School of Agriculture, Food and Wine



## Sensitivity of canola yield: stress at different growth stages



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## Materials and Method

- Cultivar: Hyola 575CL
- Growing season rainfall=284mm
- White shade cloth (Premium Hortshade Light) reduced PAR by 33%
- green-bud (GS 50-59),
- early-flowering (GS 60-65),
- mid-flowering/pod-initiation (GS 65-70),
- late-flowering/pod-development (GS 70-75),
- pod-filling (GS 75-80).





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# Total dry matter accumulation (TDM) and Grain yield



## **Yield Components**



# Crop stressed at early flowering



#### Non-stressed crop



## Crop stressed at Poddevelopment





## Harvest index (HI), Oil content and N uptake in seeds

Shade		Oil content	N uptake(Seeds)
Treatments	HI	(%)	kg ha⁻¹
Green-bud	0.21	44.7	32.3
Early Flowering	0.19	44.5	33.8
Pod Initiation	0.18	44.3	36.5
Pod development	0.17	44.8	28.1
Pod filling	0.20	44.8	22.0
Unshaded	0.20	44.6	37.5
Lsd	0.07	0.6	8.2
Prob	NS	NS	0.017



Sensitivity of canola yield to stress increased as the crop developed.

A grain yield reduction of 38% was observed with the shading at pod filling due to low seed number and seed weight.

Stress at pod-filling reduced seed m<sup>-2</sup> by 23% and seed weight by 25%.

There was no grain yield reduction with the stress at early-flowering. Stress at early flowering reduced the pod m<sup>-2</sup> but did not affect the seed m<sup>-2</sup>.

In contrast to yield, oil concentration was unaffected by the timing of stress.

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