

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



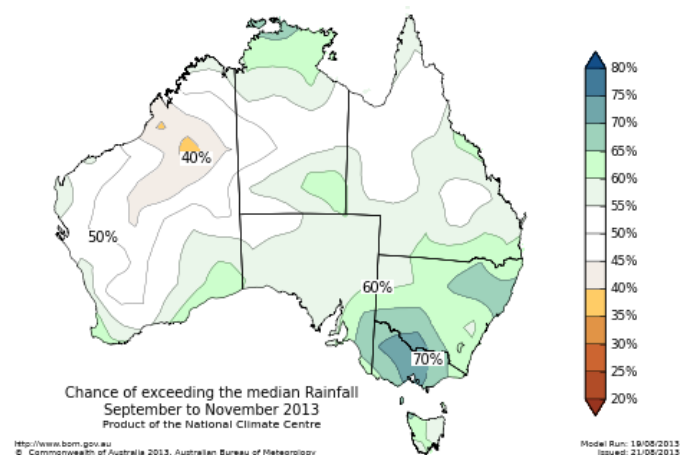
September 2013

Canola 2013/14

('000 t)	2012/13 Final		2013/14 September Estimate	
	Harvested Area (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area Planted (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	840	1610	500	775
Vic	580	1013	380	760
SA	303	385	290	500
WA	964	1261	1086	1364
Total	2687	4226	2256	3399

Source: Industry Estimates:

Despite strong concerns with dry weather at the start of the season, rainfall throughout most of the growing regions since June has served to ensure the crops have established well and progressed to flowering.



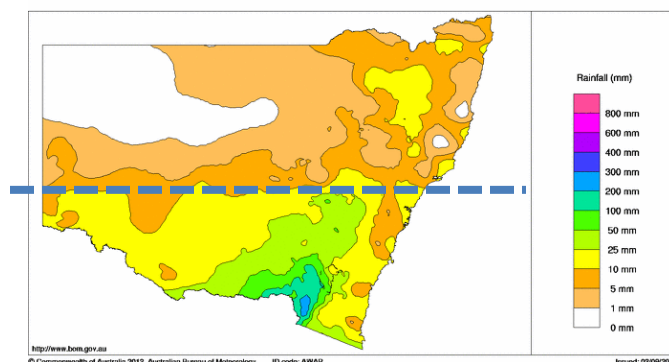
The outlook remains positive for most of the east coast growing areas for the remainder of the season with at least 60% chance of above average spring rainfall being predicted. Some of the canola growing areas in WA are set to receive average rain, but are positioned well with subsoil moisture following good in-season rain.

Actual (rather than forecast) rainfall over the next few 4-6 weeks will be critical as crops around the country enter the crucial pod and seed filling stage.

In **NSW**, it is a story of two halves, with the northern half of the state experiencing very dry conditions, while the southern half of the state has experienced much better rainfall.

Canola planting was reduced significantly in the north and north-west compared to last year, so the dry conditions are having a less of an impact on the State's canola production than may otherwise have been the case. In some case, frosts have also taken their toll with the northern/north western crops.

New South Wales Rainfall Totals (mm) August 2013
Product of the National Climate Centre



Flowering and pod fill is well underway across the State, with no reports of significant pest or disease incursion, with the exception of some sclerotinia reports in the wetter areas in the south.

NSW total area is down significantly versus last year, with the prior year's plantings more than likely reaching the maximum possible, given the rotation limits with canola. However, at 500,000 Ha, this would still be the second

highest area on record, with a corresponding record in estimated volume.

Victoria is generally experiencing a very good season, with good rainfall during the winter. With little sub-soil moisture at the start of the season, the in-season rainfall has been critical for crop establishment and subsequent growth. Only crops in the Mallee have suffered from the drier conditions experienced there (<100mms since June), but canola plantings in this area were not large. Elsewhere, the crop is looking very good, with low pest or disease pressure, and most crops at, or close to, full flowering, brought on by recent above average temperatures. If projected rainfall and average temperatures are realised for the remainder of Spring, average yields across the state 2.0t/ha could be realised.

South Australia had a good start to the season, and has experienced good rainfall in all canola growing areas throughout the season. Most crops look good except some that have been waterlogged on lower Eyre Peninsula and in the mid-South East. AOF estimated yields exceed both ABARES and PIRSA, to deliver what may be a record crop for South Australia at 500,000t. The only caution is the risk of higher than average spring temperatures forecast for the lower Eyre Peninsula, which could have an impact on oil levels in this traditionally high yielding area. There have been few reports of significant pest or disease at this stage but Diamond back moth has been sprayed on upper Eyre Peninsula.

Western Australia had a very good start to the season and despite some strong concerns with rainfall soon after planting, rain during late July/August has set the canola crop up for a very strong finish. There is good soil moisture under canola crops in the southern half and along the west coast, there is potential upside to the current production forecast, with canola showing strong yield potential. Frost risk is present in the Kwinana and Albany zones at this time as pods (and oil) are forming, although this is mitigated to some degree by expectation of rainfall in these areas for spring. August reports of heavy aphid pressure have been addressed through insecticide applications. At a projected 1.36mIn tonnes, this would be a record canola crop for WA.

Upcoming Events

[AOF AGM](#)

October 24th, Melbourne.

[AOCS\(Aust.\) Conference](#) November 6th -8th Newcastle

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