# CWFS NOVOZYMES JUMPSTART PRODUCT TRIALS - TRIAL

# **Key Messages**

- Jumpstart seed inoculant did not increase the yield of treated crops in 2009.
- Jumpstart seed inoculant increased the early vigour of the crop.

### What is Jumpstart?

Jumpstart is a seed inoculant containing a naturally occurring soil fungus *Penicillium bilaii*, which grows on the roots of plants. The fungi is claimed to create an acid root zone that makes more phosphorus in the soil available to the plant.

#### How was it done?

Three replicated and randomised small plot trials were sown at Tottenham, Weethalle and Wirrinya. The treatments compared a nil treatment and three fertiliser rates sown with and without Jumpstart seed inoculant. Due to poor seasonal conditions, the trial at Wirrinya failed and was not harvested. The trial at Tottenham was discontinued due to a mechanical breakdown of the small plot seeder half way through the sowing of this trial.

### **Background**

#### Weethalle Site

Hosts Paul & Brenda McKinnon Location "Labertouche" Paddock history Long Fallow

Soil Type Red Clay Loam Soil fertility pH (1:5 water) 6.1

> Colwell P 25 mg/kg Nitrate Nitrogen 7.3 mg/kg Sulphate Sulphur 1.6 mg/kg

Zinc (DTPA) 0.36 mg/kg

Sowing Date 12<sup>th</sup> June 2009 Harvest Date 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Plot Size 13m x 1.8m

Seeding rate
Fertiliser rate
Seed inoculant
Herbicide

40 kg/ha of Gregory wheat
MAP at 0, 25, 50 & 75kg/ha
Novozymes Jumpstart
Site treated 2L/ha Roundup

450 and 1.5L/ha Triflur Xcel at

sowing.

Design Block design with three

replications and fully randomised

Measurements Establishment, vigour, yield, protein, screenings, test weight

and moisture

# Table 1. 2009 rainfall data for Weethalle, NSW

Weethalle Rainfall 2009												
J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D	Total
15	15	35.5	41.5	6	98	16	4	16	10	29	70	356

Bureau of Meterology, www.bom.gov.au/nsw

# What happened?

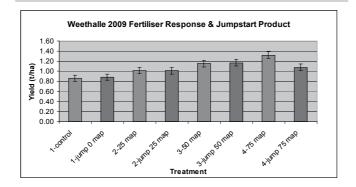
The trial established evenly and plant numbers were consistent across all plots. There were visual differences in vigour, plants being taller, correlating with the increased fertiliser rates as well as a visual advantages between the plots inoculated with Jumpstart and those without. This was evident in both the Weethalle and Wirrinya trials.

As the season progressed and the trials became moisture stressed, this vigour became less evident between treatments sown with and without Jumpstart. Treatments of different fertiliser rates could still be distinguished.

At the Weethalle spring field day there were obvious signs of severe moisture stress in these trials.

#### Results

Figure 1. Yield response to fertiliser and Jumpstart treatments (error bars represent the LSD)



#### What does this mean?

The trial was sown into soil shown to be very low in phosphorus. Despite the lack of soil moisture, the treatments gave an obvious fertiliser response. This response can be seen in the blue bars on Figure 1 where yield increased with increasing rates of MAP. When Jumpstart seed inoculant was added to these treatments, displayed as the red bars in Figure 1,

yields did not increase. There are several factors that may have influenced the results of this trial. The early vigour displayed in the Jumpstart treatments earlier in the season may have used soil moisture more rapidly to produce biomass but failed to convert this into yield as the season ran out.

There was no significant difference between any of the treatments for screenings or protein percentages.

Further trialling in different seasons and on different soil types will give a better field of results to make a critical assessment on this product.

## Acknowledgements

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#### **Brad Davis**

Central West Farming Systems



# **VARIETIES FOR 2011**





Naparoo<sup>®</sup>
dual purpose wheat

Awnless feed wheat for grain and grazing



Merinda milling wheat

Main season AH with high yield potential

Espada milling wheat





