



FELICITY PRITCHARD
Oilseed Industry Development Officer –
Victoria and southern New South Wales
Irrigated Cropping Forum
Grains Innovation Park
110 Natimuk Road, Horsham, Vic 3401
Ph: (03) 5382 4396 or 0427 600 228

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OILSEEDS NEWS

CANOLA GROWERS OPTIMISTIC AT BCG EXPO

The enthusiasm for canola at the recent Birchip Cropping Group Expo was “enormous”, according to managers of the national oilseed agronomy project, ‘Better Oilseeds’, Steve Marcroft and Sue Knights.

Around 420 growers and other industry people walked through the door, in what Dr Marcroft described as “the most positive field day ever”.

“Everyone is very positive with the prices, seasonal outlook, and in some areas, the option of escaping some of the effects of last year’s drought by cutting canola crops for hay,” he said.

The canola site focused on new technologies, including juncea canola, genetically modified (GM) types, hybrids, canola hay and dual purpose canola for as a ‘graze and grain’ option.

“The biggest interest was in canola hay, but there were also lots of questions about GM,” said Dr Marcroft.



OPTIMISTIC: Canola was a focus at this month's BCG Expo, keeping Steve Marcroft (left) and Sue Knights busy with enquiries.
PHOTO: SUSAN FINLAY, DPI VICTORIA

Dr Knights said there was a huge increase on numbers, compared with last year in the midst of the drought.

“I think the new format was a lot more successful. The guided tours helped facilitate discussions,” she said.

Media enquiries: Steve Marcroft or Sue Knights (Tue, Thu): (03) 5362 2111.
