

Pea and soybean breeding

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The Crop Development Centre (CDC), University of Saskatchewan pea breeding program has the objectives to develop high yielding cultivars having good lodging resistance, high seed protein concentration, and good disease resistance. The program has released more than 40 cultivars over the past two decades, and these cultivars have occupied greater than 60% of the pea area in western Canada over the past decade. Improving root rot resistance is a key goal to allow for sustainable pea production. Improving seed protein concentration and quality will benefit the growing plant-based protein markets. The CDC soybean breeding program is younger than the pea breeding program, with the first cultivar release in 2024. The objectives of the program are to develop high yielding cultivars for the maturity group 00 and 000 regions.