

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



September 2005

Canola 2005/06

Spring conditions will determine the size and quality of the Eastern Australian canola crop

	2004/05 production (tonnes)	2005/06 Estimates	
		Area (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	420,000	120,000	156,000
VIC	395,000	225,000	393,750
SA	226,000	140,000	175,000
WA	490,000	450,000	603,000
Total	1,531,000	935,000	1,327,750

Source: Industry Estimates, 9/09/05

While there has been some general rain across **NSW**, there will need to be improved conditions to see forecast yields achieved. The Central West is amongst the worst of the regions and moisture is running out. Crops are flowering, but overall are very late, particularly in the south where they can be anywhere up to a month late. There have been reports of heliothis in the north and also some potential concern about aphids if it remains dry. In the south, weeds have been an issue and fertiliser application has been less than optimal. Thus, due to the late flowering and warm conditions, yields have been reduced from an average of 1.35 tonnes per hectare to 1.3.

Yields in **Victoria** have also been revised down slightly due to concerns over the potential outlook for a favourable spring. Further rain and mild conditions are required to see forecast yields achieved. Crops are generally looking reasonable, but are existing from rain to rain. Conditions over the next month will be crucial for crop prospects.

A similar story applies in **South Australia**. There was good general rain two weeks ago and the Eyre Peninsula, Mid North and Mallee received further rain last weekend. With a good spring, there may be some upside, but without this there will be pressure in achieving the forecast yields. Crops are flowering and are around two weeks late.

Conditions in **Western Australia** continue to be good. Following a dry July, good rain has been received and this has helped ensure WA is on track for one of its best average yields. It remains wet in the south. There has been some reports of Diamond Back Moth in the north.

Globally, Canada is on track for close to a record crop. The crop is forecast to be around 8.4 million tonnes, which is very close to their record of 8.8 million tonnes. This outlook has seen Winnipeg values fall over recent days. While the Canadian harvest is a little late due to wet weather, this has not caused any major problems. Lower values for Canadian canola has stimulated demand from China, while demand from the bio-diesel industry is supporting canola/rapeseed values in Europe.

Upcoming Events

3-7 October 2005, ARAB14, Port Lincoln, South Australia

12&13 October 2005 AOF Forum & AGM. The AOF's annual conference will be held in Sydney.

Key topics include:

- Opportunities for protein meals and role of vegetable protein meals in diets
- Role of oils in the food industry and Australian diets
- Trends in nutrition and food labelling
- Opportunities for oils in the Australian food industry,
- The global and local oleochemical market and opportunities in non food uses

Leading overseas experts including Dr. Rex Newkirk, Director of Feed, Canadian International Grains Institute and Mr Emile Chone from Novance, one of Europe's leading oleochemical companies will address the conference.

For further information contact AOF on 02 9405 2340 or go to

http://www.australianoilseeds.com/data/page/23/AOF_program_and_registration.pdf

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	Riverland Oilseed Proc.
Bartter Enterprises	Ridley Agriproducts	Millmaster
Grain Pool WA	GrainCorp	Louis Dreyfus
AWB Ltd	ABB Grain	