

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



February 2010

Canola 2009/10

With the season now complete, final season figures will be available for the March Crop Report.

Soybean 2008/09

| | 2008/09 | 2009/10 Estimates | |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Production (tonnes) | Area Planted (hectares) | Production (tonnes) |
| NSW | 52,300 | 16,400 | 34,600 |
| Qld | 48,000 | 13,475 | 16,375 |
| VIC | 1,200 | 600 | 1500 |
| Total | 101,500 | 30,475 | 52,475 |

Source: Industry Estimates 15/02/10

Planting has been finalised in all regions in both NSW and Queensland. The late break in the hot dry conditions over Christmas and New Year were insufficient and too sporadic to facilitate a large late planting and with water limitations in most of Queensland, crop estimates from those reported in January have been reduced.

Market conditions in **Queensland** have remained stable in January and it is still expected that over 90% of the far north Queensland crop will be ploughed back as green manure. Water and rainfall limitations have seen a much diminished planting in the Wide Bay and Burnett regions. In addition a poor and varied response to inoculation has seen a poor start to this season, particularly in the Maryborough and Bundaberg regions.

The planting on the **NSW** north coast reached the expected 12,000 hectares, however severe storms in late January have damaged up to 1,250 hectares which was just at cotyledon stage and we have reduced area planted to 11,000 hectares. In addition, many crops are experiencing severe insect pressure from *Monolepta* beetle, which is stripping crops now at flowering stage, particularly if left uncontrolled. However, soybean crops in the coastal cane areas have fared better with more gentle and consistent rainfall. Due to the late planting, storm damage and insect pressure the yield potential for northern NSW has been decreased to 2.00 tonnes per hectare.

The inland areas of NSW have fared a little better with steady rainfall on the northern Tablelands and further inland assisting crop establishment. Crops around Glenn Innes and Inverell are reported to be performing well. Central NSW also received rainfall up to 75mm in early February which has potentially assisted yield potential at this stage in crop development.

Riverina and Victoria: Crops in these areas have continued to perform as expected despite high temperatures and some storm activity. Recent rainfall in the Riverina will no doubt assist growers with water allocations and crop development.

Sunflowers 2008/9

| | 2008/09 | 2008/09 Estimates | |
|-------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Production (tonnes) | Area Planted (hectares) | Production (tonnes) |
| NSW | 48,600 | 17,800 | 26,900 |
| Qld | 31,700 | 17,000 | 17,500 |
| Total | 80,300 | 34,800 | 44,400 |

Source: Industry Estimates 15/2/10

In **NSW**, the early plant sunflowers on the Liverpool Plains are rapidly approaching harvest. (2-3 weeks). Yield prospects have been reduced slightly as the full effects of the dry conditions prior to Christmas become apparent. Rain has been received across the plains in the last two weeks, generally around 50mm, (some areas up to 95mm). Generally the rain has been extremely beneficial although some high intensity storms have caused some concern, primarily through erosion risk. Late plant sunflowers are generally from 8-10 leaf stage but growth stage is variable depending on the planting date. Further north, around Moree, harvesting of early plant sunflowers is yet to commence, although weather permitting it is likely that harvest will start this week. Some desiccation of crops has been used as a harvest aid. Late plant sunflowers generally range from 8-10 leaf stage back to 4-6 leaf stage. These late crops are benefiting from the rain.

In **Qld**, early plant sunflowers on the Downs have commenced, with yields reported to be 1-1.9t/ha. The late plant has commenced in CQ, but will be limited by a lack of planting seed, with only 1 seed variety reported to be available.

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

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| Meadow Lea Foods | Peerless Foods | ABB Grain |
| Cargill Australia | Atlantic Pacific Foods | Alba Edible Oils |
| Riverland Oilseeds | MSM Milling | Cootamundra Oilseeds |
| Grain Pool WA | | |