



Sclerotinia – Experiences from the Central & North Midlands 2013

Craig Topham – Agrarian Management

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Started The Season With a Plan

High Risk paddocks had Seed dressing

Planned to spray Prosaro around 20% flowering



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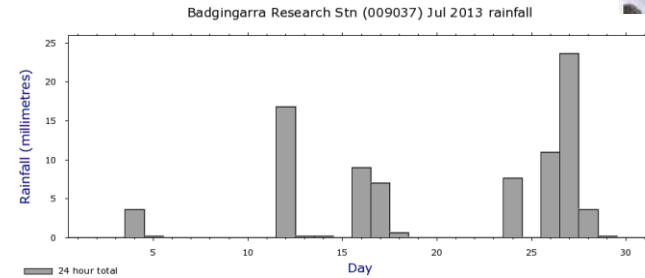
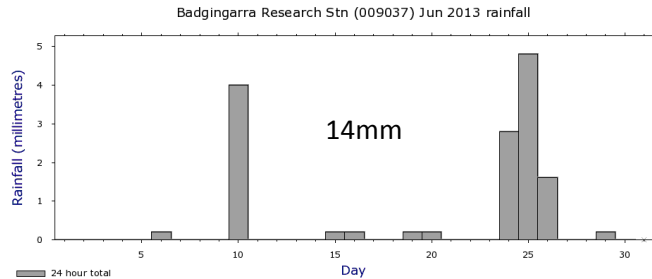
Jockey and or Impact on farmer saved seed

Good Opening rains in May resulted in High plant density

Checked for Apothecia under plant canopy July
Very few found



Decile 1 June & July Rainfall



Started to rain end of July Above average August & September

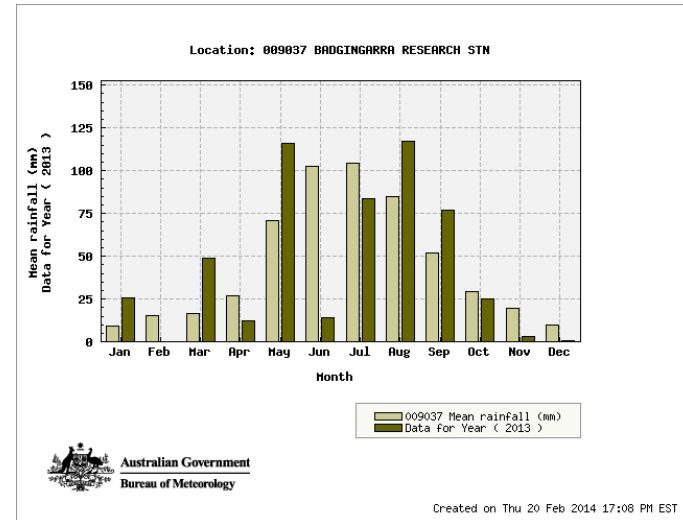
Above average June temp



Very few rainy days for Apothecia germination June / early July

Need soil temp to fall below 15°C and soil surface to be saturated
7 – 10 days later will see Apothecia

First Apothecia detected 28th – 31st July



What Happened in 2013

- Establishment very Good = High Plant density's
- Seed Treatments applied high risk paddocks = very good early vigour
- Dry conditions no Apothecia detected hence delayed or cancelled fungicide application
- Early start to season resulted in earlier and longer flowering window – Canola flowers for 6 – 8 weeks, (longer in Sth NAR)
- Rains came late July rapid canopy development
- Little Nitrogen leaching – often higher rates of Nitrogen applied
- High plant density's and large canopy's developed on all soil types
- Apothecia appeared late July but most fungicide not applied until leaf infection detected



2013 Experiences



- Fungicides worked well when applied last week July and First week of August
- Late nitrogen developed large canopy's = rapid disease spread
- Saw leaf and stem infections in large canopy's on white sand
- **Not Soil Type Specific – More Conditions Specific**
- Prosaro applied with Flexi N early August 30 – 40% flowering = only late leaf infection
- Soft finish = longer flowering window = need greater length fungicide protection
- Biological dilution with high nitrogen and rapidly growing plant reduced length of fungicide control on high production paddocks



- Used VRT to apply second Spray
- High Yield / High Risk Soil Types Very effective
- Second sprays highlighted reduced length of protection



What Did We Learn From 2013 Experiences

- Long soft finish, warm environments plus high nitrogen applications will predispose to high disease risk
- Management and varieties that are conducive to larger canopy (hybrids) = increased risk
- Environmental conditions and canopy development have greater impact on disease severity and hence fungicide timing that flowering stage
- Need more work on Canopy Management & Environmental Influences to increase performance of Fungicides - Possibly even reduce reliance on Fungicides





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Questions?

craig@agraraian.com.au

