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## OILSEEDS NEWS - MEDIA RELEASES

### CANOLA AGRONOMY WORKSHOP IN VICTORIA FOR ADVISERS



An exceptional line up of presenters will be on hand to explore a range of issues related to risk management and rotation planning, market outlook, new canola types, GM crops and crop management at a one-off canola workshop for agronomists and interested growers to be held at Lake Bolac in Western Victoria on Friday 18 September.

The workshop, part of the Better Oilseeds project of the Grains Research and Development Corporation and Australian Oilseed Federation (AOF) aims to help growers reduce their risk while maximising profitability and sustainability of cropping rotations.

An exciting speaker will be CSIRO's John Kirkegaard, an award-winning research scientist who will travel from Canberra to provide participants with an understanding of canola yield potential, the usefulness of the model Yield Prophet and the importance of stored subsoil moisture for canola crops.

**EXPERTISE:** Award-winning CSIRO scientist John Kirkegaard will speak at the Better Oilseeds canola workshop for agronomists next month.  
Photo: Felicity Pritchard.



Dr Kirkegaard will also provide practical recommendations on grazing canola for a dual-purpose crop in the high rainfall zone. The information comes at the completion of three years' research by the organisation which has already resulted in major changes in canola management in parts of New South Wales this season.

Consultant Kate Burke will discuss managing risk when growing canola and how to make seasonal decisions of whether to grow the crop or not in the medium and low rainfall zones. Agronomists will also hear the best way to set up paddocks for canola and maximising yield potential while managing risk in the high rainfall zone.

A topical discussion on getting the best establishment of canola crops will be led by senior SARDI agronomist Trent Potter in response to patchy establishment of many canola crops this season. Mr Potter will also present new information from Better Oilseeds trials into optimal sowing rates and row spacings for different canola varieties and hybrids as well as the effect of sowing farmer-retained seed on canola yield.

A not-to-be missed update of Australia's market position and outlook for 2009 and 2010 will be provided by Ian Dalgliesh, General Manager of Australian Grain Accumulation Services.

New developments in juncea canola for the low rainfall zone and specialty canola varieties will be covered by breeders Dr Wayne Burton of and Laura Maher of the Department of Primary Industries.

Kate Burke will provide independent trial and demonstration results with Roundup Ready canola, and entomologist Stuart McColl of CESAR will cover the latest information on aphid, mandalotus beetle and diamondback moth management.

Canola pathologist Steve Marcroft will discuss management options for blackleg, the most serious disease of canola, followed by a field tour of the Lake Bolac blackleg nursery.

Trent Potter will provide an update on new varieties showcased at the nearby National Variety Trial.



Agronomists also have the chance to inspect adjacent Pacific Seeds trials, led by Justin Kudnig, to learn more about sowing rates for canola, the effect of using farmer-retained seed and new herbicide tolerant hybrids.

The workshop will be held at the Lake Bolac Memorial Hall, Lake Bolac, and will be interactive to allow participants to explore issues in-depth.

To attend the one-off workshop, please leave a message with Felicity Pritchard on (03) 5382 4396 or 0427 600 228 before Wednesday 9 September. The agenda and registration forms will soon appear on [www.australianoilseed.com](http://www.australianoilseed.com). Cost is \$20 per head to cover catering costs. Numbers will be limited.

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