

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



September 2008

Canola 2008/09

The canola crop estimates have been maintained at around 1.6 million tonnes, despite crop reductions in the eastern states. Favourable spring conditions are required to realise the potential, with some upside possible if conditions are good.

	2007/08	2008/09 Estimates	
	Production (tonnes)	Area Planted (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	44,000	212,000	298,000
VIC	200,000	215,000	344,000
SA	155,000	175,000	230,000
WA	670,000	620,000	775,000
Total	1,069,000	1,222,000	1,647,000

Source: Industry Estimates, 12/09/08

There is still a wide variation in crops across **NSW**. Two good rainfall events in the northern and central regions of NSW have maintained the crop potential in these areas and has also helped to stabilise yield. However, variable rainfall in the south and western regions may have supported crop potential in general but some areas are now marginal and crops are failing due to increasing moisture stress. Good general rain across all growing areas is required in the next 10 – 14 days to stabilise crops in the western part of State and could also boost crop potential in the eastern areas. However, variable or minimal rain could also result in significant downsizing of crop area and yields. There has been wide spread spraying for aphids in all areas.

Despite minimal soil moisture, crops in **Victoria**, particularly in the Wimmera, Mallee and North-East/Central areas, are still performing well and are showing good potential to meet crop forecast estimates. The Western District is exhibiting very good crop conditions and forecast yields are in the order of 1.9 tonne per hectare. Again continuing good rainfall is required across all areas of the State throughout September.

The cold weather during August in **South Australia** slowed crop development down somewhat, but the outlook is still good. Monthly average rainfall across most areas of the State has maintained crop potential and crops in all growing areas are continuing to perform well. If average rainfall and weather conditions continue in September, crop forecast should be attained.

Rainfall across the majority of the growing area in **Western Australia** has continued to support crop production and performance. Crop yields have been increased slightly across the State. Good rainfall in September will set yields in well performing crops and will support continuing crop development and also boost yields in marginal areas where crops have struggled. As per the eastern states, continuing good rainfall is the key to achieving yield forecast in all areas of the State.

Virtual Canola Crop Website:

http://www.australianoilseeds.com/agronomy_centre/the_virtual_canola_site

Upcoming Events

3-6 November 2008, International Safflower Conference, Wagga Wagga, NSW. Register at www.australianoilseeds.com