

Canola: Short Fallow (No-till)

Central Zone - West

Winter 2009

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:

Operation	Month	Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
		hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Weed control eg: glyphosate 450 g/litre	Dec/Jan	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.20 L	\$7.38/L	\$8.85	\$11.46
Weed control eg: Garlon®	Dec/Jan	with above			0.10 L	\$29.93/L	\$2.99	\$2.99
Weed control eg: glyphosate 450 g/litre	Feb/Mar	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.20 L	\$7.38/L	\$8.85	\$11.46
Weed control eg: 2,4-D amine (Surpass®)	Feb/Mar	with above			1.00 L	\$6.22/L	\$6.22	\$6.22
Weed control eg: glyphosate 450 g/litre	Apr	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.00 L	\$7.38/L	\$7.38	\$9.98
Sowing - treated seed	Apr/May	0.12	107.73	\$12.62	3.00 kg	\$9.00/kg	\$27.00	\$39.62
Nitrogen and Sulfur fertiliser eg: Extra Sul®	Apr/May	with above			100 kg	\$0.78/kg	\$78.00	\$78.00
Starter fertiliser eg: MAP	Apr/May	with above			100 kg	\$0.98/kg	\$97.50	\$97.50
Mite control eg: omethoate (Le-mat®)	May	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	0.10 L	\$33.67/L	\$3.37	\$5.97
Grass weed control eg: Verdict®	Jul				0.05 L	\$96.88/L	\$4.84	\$4.84
Broadleaf weed control eg: Clopyralid (Lontrel®)	Aug	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	0.30 L	\$44.67/L	\$13.40	\$16.01
Heliothis control eg: alpha-cypermethrin (Fastac Duo)	Sept	contract		\$18.15	0.30 L	\$10.50/L	\$3.15	\$21.30
Aphid control (1 year in 2) eg: Pirimicarb (Pirimor WG®)	Sept	contract		\$18.15	0.5 kg	\$25.35/kg	\$12.68	\$15.41
Contract Windrow	Oct	contract		\$75.00				\$75.00
Contract-Harvest	Nov			\$50.00				\$50.00
Crop Levies					\$1.50/tonne + 1.02% of on-farm value			\$7.65
Crop Insurance					1.74% of on-farm value			\$10.04

*** Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (March 2009). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical.

Notes:	
Soil type:	- Suitable for all high fertility wheat soils. Avoid acid soils containing high aluminium.
Place in rotation	- Best grown first after a good legume pasture. - Short Fallow: Fallow or weed free period of 5-6 months between harvest of one crop and sowing of the next crop. For example, wheat harvested in November would be under a 5-6 month fallow until sowing in the following May.
Sowing time:	- Sow on the first sufficient rains after mid-April (10% yield loss/week after early May). - Seed price used above is for purchased seed.
Fertiliser:	- Canola needs 30% more nitrogen than wheat. The majority of nitrogen should be applied at sowing. Avoid applying high levels of nitrogen in direct contact with the seed. - A Fertiliser with sulfur such as extra sul and starter 15, or gypsum should also be used.
Weed control:	- Timing of fallow herbicide applications will vary according to rainfall. - An additional knockdown herbicide application (i.e. Glyphosate 450® @ 1.0 L/ha) should be considered if weeds are present at the time of sowing. - Trifluralin for grass weeds and wireweed /fumitory control. - Clopyralid for capeweed, skeleton weed and saffron thistle control. - Verdict® for grass weeds unless high levels of wireweed or fumitory are likely; use trifluralin if this is the case.
Insect control:	- Earthmite control is essential in most years. - Aphids need to be monitored from early budding. When colonies begin to spread control may be needed. - Monitor for heliothis post flowering.
Windrowing:	- Windrowing is strongly recommended for earlier harvest and to reduce shattering losses.
Machinery:	- A tractor with 149 kW (200 HP) pto power and 177 kW (240 HP) engine power is assumed. - Machinery costs refer only to variable costs: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries & repairs.
Labour:	- Contract-harvesting does not include the cost of fuel. - The labour required for machinery operations is 0.27 hrs/ha - Using a labour cost of \$14/hr, an additional \$3.76 can be deducted from the budget
Important notes:	- These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs. - Use your own figures and price assumptions to estimate your own gross margin. - Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by NSW Department of Primary Industries.

This budget is ONLY A GUIDE and should be altered for movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and the farm characteristics.