



**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 - MEDIA RELEASES**

### **GROWERS HAPPY WITH ROUNDUP READY CROPS**

In its inaugural season in Victoria and New South Wales, growers are giving a thumbs-up to Roundup Ready® canola.



MONITORS: Agronomist Kate Burke with Better Oilseeds coordinator Steve Marcroft at the Wimmera canola herbicide "systems" trial.

PHOTO: Felicity Pritchard.

Monsanto Australia's Tony May said that he had visited about 40 Roundup Ready® canola crops and preliminary feedback from growers was very positive.

"The feedback is that they are very

happy with the vigour of the (hybrid) crops, especially when compared with the TTs (triazine tolerant varieties),” said Mr May.

“The weed control has been very strong, especially where the growers have used two sprays, one early and another before the six-leaf stage.”

Mr May said that Roundup Ready<sup>®</sup> canola was the perfect fit for minimum till systems, when crops are sown dry with a heavy stubble cover and good follow-up rain. These crops have emerged much better than in conventional cultivation systems, he said.

Mr May said a benefit of the Roundup Ready<sup>®</sup> canola was the option of sowing the crop dry, enabling it to be sown early to maximise the length of the growing season.

“We have had a lot of interest from farmers, and now that they have had the opportunity to look at trial sites and commercial paddocks they can see the benefits for themselves.

Indications are that there will be a significant increase in plantings in 2009, given there will be far greater amount of seed available next year,” he said.

Oilseeds Industry Development Officer, Felicity Pritchard, said that the national oilseed agronomy project, Better Oilseeds, is undertaking monitoring of a herbicide “systems” demonstration site in the Victorian Wimmera this season.

“The demonstration aims to allow farmers to see for themselves different canola varieties and hybrids with the three herbicide tolerance systems that we now have available for canola. Agronomists are monitoring the site closely to compare weed control in the different systems,” she said.

She said that the difference in vigour between the TT varieties and the Clearfield and Roundup Ready<sup>®</sup> hybrids was impressive.

“The hybrids are blessed with hybrid vigour, while the TTs unfortunately have an inherent yield penalty,” she said.

A field day will be held at the site later in the season.

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