

Australian Oilseeds Federation

Crop Report



August 2005

Canola 2005/06

Canola plantings remain on track for a 1.3 million tonne crop.

	2004/05 production (tonnes)	2005/06 Estimates	
		Area (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
NSW	420,000	120,000	162,000
VIC	395,000	225,000	405,000
SA	226,000	140,000	175,000
WA	490,000	430,000	580,500
Total	1,531,000	915,000	1,322,500

Source: *Industry Estimates, 12/08/05*

The area sown for **NSW** has been increased by about 9,000 hectares over the July estimate. Area in the north west is well below last year's area due to the late break. Crops in this region were sown late and emergence is uneven. However, there is a good profile of moisture. In the Central West, most of the area planted is to the east of the Newell Highway. Crops were late sown and/or dry sown and similarly emergence is patchy. There have been several reports of blackleg. The south is a similar story, although moisture conditions are better than the Central West. The recent warm weather has seen good crop growth. There is some incidence of earth mites and also blackleg. While there have been reports of downy mildew, this is not expected to have a significant impact on the crop. The crop is well behind average i.e. currently 10-50% ground cover, whereas in normal seasons would expect 50-70% ground cover at this time. Yield estimates are unchanged.

The **Victorian** crop estimate and yield estimate remain unchanged. There have been some reports of lucerne flea, earth mites and blackleg. The Victorian crop will be reliant on a good spring to secure the forecast yield.

The situation in **South Australia** is similar to Victoria with no change to area or production estimates from the July report. Again the crop will be reliant on a favourable spring.

Estimates are unchanged for **Western Australia**.

AOF Crop Report is provided free due to the support of the Oilseed Development Fund (ODF).

Meadow Lea Foods	Unilever Australasia	Peerless Foods
Cargill Australia	Atlantic Pacific Foods	Riverland Oilseed Proc.
Barter Enterprises	Ridley Agriproducts	Millmaster
Grain Pool WA	GrainCorp	Louis Dreyfus
AWB Ltd	ABB Grain	

Upcoming Events

3-7 October 2005, ARAB14, Port Lincoln, South Australia

12 October 2005 AOF Forum. The AOF's annual conference will be held in Sydney.

Key topics include:

- Market requirements
- Opportunities for protein meals and role of vegetable protein meals in diets
- Role of oils in the food industry and Australian diets
- Trends in nutrition and food labelling
- Opportunities for oils in the Australian food industry,
- The global and local oleochemical market and opportunities in non food uses

Leading overseas experts including Dr. Rex Newkirk, Director of Feed, Canadian International Grains Institute and Mr Emile Chone from Novance, one of Europe's leading oleochemical companies will address the conference.

For further information contact AOF on 02 9405 2340

13 October 2005 AOF Annual General Meeting, Sydney

Demand for healthier products underpins future growth in oilseeds

Consumer demand for healthier products underpins significant growth potential in the Australian oilseeds industry, according to the Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF).

AOF recently launched its fourth Strategic Plan which highlights that the shift in consumer preference is set to see the demand for soft oils in Australia grow by 30% in the period to 2010. However, if Australian producers want to win their share of this growing market, a step change in R&D and innovation investment is required. Compared to other countries Australia has a small production base limiting its competitiveness in bulk commodity markets against products like palm and soy. Australia must invest in the continued and accelerated development of premium soft oils improving their health value and functionality in frying and other food applications.

Capturing this and other opportunities, will also require lifting production in all crops to provide economies of scale, supply chain efficiencies and market confidence.

The AOF Strategic Plan was prepared following extensive industry consultations and reflects the perceptions and knowledge base of the industry in Australia. It was developed against a background of developments in global and domestic food and feed sectors.

Copies of the Strategic Plan are available from AOF.