

## 9.4 HIGH INPUT TRIAL

**Location:** Gnarwarre

**Researchers:** Colin Hacking, Wes Arnott  
and Gary Sheppard

**Growing season rainfall:**  
376 mm (April – November)

**Aim:**  
To continue an economic evaluation of high input  
versus district practice for 2000

**Background:**  
With the relatively high rainfall of the district, there is  
some belief that nutrition and other inputs may be too  
low, thereby limiting the potential yield of the crop.  
This is a long term rotation trial, undertaking an  
economic and agronomic evaluation of a high input  
treatment versus a district practice treatment.

**Treatments:**

**Crop :** Canola

**Variety :** Pinnacle (treated with Mesurol @ 10g/kg  
seed)

**Planting Rate :** 6 kg/ha

**Sowing Depth :** 2 cm

**Sowing Date :** 8<sup>th</sup> June 2000

**Sowing Unit :** Combine

**Ground Preparation:** Scarify prior to planting

**Herbicide:**

Pre sowing application of knockdown herbicide  
(Roundup CT @ 2.0L/ha)

Simazine + Atrazine at registered rates within 4 days  
of sowing

250 ml/ha Lontrel + 100 ml/ha Verdict

**Insecticide:**

Talstar within 4 days of sowing for long term RLEM  
control

Methiocarb within 4 days of sowing for slug control

**Fertiliser:**

**High Input:** 1.55 T/ha lime applied to high input  
7/4/00. Incorporated 8/4/00

100 kg/ha MAP at sowing

150 kg/ha Urea at late rosette stage.

Applied on 19/9

**District Practice:**

100 kg/ha MAP at sowing

100 kg/ha Urea at late rosette stage. Applied on 19/9

**Windrowing:** 3/12

**Harvesting:** 20/12. Plot area of 0.0304 ha

**Results:**

Treatment	High Input	District Practice
Yield (kg/ha)	2,184	2,221
Oil %	40.9	42.8

**Conclusion:**

Similar to the previous 4 years, the district practice  
treatment has given better performance than the high  
input treatment. This to a degree reflects the  
relatively fertile site and the fact that the seasons  
have finished quickly in November. On the data  
gathered so far, it is not economic to increase inputs,  
particularly fertiliser, beyond what is regarded as  
good district practice.

**Further Information:**

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