

Faba Bean PGR Trial

Plant Growth Regulators

The aim of the trial is to find a product that reduces crop height, while not affecting yield or height to first pod. Having a PGR would be useful in some situations such as to help control the height of the crop in an effort to reduce lodging. For example, the variety trial in 2010 was approximately 2m tall and collapsed close to harvest into a tangled mess.

Once again, there are no PGRs registered for use on fabas.

The PGR Reward (mepiquat) and the triazole fungicide Prosaro were applied to the fabas on August 14th, prior to flowering.

PGR	Yield (t/ha)	Height (cm)	Lodge Score
Control	6.24	137	4.3
Reward	6.24	133	4.3
Prosaro	6.34	127	3.7
p	0.795	0.373	0.694
lsd	NS	NS	NS
cv%	3.3	6.2	20

The PGRs had no effect on yield, height or lodging. Timing of application needs to be investigated as the relatively late applications do not seem to be having an effect, but applying too early may reduce the height of the first pod and increase harvest losses.