

Safe Storage of canola grain

Stored Grain Research Laboratory

Canola should be stored 'cool and dry'. Typically this means below 25 °C (preferably below 20 °C) and at less than 7% moisture content (even less for high oil content canola). Under these conditions there is no mould development, free fatty acid formation is minimised and colour is retained. Insect infestation is restricted, though some insect control treatment probably will be needed if the commodity is stored for more than a few weeks. Well-controlled aeration is needed to achieve and maintain these conditions and restrict moisture migration problems. Painting the bin white helps passive cooling and avoids heating by sunlight.

Phosphine treatment is the most effective option for dealing with insects on-farm, although it requires the correct infrastructure for full effectiveness. Either a sealed bin is needed or Siroflo® should be fitted.

Do not use fenitrothion or dichlorvos on canola seed or spray structures where canola seed will be stored.

For further information:

CSIRO Stored Grain Research Laboratory
<www.sgrl.csiro.au>

Australian Oilseeds Federation
<www.australianoilseeds.com>

GRDC <www.grdc.com.au> and type 'keep phosphine safe' into search