



FELICITY PRITCHARD
Oilseed Industry Development Officer –
Victorian and southern New South Wales
Irrigated Cropping Forum
110 Natimuk Rd Horsham, Vic 3401
Ph: (03) 5382 4396 or 0427 600 228
Fax: (03) 5362 2187

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OILSEEDS NEWS

THIRSTY CROPS GREET RAINFALL

Desperately-needed rainfall in many parts of the Victorian grainbelt has been welcomed today by canola growers who have seen crops stagnate and show signs of drought stress and over the past six weeks.



Canola crops have been refreshed by welcome rain in many parts of Victoria.

turned blue, but they're now looking healthy and the topsoil's moist."

Nhill Landmark agronomist Alan Morrison said that the Nhill district had received only 3.5 to 5 millimetres (mm) of rain on Thursday morning (22 June), and canola crops looked "not too bad".

"This rain has brightened things up. Some of the canola crops had

He said that only 50 to 60 per cent of cropping paddocks in the Nhill area had been sown, and with another 5 mm of rain, more cereals and field peas would be sown.

Rainfall totals for Wednesday night and Thursday morning in the Wimmera ranged from 3.5 mm at Nhill, 5 mm at Horsham, 12 mm at Warracknabeal and a welcome 16 mm at Longerenong. Most of the Mallee's rainfall fell in the south, with 9 mm at Hopetoun and Beulah, but only 5 mm at Ouyen, 1 mm at Walpeup and Kerang and even less at Swan Hill and Quambatook.

However, at the time of writing, good falls are yet to arrive in the Western District and Central Victoria.

For up-to-date details of rainfall across the regions, visit www.bom.gov.au and look under daily weather observations.
