

### 9.3 CANOLA SEED DRESSING TRIAL - GNARWARRE (LANDMARK)

**Location:** "South Roxby" Gnarwarre

**Researchers:** Simon Crane, Landmark (R & D)  
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**Aim:**

To evaluate a number of seed dressings in canola.

**Trial Design:**

Three replicates of small plots 1.7m x 15

**Crop type:** Grace canola

**Sowing date:** 16<sup>th</sup> May 2003

**GSR (April – Nov)** 387.5 mm

**Soil Type:** clay loam

**Background:**

This trial was one of many Landmark R&D established in 2003 to evaluate the performance of a number of seed dressings on canola. Whilst Jockey ® and Impact in Furrow ® are known to control seedling Blackleg in canola, the other treatments were included for their activity on root rotting diseases such as *Pythium*. *Pythium* is known to occur at damaging levels in soils of rainfall zones >350mm and trial work over the last couple of years has found disease reduction and yield increases with certain seed dressings. The main crop symptom of *Pythium* is low vigour which results from the fungus stripping the outer layer of the primary roots leaving only a 'steely' cortex that is unable to take up water and nutrients.

**Results:**

**Table 71: Summary of Monitoring and Yield Data**

Treatment	Plant count /m2	Yield T/ha	% Untreated	Avg Victoria ( ) No of Trials
Untreated	50	1.13		
Impact in Furrow 400ml/ha	41	<sup>5</sup> 1.23	109	-
Jockey 2L/100kg seed	39	1.14	101	96 (5)
Maxim 400ml/100kg seed	39	1.08	96	100 (7)
Dynasty 200ml/100kg seed	27	1.15	102	96 (2)

<sup>5</sup> Only results from 2 reps of this treatment so no statistics done

**Discussion:**

Unfortunately this trial was quite patchy and the other results from Victoria were also variable so it is difficult to make much comment.

Although there were no disease symptoms at this site, an observation that was made at a number of locations in Victoria and South Australia in 2003, was that the Jockey ® seed treatment was effecting plant vigour and slowing development of the canola.

This is reflected in the Victorian average yield figures and has led to the development of a potential alternative product known as Maxim ®.

While trials will continue in 2004, Maxim will be available to some extent this year for activity on both Blackleg and *Pythium*.