



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 MARCH 2006

Cereal, Pulse & Oilseed Crop Varietal Selection Reminders:

Its time to look at the options available to you all when choosing winter crops for this season. Selecting the right crop varieties for your situation is a key determinant to maximising crop production and yields. When selecting winter crop varieties the following factors should be kept in mind:

-All varieties performance may vary according climatic/seasonal, environmental conditions and disease/insect management.

Wheat:

- It is advised that producers choose to plant at least two varieties. Choosing an early and late maturing variety that suits your area will give you more flexibility within your system.
- Select varieties that have superior grain quality attributes that suit market specifications.
- Choose varieties that have high resistance to soil pathogen disease and foliar diseases.
- Try to choose varieties with the better agronomic features e.g good seedling vigour, frost tolerance & reduced shattering and lodgings.

Barley:

- Select based on crop use - i.e. feed grain, malt grain production, grazing purposes.
- For grazing select dual purpose varieties that fill your seasonal feed gaps.
- Grain varieties should be aimed at the end use & market specifications.
- Barley production & management should include paddock selection, variety choice, sowing time, seeding rate, nutrition, weed & disease control.

Oats:

- Select based on crop use - i.e. grazing, hay, silage, dual purpose or grain.
- Grazing varieties should be chosen on their ability to fill feed gaps within your seasons.

- Disease resistance is important for all hay lines to ensure its quality.

Canola/Mustard:

- Select for maturity, black leg resistance, yield, oil, protein content and herbicide tolerance.
- Herbicide tolerant varieties contain either imidazolinone (does not have oil or yield penalties) or triazine that are resistant to Group B herbicides.
- Oil (>42%) and protein levels determine end market value, aim to choose high yielding and high protein varieties.
- Only obtain certified or quality assured seed to guarantee weed free seed and keep a sample of seed for a point of reference if problems arise.

Pulse crops – Chickpeas, Faba beans, Field peas & Lupins:

- For all pulse crops consider crop disease susceptibility in your area, paddock selection (soil and nutrients availability), access to seed, seed size & type in terms of ease of sowing & machinery use, frost risk, plant stand, ease of harvest, shattering resistance and available markets outlets.
- The lupin industry has progressed rapidly in improving its varietal lines, there have been more new narrow leafed varieties released this year. Albus lupins new varieties are increasing with a major push to preventing bitterness in the new lines available in 2007. This will enable lupin production to be more competitive in the domestic & export markets.
- To prevent bitterness it is recommended that growers only sow one variety per year and discard all old seed not planted each year. It is also desirable that producers try to maintain a 1km buffer from each crop grown to prevent cross pollination.

For further information on any winter crop varieties and there management this year please consult the 2006 Winter Crop Variety Sowing Guide –published by the DPI or ask your local District Agronomist.

Useful Websites:

- Central West Farming System Website:
www.cwfs.org
- NVT variety trials online:
www.nvtonline.com.au

Corrections to last edition:

Due to some wrongly published results, a revised corrected issue of results from the core site yields and Gross Margins were published and released. If you did not receive a copy of the corrected version and would like one, please call CWFS.

Dates for your Calender:

1. 31st March - Alectown Regional Site Meeting, Alectown Hall 9.30 to 12pm
2. 31st March - Gunning Gap & Wirrinya Regional Site Meetings – Forbes Sport & Recreation Club (170 Lachlan St) 1.30 to 4.00pm
3. 31st March -Tottenham Regional Site Preseason Meeting: 7.30pm at Albert Golf Club, Albert.



PO Box 171
Condobolin NSW 2877

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