

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



November 2006

Canola 2006/07

The Australian canola crop continues to be impacted by the sustained dry conditions and some late frosts have further decimated the crop. Production in WA has held firm, but all the eastern states have seen production revised down. We now estimate the crop at a new low of 420,000 tonnes.

	2005/06 Production (tonnes)	2006/07 Estimates		
		Area Planted (hectares)	Area Harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	253,750	180,000	40,000	36,000
VIC	337,500	213,000	85,000	50,000
SA	217,500	150,000	110,000	75,000
WA	630,000	400,000	300,000	260,000
Total	1,438,750	943,000	535,000	421,000

Source: Industry Estimates, 2/11/06

Crops in the north of **NSW** have fared relatively well given the conditions and some good yields have been reported. The other factor holding up NSW average yields is the dominance of canola on irrigation in the south, with large areas of the dryland crop not harvested. Thus, the average state yield is not indicative of average yields off dryland areas. In addition to low and variable yields across the centre and south of the state, oil contents are also down. At this stage, NSW is expected to produce around 36,000 tonnes off a harvested area of 40,000 hectares, but there could be some further downside.

Last month's report noted that **Victorian** production was being held up by the western districts, but that rain was needed to secure this. Not only has the state not received any rain over the past month, the western district experienced a severe frost and this has severely reduced production potential. It is estimated that more than half the western district's area could be cut for hay and the remaining crops will have significantly reduced yields. Area and yields have been reduced slightly in the Wimmera and the North East. Victoria is now expected to produce 50,000 tonnes from a harvested area of 85,000 hectares.

There has been no rain in the last month in **South Australia** and some frost damage in the South East. The harvest is probably around one quarter completed. Oil contents are lower than average, but have held up reasonably well given the seasonal conditions. Harvested area has been reduced to 110,000 hectares to produce 75,000 tonnes.

There has been no change to the estimates for **Western Australia**. The harvest is well (60-70%) underway in the Esperance zone. Rain in this region has slowed harvest progress in recent days, but this is not expected to impact quality. Harvest is just commencing in the Kwinana and Albany zones. Oil contents are down 2-3% on last year, but are still good given the season.

AOF Crop Report is provided free due to the support of the Oilseed Development Fund (ODF).

Meadow Lea Foods	Unilever Australasia	Peerless Foods
Cargill Australia	Atlantic Pacific Foods	Alba Edible Oils
Riverland Oilseeds	MSM Milling	Barter Enterprises
Ridley Agriproducts	Milmaster	Grain Pool WA
GrainCorp	Louis Dreyfus	ABB Grain
AWB Limited		

Summer crop (sunflower and soybean) forecasts will commence next month. Our apologies for the delay in regard to sunflower forecasts.