

## **C11. Row Spacing, MRZ Mid North (Mallala), South Australia**

### **Aim**

To maximise production advantages of new kabuli and desi chickpea varieties through the identification of optimum row spacings.

### **Treatments**

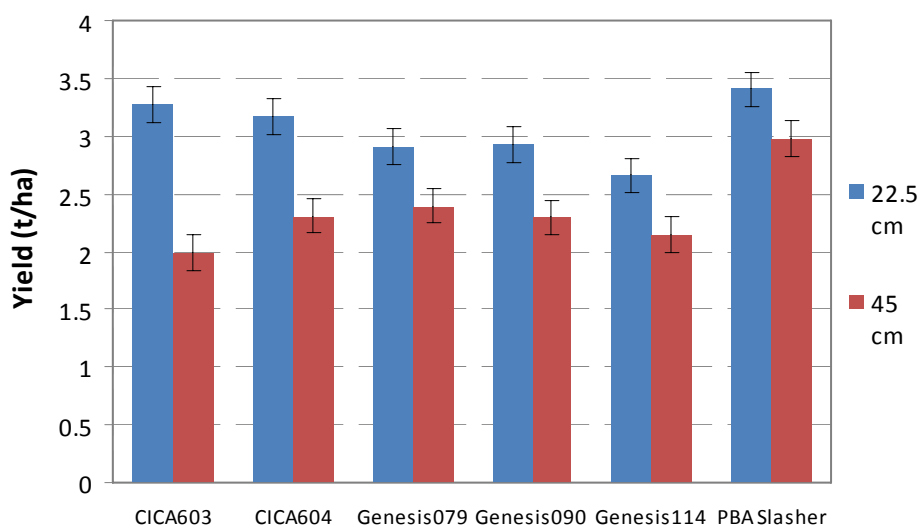
Varieties: Kabuli: Genesis 079, Genesis 090 and Genesis 114  
Desi: PBA Slasher, CICA0603 and CICA0604  
Sowing date: 19 May  
Row Spacing's: 22.5cm (9") and 45cm (18")  
Fertiliser: MAP + Zn @ 75kg/ha at sowing

### **Results and Interpretation**

All varieties showed a significant yield penalty associated with wider row spacing (Figure C11.1). CICA0603 showed the highest yield penalty at wider rows (39%), followed by CICA0604 (27%). PBA Slasher showed the lowest yield loss from wider row spacing (13%).

A low to moderate ascochyta blight infection was measured, but this had no significant relationship with row spacing.

There was no significant row spacing effect on lodging at this site in 2010.



**Figure C11.1.** Effect of row spacing on grain yield (t/ha) of 6 chickpeas varieties, Mallala 2010

### **Key Findings and Comments**

- The wet season finish in 2010 favoured chickpea production, and yields were significantly higher than in previous years, averaging 2.7 t/ha in this trial.
- All varieties showed reduced yield at wider row spacings.
- The two potential new releases CICA0603 and CICA0604 showed the largest reduction in yield at the wide row spacing, while PBA Slasher showed the least.
- Row spacing had no significant effect on ascochyta blight infection or lodging in this trial in 2010.