Soil moisture retention granules

Key findings

- Soil moisture retention granules did not influence wheat grain yield at Hart in 2009.

Why do the trial?

To investigate the performance of soil moisture retention granules and seed coatings on wheat grain yield.

How was it done?

Plot size	1.4m x 10m	**Fertiliser**	DAP @ 60 kg/ha + 2% Zn
Seeding date	25th May 2009	**Variety**	Gladius @ 70 kg/ha

The trial was a randomised complete block design with 3 replicates and 5 treatments.

Aquaboost soil moisture retention granules (AG100) were applied with the seed at 2 kg/ha or 4 kg/ha. Aquaboost seed coat seed dressing (AG30) was applied to the seed prior to sowing at 10L/t.

Plots were assessed for grain yield.

Results

Grain yield in this trial ranged from 3.10 t/ha to 3.32 t/ha. The use of soil water retention granules and/or seed coats did not significantly increase the yield of Gladius wheat (Table 1).

Table 1: Grain yield results (t/ha) for soil moisture retention granules at Hart in 2009.

Treatment	Grain yield (t/ha)	% of untreated
Untreated	3.22	100
Seed coat	3.20	100
Granules 2 kg/ha	3.32	103
Granules 4 kg/ha	3.31	103
Seed coat + granules 2 kg/ha	3.10	96
LSD (0.05)	0.18	6