



## Pre-Season Variety Update 2025

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Welcome to the first edition of the SA Delta Agronomy Newsletter compiled by the SA Delta Ag Advisory Team. It is our aim to keep you up to date and abreast of any relevant agronomy topics throughout the season. For 2025, you will now receive timely and regular newsletters from the Delta advisory team.

The purpose of our first newsletter is to provide guidance on winter crop varietal selection for 2025. This is based on trial data, paddock observations and performance for the major winter crop types grown throughout the South-East, Yorke Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula, Mid-North, Adelaide Hills and Mallee regions of SA. This variety update will provide a brief overview of current varieties, highlighting those new to the market in 2025 and which ones are worth considering for seed increase for future use.

Once the National Variety Trials and any internal Delta Ag trial results from the 2024 season become available, an updated newsletter will be sent outlining specific varietal performance.

This year, South Australian farmers faced significant challenges due to one of the worst droughts in recent memory. The combination of record-low rainfall and severe frosts led to many crops failing to reach harvest, particularly in regions like the Mid North, far West Coast, lower Yorke peninsula and the South-East.

The harsh conditions have resulted in the state's grain harvest being estimated at 5.3 million tonnes, valued at \$2.1 billion. This represents a 42% decrease from the five-year average and is the lowest yield since the 2008/09 season.

Without a doubt 2024 will rank as one of the most challenging years on record. However, as we near the start of a new year, focus now needs to turn to key decisions for the 2025 season ahead.

The Delta Ag team wish you and your families all the very best for the festive season. We thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to partnering with you to generate strong results in 2025.

The SA Delta Ag Advisory Team.





**The Delta Ag Advisory Team 2024.**

# Wheat

The 2024 season for majority of SA has been the worst on record with some of the far northern cropping districts resulting in complete crop failure. Early yield results for the southern cropping districts have been better than expected, with most earlier maturing varieties yielding average or above for any crops which could tap into stored sub soil moisture from summer rainfall events.

The biggest issue for most of SA next year will be herbicide residue management. Due to the increasing number of lentil hectares and lack of rainfall in the state, most of these hectares that received IMI chemistry will require a CL wheat or residue manager.

In the last few years, SA has seen a broad variation in varieties grown throughout the state. Varieties like Scepter, Vixen and Rockstar which have been solid performers are starting to be replaced by Calibre, Matador and Brumby, especially Matador and Brumby for growers who need a higher level of powdery mildew resistance.

SA still has a high area of CL wheat grown for residue management in lower rainfall areas with Sunblade CL, Sheriff CL and Razor CL being the common varieties, but not preferred due to their disease ratings and lower yield potential. The recent releases of Tomahawk CL and Soaker have been well timed with the extra demand on CL plantings in 2025 and their higher yield potential compared to older CL varieties. The only negative so far on Tomahawk and Soaker is the APW classification. Both varieties will need to be monitored closely for powdery mildew in high pressure environments.

A preventative fungicide strategy will need to be used in these areas, especially where fungicide resistance has become a concern.

