

Chickpea Sowing Time Demonstration

The aim is to determine the optimum sowing time for chickpeas in the Mallee environment.

Summary

Yield was extremely poor due to lack of moisture. Chickpeas should be sown mid May to early June in the Southern Mallee.

Background

The optimum sowing time for new pulses such as chickpeas need to be determined for the southern Mallee and Mallee.

Method

The trial was established at Birchip. Chickpeas were sown at 100kg/ha with 80kg/ha GLSZn at three-week intervals starting on May 14. A post sowing pre-emergent application of Simazine at 1L followed each sowing time.

Results

Chickpea yields were very poor due to the dry season; the chickpeas were not affected by disease (Table 4.5).

Table 4.5 Chickpea yields in relation to sowing time

| Sowing date | Lasseter | Sona |
|-------------|----------|-------|
| 14 May | 0.156 | 0.167 |
| 4 June | 0.278 | 0.189 |
| 26 June | 0.144 | 0.167 |

Interpretation

The yields are too poor to properly assess the three different treatment times.

Commercial practice

Chickpeas should be sown from early June in the Southern Mallee.