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Temperature variation caused by sowing dates significantly affects floral initiation and floral bud differentiation processes in rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.)

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Highlights

- Four leaf age of rapeseed is a basic vegetative growth for floral initiation.
- The plastochron of rapeseed is about 37.7°Cd per leaf primordia.
- Thermal time and mean temperature of vegetative phase is exponential dependent.
- Dynamic change of floral bud on raceme fits robustly by sigmoidal logistic curve.
- The raceme and first three primary branches contribute mostly to seed yield.

Abstract

To understand the influence of temperature on floral initiation and to reveal the