**Recommended varieties:**

**Main season**

- Tomahawk CL
- Brumby
- Matador
- Calibre

**Long season:**

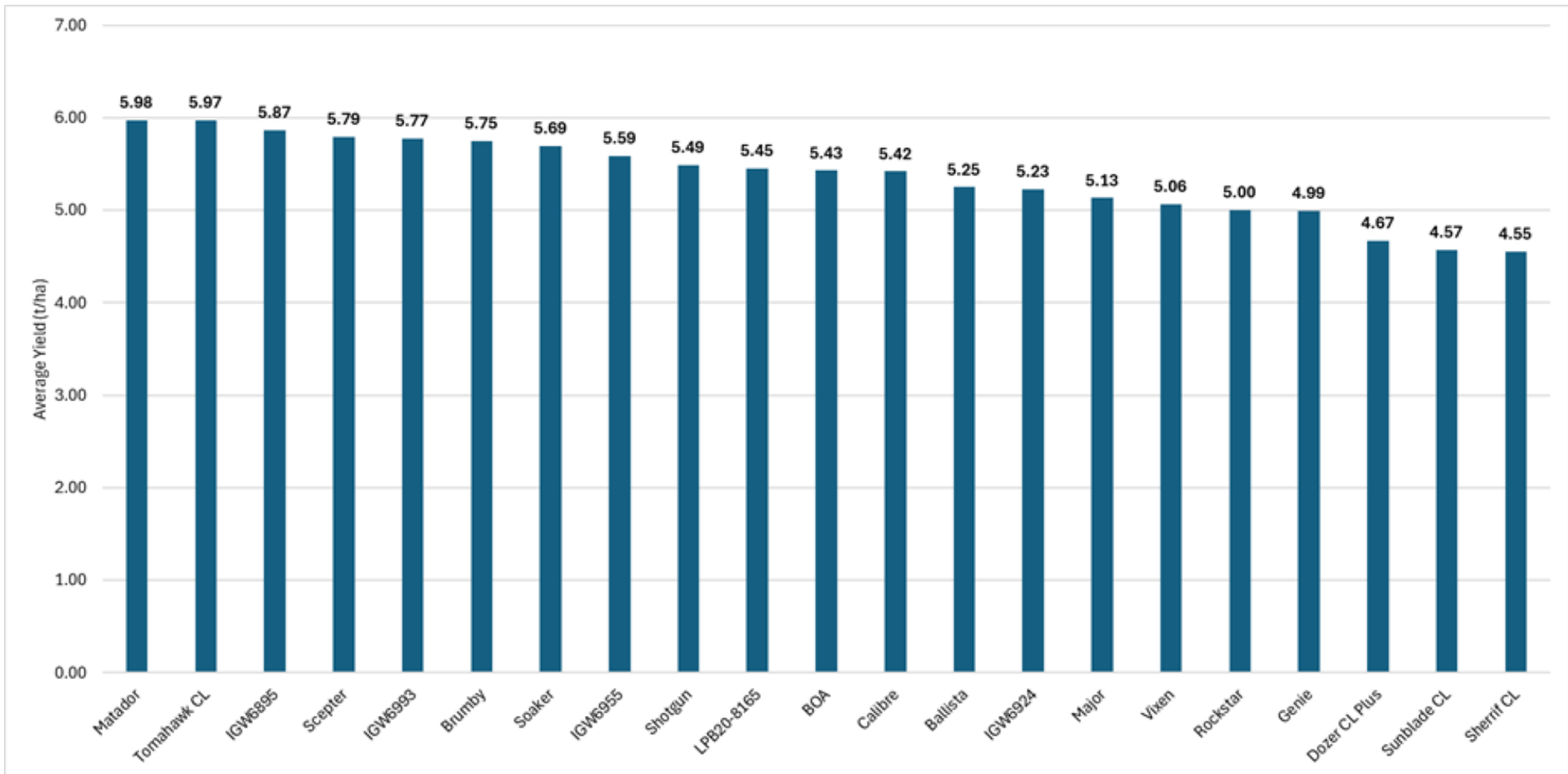
- Anapurna
- Big red
- Triple 2

**Seed increase:**

- Tomahawk CL
- Soaker CL



**Clients attending the 2024 Growers Supplies Field Day on the Yorke Peninsula.**



**Figure 1:** Delta Ag/Growers Supplies – Stansbury Scrub main season wheat variety trial 2024. Sowing date was 20/05/2024. Trial germinated in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of June. Yield differences are completely dependent on varietal traits. There was no variation on the site.

## **New and recent releases:**

### **Main Season**

#### **Matador**

- AH quality
- Quick mid maturing (like Scepter but shorter canopy)
- Powdery mildew - MS
- Septoria – S (P)
- Stripe rust - MS
- Longreach

#### **Tomahawk CL**

- APW quality
- Quick mid maturing (Similar to Scepter)
- Powdery mildew, S-VS
- Septoria – S (P)
- Stripe rust, M-S
- AGT

#### **Soaker CL**

- APW quality
- Quick mid maturing (Similar to Scepter)
- Single-gene IMI tolerant wheat
- Powdery mildew – S (P)
- Septoria - S (P)
- Stripe rust - MS (P)
- Longreach

#### **Shotgun**

- AH quality
- Mid-season maturing (similar to Scepter)
- Powdery mildew - S (P)
- Septoria - S (P)
- Stripe rust - MS (P)
- AGT

#### **Boa**

- AH quality
- Quick-mid maturing (traits of Scepter & Cobra)
- Powdery mildew - S (P)
- Septoria - S (P)
- Stripe rust, MR-MS (P)
- Longreach



## Winter Wheat Varieties

Winter wheat varieties are a key feature of the cereal rotation in the higher rainfall, longer season regions of SA. Winter wheat offers the benefits of maximizing yield potential through seasonal length as well as some tolerance to water logging. The dual-purpose benefit of winter wheat also helps mixed farmers fill their autumn/winter feed gap. They have also provided growers with some excellent disease resistance to the key leaf diseases.

Anapurna, Big Red, and Cesario continue to be the dominant varieties of red feed wheat for growers in the southeast of SA. High yield potential coupled with good disease resistance, stem strength to lodging and good grain retention makes them great options. Accroc was previously the most popular variety and is still grown by many today, but its disease resistance has decreased, placing it under high pressure and requiring a proactive fungicide strategy to maximize yield.

Length of maturity (time to flowering) is always a topic of discussion when choosing winter wheat varieties. Accord, and subsequent varieties like Anapurna and Big Red have been proven to have a reliable maturity time that helps maximize yield potential in strong seasons while also finishing quickly in a drying season.

### New and recent releases:

#### Triple 2

- Awned red feed wheat
- Dual purpose with mid maturity
- Strong disease package
- Very high yielding in trials as a coded variety (AGFWH010222)
- Suited to medium-high rainfall environments
- AGF

#### Longford

- Awned red feed wheat
- Dual purpose and late maturity
- Strong disease package and good lodging tolerance
- Suited to high rainfall environments



Longford and Triple 2 on display at an AGT field day in Smeaton in October 2024.

