

NSW CANOLA PATHOLOGY UPDATE

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Primary Industries



GRDC

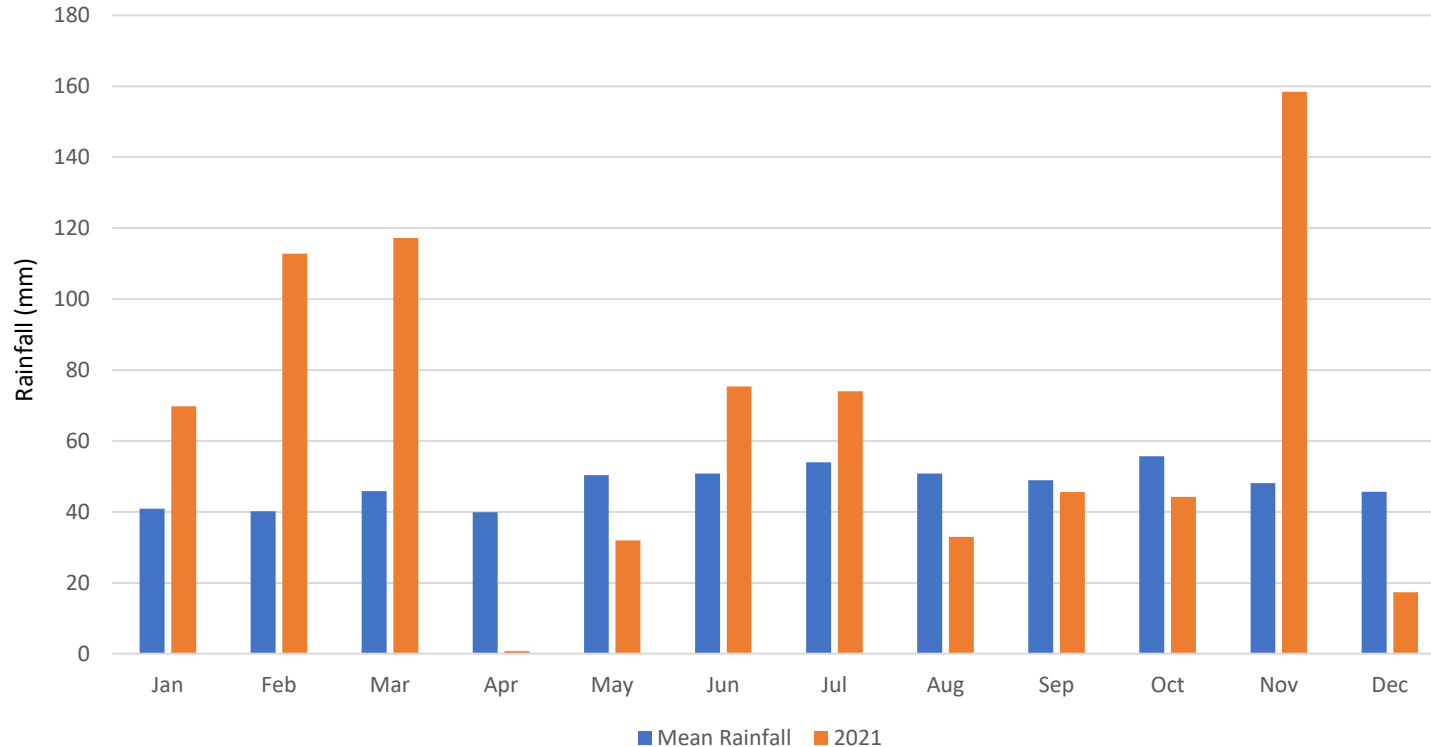
GRAINS RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

