Field Pea, Sowing Time, HRZ Western District (Lake Bolac), Victoria

Aim

To test the adaptability of field pea varieties to changes in sowing time in the Victorian high rainfall zone (HRZ).

Treatments

- Sowing date: May 17, June 6
- Varieties: PBA Butler, PBA Wharton, PBA Percy, PBA Oura

Table 1. Other Site Details

Stubble management	Burnt
Row spacing (cm)	20
Plant density (pl/m^2)	32
Fertiliser[1] (kg/ha)	60

1. MAP

Results and Interpretation

- **Key Messages:** Grain yield was highest sown earlier; 1.2t/ha May 17 c.f. 0.7 t/ha June 6.

- **Summary:** Grain yields were lower than expected at Lake Bolac, which was also observed in lentil and chickpea trials at the same site. There were 38 days with a minimum temperature less than 4°C, and 35 days where the maximum was greater than 26°C. Temperatures above 25°C during reproductive stages have been shown to be negatively correlated with grain yields in field peas. There was very little disease observed in field peas in 2018 trials.
- There was a significant interaction between sowing date and variety (see Figure 1). PBA Wharton and PBA Pearl had the greatest yield penalty of 0.8 t/ha by delaying sowing from May 17 to June 6. The lower yielding PBA Percy only lost 0.1 t/ha from delayed sowing.

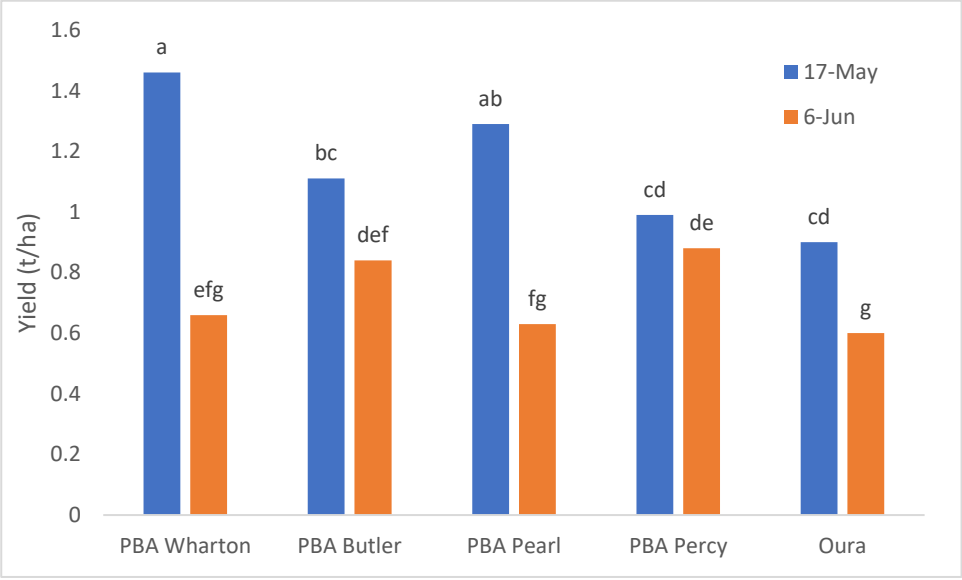

Figure 1. Grain yield of field peas sown on two dates at Lake Bolac. Letters represent significant differences for the variety x sowing date interaction (P=0.05).