



Central West Farming Systems

FARMERS ADVANCING RESEARCH

PO Box 171 CONDOBOLIN 2877 Ph. 02 6895 1050 Fax. 02 6895 2688

Website: www.cwfs.org.au

Email- wendy.gill@dpi.nsw.gov.au

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

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Core Site Results from 2005

Since last years harvest the CWFS staff team have been working hard bringing together the results of trials performed on the core site and regional sites. Core site yield and average gross margin results are as follows for your interest:

Across all three cropping systems; continuous cropping, reduced tillage and conventional tillage all wheat and barley crops were sown at 40 Kg/ha. Peas were sown at a higher rate of 75 Kg/ha all with 75 Kg/ha of DAP fertiliser.

Sowing for all systems occurred in June when 115mm of rain was received at the site which gave 0.5m of soil moisture. Throughout last years growing season 149mm of in crop rainfall was received at the site.

Table 1: Core site systems results 2005.

System	Crop Type	Crop Variety	Yield (t/Ha)
No Till/Continuous Cropping	Barley	Tilga	2.4
	Wheat after Pulse	Drysdale	1.8
	Wheat after Green Manure	Chara	1.6
	Pulse (Peas)	Parafield	1.6
Reduced Tillage	Long Fallow/Wheat/ u/s	Drysdale	1.2
	Long Fallow/wheat	Chara	1.1
Conventional Tillage	Stubble/u/s /Wheat	Drysdale	1.2
	Long Fallow/Wheat	Chara	1.2

The No Till/continuous cropping system had the highest losses of all systems followed by the reduced tillage system then the traditional system. The system that made profitable returns was the pasture system as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: System Average Gross Margin Results 2005.

System	Income (\$/Ha)	Variable Costs (\$/Ha)	Gross Margins (\$/Ha)
Traditional	58.79	88.22	-29.44
Reduced Tillage	53.94	93.87	-39.93
No Till/Continuous Cropping	96.86	167.7	-70.84
Pasture	62.03	26.07	35.96

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Crop Variety Demonstration Yield Results

This pea variety demonstration was sown on the 29-07-05 with 80 Kg/Ha sowing rate with 75 Kg/Ha DAP fertiliser. The highest yielding pea variety was Parafield in both seed production and hay production followed by Kaspia and Yarrum varieties (See Figure 1). The Morgan & Excel varieties results indicate that they may be better suited for hay production purposes.

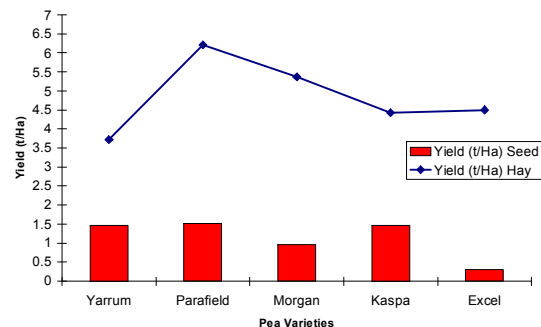


Figure 1: Comparison of Seed & Hay Yield differences between Pea Varieties

The Barley variety trial was sown on the 15-08-05 with 80Kg/Ha seed and 75 Kg/Ha DAP fertiliser. Tilga was the highest yielding barley of the three tested. All varieties produced yields over 1.8t/Ha.

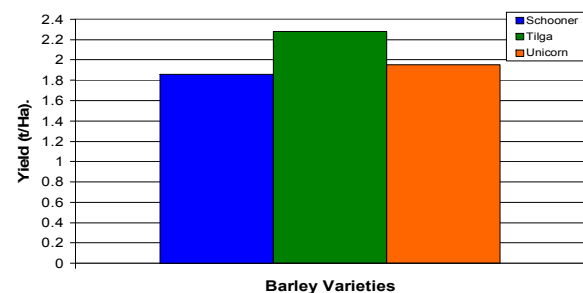


Figure 2: Comparison of Barley varieties Yield (t/Ha).

Row Spacing Demonstration Yield Results: Peas:

This pea demonstration trial was sown on the 29-07-05 using Parafield peas at a sowing rate of 80 Kg/Ha with 80 Kg/Ha of DAP fertiliser. The results (See Table 3) show the pea yield to increase with smaller row spacings. The difference in yield for this pea variety at different row spaces was not significantly better or worse across all trailed widths. This demonstration does not indicate clear advantages or disadvantage against a set row width to maximise pea yields.

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