Sheyenne - A New Variety of Flax

By T. E. Stoa, Agronomist

THE North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station announces the release of a new rust resistant variety of flax, Sheyenne (C.I. 1073). Sheyenne is a selection from a cross, Ottawa 770B x Buda, made by H. H. Flor, Plant Pathologist, Division of Cereal Crops and Diseases, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Research Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, and released cooperatively by the Division of Cereal Crops and Diseases, U. S. Department of Agriculture and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station. This new variety ripens early, has blue flowers, brown seed, and grows about as tall or only slightly less tall than Bison. The seed is slightly smaller than Bison, has satisfactory yield of oil and the iodine number (index of the drying quality of the oil) is better than Bison.

Sheyenne is immune to the races of rust known to exist in this country; is highly wilt resistant and has about the same degree of tolerance to the pasmo disease as Bison, Buda, and Koto, which gives it an advantage over most other rust resistant varieties now available. Sheyenne may not yield as high in some years as some varieties that ripen later and have a higher capacity for yield. However, it should return satisfactory yields more consistently under the conditions and in the area designated for it. Being rust resistant, fairly tolerant to pasmo and early in ripening, it is believed that this variety is likely to have its largest use in the southeastern sections of the State, where earliness is desirable in order to "escape" the high summer temperatures or late drouths. Sheyenne does not have quite as strong a straw as Bison but is stronger than Buda.

"The Windbreak as a Farm Asset" is the title of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1405, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The publication can be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., for 10 cents. (H.L.W.)

There are 24 certified nurseries in North Dakota and 7 licensed dealers in nursery stock, according to the official 1945 horticultural nursery inspection service conducted by the Agricultural Experiment Station.