



Terre de Lin

Flax Highlights - September 2014

VISITS OF TEXTILE COMPANIES



The blooming period is a good time to talk about linen, the cultivation and scutching with some textiles companies
Then 3 of them came in June to understand more about linen to explain all about this fibre to their customers:

- The Japanese branch of Billerbeck, which produces and sells linen bed covers
- The Italian weaver and editor Maria Flora specialized in home textile
- Freitag, well-known for their bags using recycled truck tarps, will launch a natural fibers garment collection during this autumn

They were very interested in our agricultural know-how, TERRE DE LIN's raw material expertise. They also have a great interest in our variety breeding to get better yields but also more resistant plant to disease using less treatment. They also compliment us for using only linen ropes to avoid plastic ropes wastes that can cause problems during the dyeing.

VARIETIES AND AGRONOMIC TRIALS



In June, TERRE DE LIN presents its works on varieties breeding and agronomy to its farmers and to specialized technicians.

- The trials on winter fiber flax/linen was mainly based on the presentation of this new cultivation (only 800 ha in 2014 in France). This crop is adapted to the south part of linen cultivation area in France. The farmers can avoid the drying period of late spring.

- For our trials on spring fiber flax/linen, we presented our works on breeding selection. Our new variety, BOLCHÃO, is naturally resistant to mildew. Then, we avoid treatment against this disease. Those natural diseases resistances works allow linen to be more and more respectful of environment.

2014 CROP REPORT FOR TERRE DE LIN



The harvest was complicated by the weather but the production of fibers is preserved

After an early vegetation period, the flax/linen straws have been pulled between 15 and 25 of July. Fresh temperatures at the end of the cycle have slowed the growing to finally have a normal pulling period. The pullings have been done in quite good weather conditions.

A small part of flax/linen (less than 20 %) has lodged. But most of them have straightened up avoiding disease development.

The retting was early. Few straws have been rolled at the beginning of August. 80 % have been harvested between 10 and 30 August. The turning over of straw and the rolling have been complicated by frequent rains. However, the high level of equipment of TERRE DE LIN' farmers have allowed to harvest correct retted straws.

The remains 20 % have been harvested at the beginning of September.

Crop 2014 will be less productive than 2013.

We will get a large range of quality from fibres with defaults to homogenous and well retted flax/linen. We will be able to provide raw materials to our customers.

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