



Results of canola disease survey and canola pathology research update in the Western Region (DAFWA)

Ravjit Khangura

***Department of Agriculture and Food,
Western Australia***



Canola disease survey

- A total of 74 samples were collected across canola growing regions of WA.
- 100 plants were collected per sample with the roots intact.
- Plants assessed for the incidence of blackleg, sclerotinia stem rot, club root and powdery mildew.



Average incidence, range and percentage samples with various fungal diseases

Fungal disease	Average	Range	% Samples
Sclerotinia stem rot	11	0-85%	62
Blackleg [§]	23	1.5-85%	100
Club root	4	0-44%	47
Powdery mildew	12	0-98%	20

[§] internal infection



Key points from the survey

1. Sclerotinia stem rot incidence was substantially high in the northern agricultural region and some crops were also badly affected in the southern areas.
2. Levels of blackleg were low in northern areas, moderate in central and high in southern areas.
3. Incidence of club root was generally low in all areas except for a few crops in the northern region that had high incidence of mild forms of club root.
4. Powdery mildew levels were high in the northern region, low in the southern region and no powdery mildew was observed in the central region.
5. Survey results highlight that Sclerotinia and blackleg were the two predominant diseases affecting canola yields in 2008.



2009 Western Region Canola Pathology Field Research Program (DAFWA)

- Durability of blackleg resistance in collaboration with Steve Marcroft (two trials)
- Efficacy of Impact as in-furrow vs foliar application
- Fungicide management of Sclerotinia stem rot
- Fungicides for downy mildew control (opportunistic)
- Canola disease survey
- Finally would welcome collaborative opportunities with the eastern states counterparts