

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



August 2008

Canola 2008/09

The canola crop estimates have been maintained at around 1.6 million tonnes. Favourable spring conditions are required to realise the potential, with some upside possible if conditions are good.

	2007/08	2008/09 Estimates	
	Production (tonnes)	Area Planted (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	44,000	220,000	330,000
VIC	200,000	220,000	352,000
SA	155,000	175,000	245,000
WA	670,000	620,000	750,000
Total	1,069,000	1,235,000	1,677,000

Source: Industry Estimates, 15/08/08

There is still a wide variation in crops across **NSW**. Most of the crop is now flowering or commencing flowering. Variability in sub-soil moisture is affecting crop development. Patchy rainfall in north-west and south west regions has benefited early sown crops. All regions require good falls of around 50mm good rain in the next two weeks to realise yield potential. Cold weather across much of the State has slowed crop growth down, particularly the later planted and emerging crops. There is some concern regarding potential frost damage in the northern areas. Generally, there is still little incidence of pests or disease and weeds.

Most of **Victoria** has experienced average rainfall since early July. This has set up the crop for good yield potential, however, the State is relying on a good spring and follow up rain to maximise potential. Like NSW, crops are showing varied growth and there have been few pest or disease problems.

Crops in most areas of **South Australia** are now flowering. While cold weather has slowed crop development down somewhat, the outlook is still good. Crops are performing well and with continuing mild weather and spring rainfall, yield potential should be realised and there could be some upside potential.

Rainfall has moved closer to monthly average for July in most of the growing areas in **Western Australia**. Generally crop outlook appears slightly better than previous forecasts. The Esperance region is slightly behind rest of State, but remaining areas are all reported as performing well. There is still some unevenness in the crop overall, but most crops are now at flowering stage. There has been little incidence of pests or disease. A good spring and average rains are needed to achieve forecasts. The state is currently experiencing a dry patch.

Virtual Canola Crop Website:

http://www.australianoilseeds.com/agronomy_centre/the_virtual_canola_site

Upcoming Events

4 September 2008 AOF Oilseed Centenary Dinner, Taronga Zoo, Sydney. Anyone interested in attending, contact AOF at aof@australianoilseeds.com or on 02 9427 6999

3-6 November 2008, International Safflower Conference, Wagga Wagga, NSW. Register at www.australianoilseeds.com