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## **OILSEEDS NEWS**

### **NEW FREE ELECTRONIC SERVICE TO TARGET PESTS**

A new free electronic newsletter and pest identification service is available to keep growers and agronomists informed about pest-related issues – and solutions - as they emerge during the growing season.

This service, PestFacts, is designed to help advisers and growers deal with the increasing challenges being presented by mites and insects, which are having an increasing impact on grain production in southern Australia.

PestFacts coordinator, University of Melbourne Research and Extension officer, Dr Paul Umina, said the newsletter aims to help growers by providing timely information about pest outbreaks, effective controls and current information about relevant and new research findings.

PestFacts is part of a GRDC-funded initiative, and draws on the field observations of consultants, growers and researchers across south-eastern Australia as they report on the location and extent of invertebrate pest outbreaks.

A free pest identification service is also available.

PestFacts also issues warnings (or reminders) for a range of invertebrate pests of all crops, including pulses, oilseeds, cereals and fodder crops. It is based on the PestFax model that has run successfully in WA for many years.

PestFacts is part of the National Invertebrate Pest Initiative (NIPI) established to improve the flow of information about pests and their control to the grains industry.

To be part of this free service, simply contact the coordinator, Paul Umina, on (03) 8344 6502 or by sending an email to [pumina@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:pumina@unimelb.edu.au).

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