



Australian Canola

At a glance

- » Australian canola is sought after globally for its use as a food-grade oil, for biofuel production and as a stock feed.
- » Australian canola production is on the rise; averaging more than three million metric tonnes annually, making up 15–20 per cent of the world's export trade¹.
- » Australian canola is grown using sustainable farming systems and can be certified as meeting sustainability criteria for market access to Europe for use in biofuel.

¹Oilworld- 2013/14

AUSTRALIAN CANOLA IS IN HIGH DEMAND FROM INTERNATIONAL BUYERS AND PROCESSORS FOR ITS SUPERIOR QUALITY, FOOD SAFETY AND RELIABILITY OF SUPPLY.

It is well known for producing one of the world's healthiest vegetable oils and its importance as an environmentally-friendly biofuel is growing.

Production of canola in Australia has increased dramatically to an average of three million metric tonnes (mmt) per year, after reaching its highest level during 2012/13 of 4.3mmt.

Geographically, Australia is well placed to supply the export markets of Asia with high-quality canola for oil and meal production. Buyers of Australian canola have access to both conventional and GM product. Australia supplies more than 2.5–3 mmt of canola (15–20 per cent of the world's trade) to Europe, China, Pakistan, Japan and other international markets annually.

This *Australian Canola Grain Note* is proudly supported by the Australian Oilseeds Federation



Growing canola in Australia

CANOLA IS AUSTRALIA'S MAJOR OILSEED CROP GROWN IN THE HIGHER RAINFALL REGIONS OF AUSTRALIA'S GRAINBELT.

The growing area extends from south-west Western Australia to south-eastern Australia, and into northern New South Wales.

FIGURE 1. AREAS OF CANOLA PRODUCTION

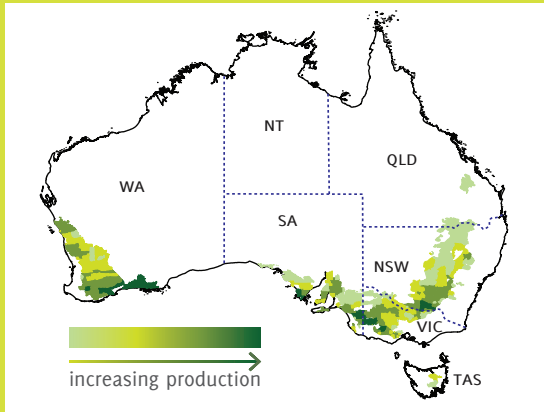
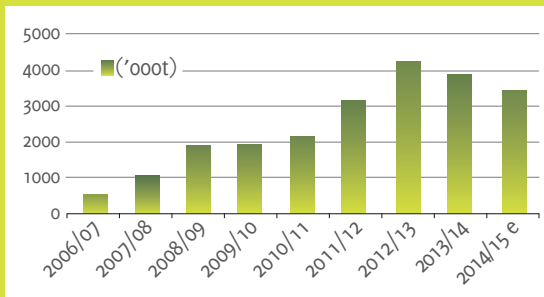


FIGURE 2. AUSTRALIAN CANOLA PRODUCTION

Source: Australian Oilseed Federation



GM canola in Australia

Genetically Modified (GM) canola has been available for production in Australia since 2009, excluding South Australia and Tasmania where only non-GM canola is grown.

Of the total amount of canola harvested in Australia, GM canola accounts for between 10–15% of the total crop.

While still gaining industry and consumer acceptance in Australia, the industry delivers market choice for both producers and buyers by providing separate and strict segregation protocols for non-GM canola. This ensures growers and end-users who require non-GM canola are able to access it with complete confidence.

Grades and standards

Canola is produced and delivered by Australian growers in accordance with strict receival and grade standards, ensuring the highest quality. The Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF) and Grain Trade Australia publish grower delivery standards for Australian canola.



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More information

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End uses

AUSTRALIA IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S FEW EXPORTERS ABLE TO SUPPLY BULK SHIPMENTS OF NON-GM CANOLA TO INTERNATIONAL MARKETS FOR USE ACROSS A VARIETY OF INDUSTRIES.

A healthy food-grade oil is extracted from canola. It is low in saturated fats, contains high levels of monounsaturated fatty acids and has the ideal balance of essential omega fatty acids. Canola oil is used in a range of products including margarines and shortening, cooking oils and salad dressings.

As the use of environmentally-friendly fuels grows, canola is increasingly in demand for use in the biodiesel industry. Its excellent performance under cold conditions provides an advantage over alternative vegetable oils.

Canola meal is a co-product of canola that is available after the seed has been crushed and the oil extracted. The high-quality protein meal can be used for cattle, poultry, swine and fish diets; and as a fertiliser. It has an excellent amino acid profile and is high in vitamins and essential minerals.

Marketing and export markets

The Australian canola export market is fully deregulated and seed can be exported in bulk and shipped in containers. All export shipments require certification by the Federal Department of Agriculture confirming the relevant importing country phytosanitary conditions are met.

Australian canola is grown using sustainable farming systems and can be certified as meeting sustainability criteria for market access to Europe for use in biodiesel, in accordance with the European Union Renewable Energy Directive. In addition, AEGIC together with the AOF, are investigating ways of engaging in low-emission farming practices to ensure access to future markets for Australian canola.

Research and development

The quality of Australian canola has benefited from close working relationships between research, government and industry representatives and from new varieties developed by specialised breeding companies.

Agronomic research focuses on grower profitability and the adoption of industry-best management practices.

The AOF is the peak industry body for the Australian oilseeds value chain. AOF is committed to improving the industry's influence; encouraging innovation in market and product development; and developing grower capability.

TABLE 1. TYPICAL QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF AUSTRALIAN CANOLA

Quality parameter	Average range
Oil (in whole seed @ 6% moisture)	43 – 45
Protein (in oil free meal @ 10% moisture)	38 – 40
Moisture (%)	< 8
Seed chlorophyll content (mg/kg)	< 5
µmoles/g Glucosinolates (in whole seed @ 6% moisture)	< 10



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Department of Agriculture and Food



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