Grains Agronomy and Pathology Partnership
An Alliance between NSW DPI and GRDC

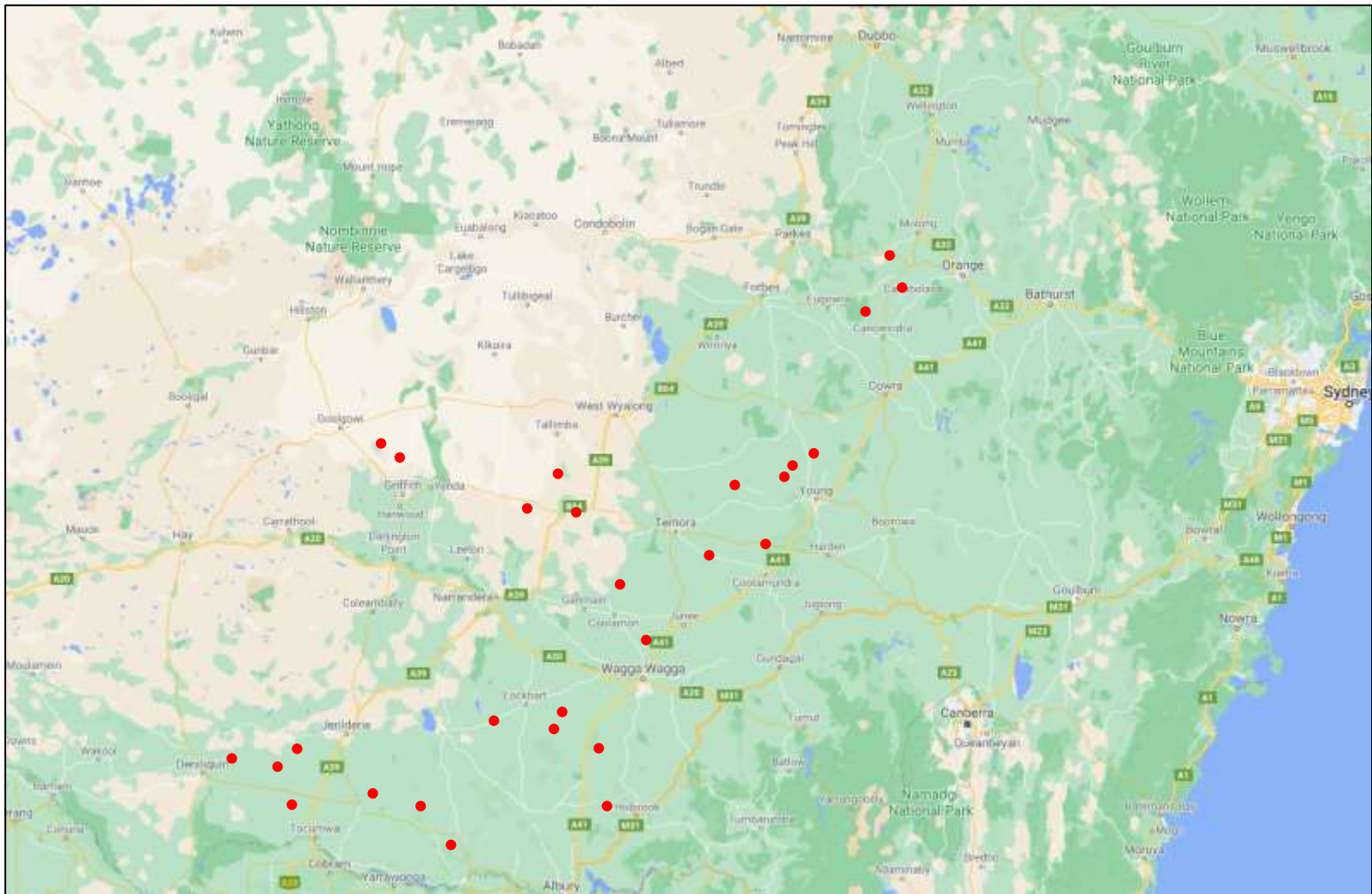
INTRODUCTION

- Seasonal conditions in 2021 considered ideal for many years (mild temps & rainfall)
- Good summer rains → dry autumn conditions (slow emergence)
- Above average early winter rains → average spring rainfall
- Excellent yields across southern and central NSW → cool, mild finish (3t/ha +)
- Modest level of disease given seasonal conditions
 - Blackleg (widespread) – delayed onset
 - Sclerotinia (med/high rainfall districts) – fewer infection events in August/September
 - Alternaria (sporadic)
 - Powdery mildew (sporadic)
 - Black root rot (bacterial disease)

WAGGA WAGGA RAINFALL 2021



Wet days 2021
June – 13 days
July – 24 days
Aug – 10 days
Sept – 8 days





Merriwagga 8th September



Combanning 2nd September



Culcairn 12th August



Tootool 31st August

BLACKLEG

- Favourable conditions for the disease to develop later in season
- Dryish conditions early – mid winter → Ascospore release mid June
- Multiple infection events throughout July and early August
- Dryish spring kept disease potential low
- 100% of canola crops surveyed
- Symptoms ranged from leaf lesions to UCI

- *Implications for 2022*
 - Large areas of canola stubble releasing spores in 2022
 - Widespread use of foliar fungicides

SCLEROTINIA

- Early winter conditions favourable for development of the disease
 - However, late winter rainfall patterns in most districts were not favourable
 - Few reports of serious disease outbreaks and yield loss
 - Prolific use of foliar fungicides, based in canola price.
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- *Implications for 2022*
 - Sclerotia produced in 2021 will pose a significant disease threat in 2022 and beyond
 - Producers following 'double break' cropping system are at highest risk – Pulse/canola rotation





BLACK ROOT ROT

- *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*
- Emerging disease in southern NSW (10 diagnosis in last 18 months)
- Restricted to grazing canola crops
- Plant injury due to grazing followed by long leaf wetness periods (esp. summer)
- Rapid death of infected plants
- Highly seed transmitted
- Hosted by *Brassica* plants and weeds





Cladosporium...??

