



KATTĀN

KATTĀN (pronounced *katān* in Persian), term for both flax (*Linum usitatissimum* L.) and linen. The word in Persian comes from Arabic *kattān*, which in its turn is from Aramaic *kettānā/kittānā*, derived from Sumerian *gad* and Akkadian *kitū/kitinū* 'linen' (Ḥasandust, pp. 2134-35). Flax is an annual, self-fertilizing plant grown for its fiber (fiber flax), or for its seed (oil flax, seed flax, linseed), or for both (dual-purpose flax), with the main uses being for linen and linseed oil.

i. Linen

ii. Linseed oil