



Canola Windrow on Time, Reap the Reward\$

The Essentials

- ◆ All varieties should be assessed and treated the same way
- ◆ **Seed colour change** is when a minimum of two-thirds (approx. 67%) of the surface of an individual seed has changed colour from green to red, brown or black.
- ◆ **Region affects the speed of maturity and seed colour change**
Canola in QLD, northern NSW and northern WA cropping zones will mature much quicker than in southern NSW, VIC, SA and southern WA.
- ◆ **Sampling location must be carefully considered**
Crop maturity within a paddock is affected by many factors such as topography, soil type, crop nutrition and plant population. Both the least mature and most mature parts of the paddock need to be considered and assessed when determining windrow timing. Technology such as satellite and NDVI images can be used when identifying suitable sampling locations.

This guide will help determine optimal windrow timing.
Windrowing on time maximises income, avoiding losses due to windrowing canola too early.
Crops should be windrowed when 60–80% of seed sampled from the middle third of main stem and branches has changed colour from green to red, brown or black.

Windrow Timing for Canola

The optimum time to windrow canola is when 60 to 80 per cent of the seed sampled from the middle third of the main stem plus branches has changed colour from green to brown, black or red.

Key points

- Profit can be reduced by up to \$50 a hectare for every day that canola is windrowed before it is ready
- The optimal time to windrow canola is when 60 to 80 per cent of seed sampled from the middle third of the main stem and branches has changed colour from green to red, brown or black
- A new tool is available to assist decision-making for optimal windrow timing
- Research shows direct heading is a worthwhile alternative to windrowing or can be used in combination with windrowing as a useful part of a canola harvesting strategy

If unsure, use a small-scale on-farm test of direct heading to assess the fit for your farming system

With grain buyers offering more than \$740 a tonne for new-season canola, windrowing at the right time is more important than ever for maximizing profit.

“Once canola is windrowed, grain fill stops immediately,” he says. “If canola seeds are only 50 per cent of their maximum size when windrowed, they will only dry, even though plenty of green leaf and stem may remain on the plants.”



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October 2024
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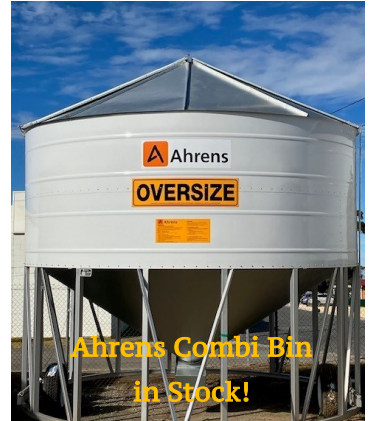
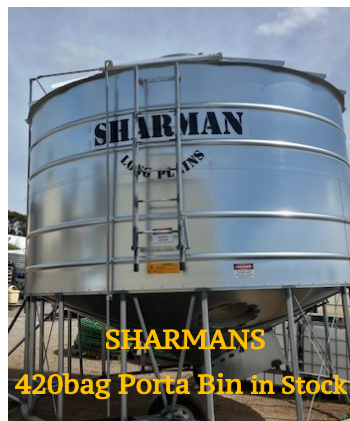
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ANIMAL HEALTH



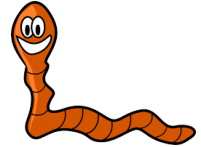
What is a Drench Check?

A simple way to indicate the efficacy of your customer's current drench against the worm burden in their sheep at the time of testing.

Two Worm Egg Count (WEC) tests are used to determine the reduction in the worm egg count after drenching:

1st test conducted *before* drenching

2nd test conducted 10–14 days *after* drenching



Implications

The presence of any worm eggs (even very low counts) 14 days after drenching may indicate a problem.

The larval culture results from the second test will indicate which worm species survived treatment and may be resistant to that drench.

Re-treatment with an effective drench may be required.

Conducting a full DrenchTest (Worm or Faecal Egg Count Reduction Test) may be recommended.

Conducting WECRT every 2–3 years is regarded as best practice to accurately determine the resistance status and efficacy of each drench class against each worm species.⁵

Good agricultural practice is essential for optimal worm control. Resistance may develop to any chemical. Ask your local veterinary practitioner or animal health advisor for recommended parasite management practices for your area to reduce development of resistance. It is advisable that a resistance test be conducted before any parasite treatment is used. Use in accordance with the registered label directions and regional drench decision guidelines (www.wormboss.com.au). Please call Raymond on 0400 654 877 for more information.

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