

TRIAL SUMMARIES

Lentil, Sowing Time, HRZ Western District (Lake Bolac), Victoria

Aim

To evaluate the appropriateness of lentil varieties for the Victorian high rainfall zone (HRZ) at two sowing dates.

Treatments

- Sowing dates: May 17, June 6
- Varieties: PBA Jumbo2, PBA Hurricane XT, PBA Ace, 'L1', PBA Hallmark XT, PBA Giant

Table 1. Other Site Details

Stubble management	Burnt
Row spacing (cm)	20
Plant density (pl/m²)	83
Fertiliser¹ (kg/ha)	60

1. MAP

Results and Interpretation

- **Key Messages:** Lentils are not traditionally grown in the Victorian HRZ. Growth vigour was good and suggested a promising fit for lentils in the region, but unfavourable weather during reproductive stages, and late rain in November that caused lodging reduced grain yields.
- Large numbers of pods were dropped before harvest, with more than twice the number of pods dropped in plots sown on May 17 compared to June 6.
- **Summary:** Lentils are not traditionally grown in the Victorian HRZ. Several varieties were tested at Lake Bolac with two sowing dates to explore their potential for the region. Biomass was similar between sowing dates and varieties.
- At maturity many pods had been dropped on the soil surface before harvest. This is one reason for the very low yields. More pods were dropped on the soil surface with the May 17 sowing compared to June 6 across varieties, indicating potentially higher grain yields. No grain yields were recorded due to the excessive pod drop.

Table 2. Biomass at flowering and pods dropped of lentil varieties sown on two dates at Lake Bolac in 2018.

Treatment	Biomass (t/ha)	Pods dropped (pods/m²)
Sowing date		
May 17	2.2 -	105 a
June 6	2.2 -	53 b
LSD (P<0.05)	NS	27
Variety		
PBA Jumbo2	2.2 -	43 -
PBA Hurricane XT	2.3 -	83 -
PBA Ace	2.4 -	79 -
'L1'	2.3 -	94 -
PBA Hallmark XT	1.9 -	97 -
PBA Giant	2.3 -	78 -
LSD (P<0.05)	NS	37
Sowing date x variety		
May 17, PBA Jumbo2	2.5 -	63 -
June 6, PBA Jumbo2	2.0 -	22 -
May 17, PBA Hurricane XT	2.2 -	128 -
June 6, PBA Hurricane XT	2.4 -	37 -
May 17, PBA Ace	2.3 -	96 -
June 6, PBA Ace	2.4 -	62 -
May 17, 'L1'	2.3 -	110 -
June 6, 'L1'	2.3 -	78 -
May 17, PBA Hallmark XT	1.7 -	114 -
June 6, PBA Hallmark XT	2.0 -	80 -
May 17, PBA Giant	2.4 -	119 -
June 6, PBA Giant	2.2 -	36 -
LSD (P<0.05)	NS	52