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## **OILSEEDS NEWS**

### **DAVE ROBSON RETIRES AFTER 32 YEARS' SERVICE TO PLANT BREEDING**

After 32 years of dedicated service, Horsham-based oilseeds breeding Technical Officer, Dave Robson, has hung up his boots with the Victorian Department of Primary Industries.

Dave's contribution has seen the release of 46 crop varieties - including three oat, three triticale, two linseed, two industrial rapeseed, three mustard, one juncea canola and 29 canola varieties.

In his role, Dave managed trials right across Victoria with both a coordination role and the hands-on work of sowing, spraying and harvesting breeding trials which led to the release of higher yielding, better quality, disease-resistant crop varieties for growers to adopt.

His disease nursery trials were described by one research scientist as "the best I've seen in the world" at his farewell yesterday.

But Dave said it wasn't the trials, but his interaction with farmers and international scientists, as well as his fellow workmates that he loved so much about his job.

Fellow colleagues expressed their sadness at seeing Dave leave, but wished him well for his future life of leisure.

Dave has no special plans at this stage for his retirement, but will now have more time to spend with his children and wife, Inge at their family property south of Horsham after many years of long working hours and trips away in the name of lifting grain production and helping growers in Victoria.



FAREWELL TO HIS MATES: Dave Robson (left) celebrates his final day with the DPI Horsham after 32 years' service to plant breeding. He is pictured with fellow retiree Denis Ballinger and SARDI senior agronomist Trent Potter and DPI canola breeder Wayne Burton. Photo: Liz Dahlenburg, Vic. DPI

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