

# Australian Oilseeds Federation Crop Report



Oct 2023

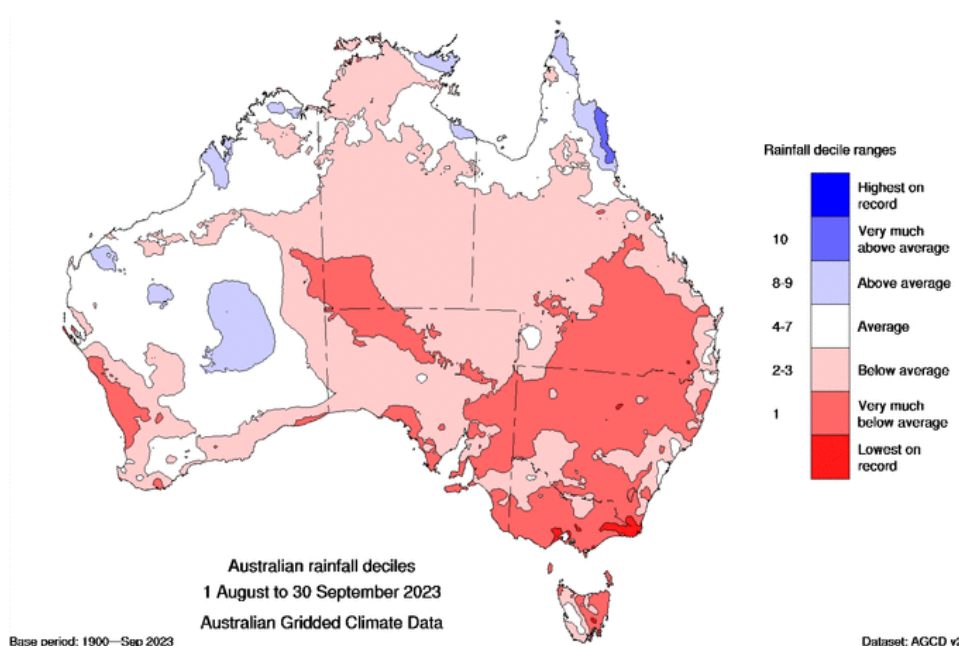
## Canola 2023/24

	2022/23 Final		2023 Oct Estimate	
	Harvested Area (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Harvest Area (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	887,000	1,652,000	833,000	1,330,000
VIC	630,000	1,369,000	550,000	1,320,000
SA	307,000	655,000	267,000	490,000
WA	2,017,000	4,258,000	1,845,000	2,220,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,841,000</b>	<b>7,934,000</b>	<b>3,495,000</b>	<b>5,360,000</b>

Source: Industry Estimates, GIWA; NSW DPI, DEDJTR (Vic)

Since the July Crop Report, the BOM has officially declared EL Niño together with a positive IOD with the rainfall charts during August and September demonstrating the impact of these two major weather influencing systems.

Fortunately, most of the eastern canola growing regions still have a good soil moisture profile, enabling most crops, especially the early planted crops, to continue to progress through flowering to pod and seed formation with little stress. WA crops have struggled for much of the year and have been significantly impacted by unseasonably hot conditions in October. Across most growing regions, temperatures, during this time, measured as mean temperature deciles, were either highest on record or very much above average which helped to accelerate plant maturity. Consequently, windrowing /harvest has already commenced in many areas.



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**NSW** experienced a number of frosts during September, with cold overnight temperatures, despite the above average daytime temperatures. Crops in the north of the state matured early however still yielded well at 1.5-1.8t/Ha. Through Central NSW crops 'hung on' with some early sown crops being harvested and delivering acceptable yields. Later sown crops benefited from some rainfall in early October. Further south, conditions throughout the season remained very good with crops sown into good moisture and continuing to access soil moisture throughout the season. As with elsewhere in the state, the crops finished early, with windrowing starting 2+ weeks earlier than usual. In the HRZ, yields of 3+ tonnes/Ha could be reached while elsewhere in the south yields of 1.5-2.5t/Ha can be expected. Overall, the state is expected to deliver tonnages well above average, despite the very dry and very warm conditions experienced.

**Victoria** experienced one of the driest and warmest July-September periods on record which resulted in a rapid depletion of soil moisture reserves. This again brought forward crop maturity, with crops beginning to be windrowed during October. Despite these conditions, sufficient plant available water has enabled the crops to finish off strongly, with state average yield projected to be above recent years, at around 2.4t/Ha. Consequently, overall production is expected to be just under last year's record, at 1.3 million tonnes.

**South Australia** also experienced a hotter and drier than average July-October with crops rapidly depleting stored moisture reserves. Some crops are beginning to see the signs of moisture stress, which is expected to impact oil content, despite yields remaining at typical levels for respective regions. Harvest is underway in the Mallee and Eyre Peninsula, while windrowing is still a few weeks away in the Mid North and South East.

A very welcome front passed through **WA** in mid September, delivering 20-40mm, helping to preserve struggling crops and halt decreasing yields. However, October delivered very hot and windy conditions which brought most crops to the end of their growth/pod/seed development. By October, harvest was well underway in the north and central (Kwinana) regions, although yields were well down on earlier projections. Further south, the onset of the unseasonal heat has cut the crop short and again expected to fall short of earlier yield projections. Consequently, state average yield is expected to be below recent years and longer term averages at 1.2t/Ha.

