle results of breeding of oil-seed rape in France over recent years are presented. This work has been undertaken by INRA (Rennes) in collaboration with university and public research (CNRS) organisations, SERASEM and CETIOM. Subjects discussed cover ; i) selection of pure double zero lines of which conversion of Bienvenu variety by backcrosses and study of sinapine content ; ii) improvement in resistance to certain parasites including that to Phoma lingam through interspecific crosses, to Sclerotinia sclerotiorum, to Alternaria brassicae and to Cylindrosporium concentricum ; iii) selection of triazine resistant lines ; iv) improvement of resistance to lodging with the aid of a dwarf gene ; v) study of different systems of male-sterility for F1 hybrid or mixed variety production (mixed varieties include pollen donor plants and male sterile F1 hybrids).