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Wednesday, 01 March 2006

## **OILSEEDS NEWS**

### **TAKING CONTROL OF CANOLA DISEASE**

Canola growers and advisors now have access to up-to-date information on how to better manage the disease, blackleg, the most serious disease of canola in Australia, with the help of a free publication, “Australian Blackleg Management Guide”, compiled by Steve Marcroft of Marcroft Grains Pathology.

The guide cites methods to reduce the likelihood of serious yield losses while keeping down the production costs, through growing resistant varieties, avoiding the previous year’s canola stubble and using fungicides only in high-risk situations.

According to Felicity Pritchard, Oilseed Industry Development Officer for Victoria and southern New South Wales, good management of blackleg is important for the long-term viability of the canola industry.

“We have already seen the breakdown of resistance to the blackleg fungus in certain canola varieties carrying a single resistance gene, so we have to do all we can to ensure that the remaining resistance genes in our canola varieties continue to work effectively”.

For copies of the brochure, contact your Topcrop agronomist, or Steve Marcroft on (03) 5381 2294, Felicity Pritchard on 0427 600 228, or in New South Wales, contact your District Agronomist.

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