



## Blackleg management – agronomist's perspective

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## Seed sales of two major Lower EP retailers

R Group	Company A		Company B		
	2016%	2016%	2015%	2014%	
A	56	39	21	38	
AB	-	-	3	10	
ABD (E)	8	5	11	7	
ABF	6	10	7	0	
BF	3	2	22	20	
C	25	44	36	16	
Unknown	2	-	-	-	

2016 – planned plantings based on seed orders  
Estimated these two companies would account for at least 70% of canola seed sales on LEP

## Lower Eyre options

- ~ Agronomists and advisors have made a real effort to avoid growing any Group D cultivars on LEP since the breakdown of Hyola 50 in 2012.
- ~ The only Group D cultivar currently grown is Hyola650TT (around 6%) as it was previously believed to be Group E, not Group D.
- ~ Given that Group D is out of the equation on LEP there aren't many other choices, and are mostly confined to Group A, C or BF, each with their own issues.

## Blackleg across Australia in 2015 Groups A & B in trouble



- ~ 37/60 cultivars have Group A
- ~ 23/60 cultivars have Group B
- ~ 60-70% of canola in NSW/WA is OP TT almost all is Group A.
- ~ Stingray Group C suited to lower rainfall
- ~ pressure will continue on Group A into the foreseeable future - heavy reliance on fungicides and the minor gene resistance.

## Current situation on lower Eyre

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- ~ Group A -OK (fluctuates). Recommend high blackleg rating + fungicide.
- ~ Group B -not effective, but had less disease in 2015. Recommend must have high blackleg rating (minor gene resistance) + fungicide.
- ~ Group C – ATR Stingray very good, But gets severe stem/branch and pod infection. Don't know what to recommend. Angela will discuss more in her talk
- ~ Group AD – not effective. Recommend don't sow.
- ~ Group ABD (E)– consistently effective. Recommend, but it will probably be overcome as disease increased when we grew Thumper on Thumper.
- ~ Group F – consistently effective. Recommend.
- ~ Group S-OK (fluctuates). Recommend high blackleg rating + fungicide.

### GROUP BF

- ~ The most adapted BF cultivar (Hyola575CL) yields lower - grown on a small area.
- ~ The other BF cultivar (Nuseed Diamond) (around 6%) it is a conventional, perceived higher risk to Sclerotinia
- Group C
  - ~ Group C is where some of the agronomists on Lower EP having differing views.
  - ~ One company has sales of 44% for Group C cultivars for the 2016 season (as they consider Group C to be the best approach to control blackleg and continue growing high yielding varieties), the other company I spoke to had 25% Group C seed sales.
  - ~ Group C cultivars typically get a lot higher levels of blackleg pod infection than the other cultivars (as seen at Mt Hope).
  - ~ Group C get very high levels of stem/branch infection.
  - ~ In the three years of testing the R Groups on different stubble types on Lower EP, Group C provided the least rotational benefit, almost every R Group grown after a Group C cultivar had elevated blackleg levels. More from Angela later.
- Group A
  - ~ Group A has a wide range of high yielding OP TT and Hybrid CL cultivars for growers and advisors to choose from. Group A will be 40-60% of cultivars planted on LEP in 2016.

- “ Group A and C are almost exclusively the only major gene source of blackleg resistance used on LEP.
- “ SABL monitoring data shows Group A is largely ineffective on the Lower EP (and the rest of the country).
- “ Advisors are relying on minor gene resistance to provide the blackleg control.
- “ Many advisors are increasingly using multiple fungicides to back up the plant resistance. One agronomist has advised his clients to use Jockey seeding dressing, Impact (flutriafol) in Furrow (on fertilizer), and then will follow up with Prosaro (foliar) on paddocks that adjoin where canola has been grown in the previous year.
- “ All from the same DMI group of fungicides. How sustainable is this?
- “ Fungicide tolerance found on LEP in 2015.

### Pod Infection on Group C



### Questions for the workshop

- “ What is the future and sustainability of the canola industry in intensive canola growing regions like Lower EP?
- “ Are the effectiveness of R groups limited by the lack of diversity of high yielding cultivars in each R group?
- “ How robust is the minor gene resistance that is increasingly being relied on to prop up breakdowns of major gene resistance?
- “ How far can we push fungicides?
- “ How do we manage pod, stem and branch infections that have been increasingly observed?