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**STUDY OF THE INITIAL MATERIAL  
FOR BREEDING OF FIBER-FLAX AND FLAX-INTERMEDIA  
IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE WESTERN FOREST-STEPPE**

It is important for study of flax culture is the availability of variety–samples of flax world collection, valuable lines and varieties of own breeding, which allows versatile evaluation of the breeding numbers of flax to be studied, to select the best samples, both on the basis of individual features and the set of indicators. The questions of formation of linseed and flax straw yield of available varieties of fiber–flax and flax–intermedia varieties under conditions of the western Forest-Steppe are considered. The collection includes breeding varieties, lines and hybrids from 27 countries of the world. The available collection material of IACR NAAS has 219 samples of flax common (*Linum usitatissimum* L.) belonging to different ecotypes: fiber–flax (*Linum usitatissimum elongate* L.), flax–intermedia (*Linum usitatissimum intermedia* L.) and flax-curler (*Linum usitatissimum humile* L.).

On the basis of the obtained results, valuable initial material was selected on the parameters of productivity, in particular, seed yield and its stability over the years among the varieties of domestic and foreign breeding (13 sources on seed productivity and four samples for straw productivity) in the conditions of the western Forest-Steppe. The flax plants of studied variety–numbers are produced the higher seed and straw yields, showed the greater resistance to lodging (5,0 points) and spilling (4,5–5,0 points).