

Field Peas: 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
Broadleaf weed control eg: 2,4-D amine 300g/L (Surpass®)	Feb/Mar with above				1.20 L	\$6.22/L	\$7.46	\$7.46
Sowing seed	May	0.12	107.73	\$12.62	100 kg	\$0.88/kg	\$88.00	\$100.62
Fertiliser eg: MAP	May	with above			70 kg	\$0.98/kg	\$68.25	\$68.25
Broadleaf weed control eg: Metribuzin (Sencor 750®)	May	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	0.30 kg	\$60.35/kg	\$18.11	\$20.71
Grass weed control eg. Verdict®	July	with above			0.05 L	\$96.88/kg	\$4.84	\$4.84
Desiccation eg: Roundup PowerMax®	Oct	contact		\$18.15	1.80 L	\$10.67/L	\$19.20	\$37.35
Heliothis control eg: (Fastac Duo®)	Oct	contract		\$18.15	0.30 L	\$10.50/L	\$3.15	\$21.30
Contract-harvest	Nov	contract		\$50.00				\$50.00
Crop Levies					1.02%	of on-farm value		\$4.57
Crop Insurance					1.74%	of on-farm value		\$7.84

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

NOTES:

Soils:	- Suitable for lighter textured soils through to the heavier clay soils. Paddocks should be free of sticks and stones for harvesting. Best harvested with crop lifters or a pea front.
Place in rotation	- Useful as a break crop in cereal rotations for disease control, weed control and nitrogen benefits at the lower fertility end of the rotation. - 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 next May.
Inoculation:	- With Group E inoculum is essential.
Seed source:	- Seed should be obtained from central and northern areas and preferably certified growers, to minimise the risk of introducing pea weevil. - Seed price used above is for purchased seed; if using retained seed adjust budget accordingly.
Fertiliser:	- Adequate levels of phosphorus and sulfur should be applied.
Sowing time:	- Ideally mid-May to June.
Weed control:	- Broader spectrum of broadleaf herbicides available than for other pulse crops. - Timing of fallow herbicide application will vary according to rainfall. - Trifluralin for grass weed control if wireweed is present, if not post emergent options like Verdict®. - Sencor® is used for broadleaf weed control. - 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 - Rotate herbicide groups and use other non-chemical methods to delay herbicide resistance.
Insect control:	- Crops must be monitored from flowering for pea weevil and heliothis.
Desiccation:	- Desiccation may be required in seasons with wet springs to ensure even ripening. Use Roundup PowerMax® where seed is not being retained for sowing. If retaining seed for sowing consider Reglone®.
Machinery:	- A tractor with 203 kW (272 HP) pto power and 242kW (325 HP) engine power is assumed. - Machinery costs refer only to variable costs: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries & repairs. - Contract-harvesting does not include the cost of fuel.
Labour:	- Using a labour cost of \$14/hr, an additional \$2.62 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.