**Table 1:** Wheat varietal characteristics

Maturity	Variety	Grain Quality	Supplier	Year of Release	EPR \$/t (GST ex.)	E. Coast Stripe Rust	Septoria Tritici Blotch	Yellow Leaf Spot	Powdery Mildew	Stem Rust	Leaf Rust	Crown Rot	Lodging	Acid Soil	Comments	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET	TOS
Winter	Accroc	FEED	RAGT	2016	\$4.00	R-MR	MS	MR-MS	MS-S	MS	S-VS	S-VS	R-MR	-	Medium-long growing season wheat with potential for high yields in medium-high rainfall zones.	7.85	Long Season
	Anapurna	FEED	AGT	2020	\$3.20	R-MR	MR-MS	MR-MS	R-MR	MS-S	MS	S-VS	R-MR*	-	Excels in very long season, high rainfall environments.	7.08	
	Big Red	FEED	AGF SEEDS	2022	\$3.65	R-MR	MR	MR	R-MR	S	MR-MS	MS-S	-	-	Performs well under irrigation. Can be used as dual-purpose when early sowing is achieved.	7.31	
	Cesario	FEED	RAGT	2021	\$4.00	R-MR	MR-MS	MR	R-MR	R-MR	R-MR	VS	-	-	Awnless.	7.51	
	Triple 2	FEED	AGF SEEDS	2024	\$4.00	R-MR*	MR-MS*	-	R-MR*	-	MR-MS*	-	-	-	Tested in a range of environments, has consistently shown its potential to out yield competitors.	7.29	
Slow	Longford	FEED	AGF SEEDS	2023	\$3.85	R-MR	MR-MS/S	MR-MS	R-MR	R-MR	R-MR	MS-S	-	-	High yield potential red wheat with a strong disease package and lodging tolerance.	7.26	
Mid - Slow Spring	Genie	AH	Intergrain	2023	\$3.50	MR-MS*	S*	MR-MS	S-VS*	MS*	S*	-	-	-	1-2% yield increase over Rockstar.	4.29	Early Season
	Rockstar	AH	Intergrain	2019	\$3.50	S	S	MR-MS	S-VS	MR-MS	S	S	MR*	-	Wide adaptability to a range of environments.	3.89	
	Sheriff CL	APW	Intergrain	2016	4.25	S-VS	S	MR-MS	S-VS	MS	S-VS	S	MR*	-	Similar to LRPB Trojan and can be sown earlier than other CL varieties.	3.53	
Mid Spring	Brumby	APW	Intergrain	2022	\$3.50	MS	S	MR-MS	MR-S	MR	S-VS	S	-	-	High yielding APW & APWN wheat with a very attractive disease resistance profile	3.34	Main Season
	Matador	AH	LongReach	2023	\$3.50	MS	S*	MS	MS	MS	MS-S	S	MR-MS*	MT-T	Bred from a cross with Sceptor and has similar maturity but a shorter canopy.	3.36	
	Sceptor	AH	AGT	2015	\$3.25	MS-S	S	MR-MS	S-VS	MR-MS	MS-S	MS-S	MR	MT-T	Very reliable, high yielding and holds in a tight finish, suits sodic soils.	3.36	
	Shotgun	AH	AGT	2024	\$3.90	MS*	S*	MR-MS*	S*	MR-MS*	MS-S*	-	-	-	Viewed as an alternative to Rockstar.	3.57	
	Soaker CL	APW	AGT	2023	\$3.50	MS*	S*	MS*	S*	MR*	S*	-	-	MT-T	Higher yielding Sceptor replacement.	3.31	
	Sunblade CL	APH	AGT	2020	\$4.35	MR-MS*	S*	MS-S*	S*	MS*	MS-S*	S*	-	-	Slightly slowly maturity than Sceptor	3.22	
	Tomahawk CL	APW	AGT	2023	\$4.15	MS-S	S*	MR-MS	S-VS	MR	S	S	-	-	Sceptor type clearfield.	3.57	
Quick Mid Spring	Ballista	AH	AGT	2020	\$3.50	MS-S	S-VS	MS	S-VS	MR	S	S	MR*	-	Stable yield across a range of conditions. Alternative to Sceptor, Vixen and Calibre	3.30	
	Boa	AH	LongReach	2024	TBC	MR-MS*	S*	MS*	S*	MS*	MR*	-	-	MT-T	A shorter canopy with an erect growth habit to handle high input systems.	4.46	
	Calibre	AH	AGT	2021	\$3.50	S	S	MR-MS	MS-S	MR	S	S	-	-	Good sprouting tolerance and longer coleoptile than most commonly grown varieties.	3.41	
Quick Spring	Vixen	AH	Intergrain	2018	\$3.50	S-VS	S	MR-MS	S-VS	MR-MS	S-VS	S	MR*	-	Short plant height reducing stubble load in high yielding environments.	3.33	

\* Preliminary rating to be used with caution.

New varieties in red.

Source NVT Online.



# Barley

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Barley accounted for circa 800,000 ha, 20% of the SA 2024 winter crop (PIRSA). It was a dry start to the season and most, if not all, areas struggled with establishment. Rainfall averages were well below and continued throughout the season in most areas, resulting in a challenging year. The degree of damage seen from the mid-September frosts varied on a paddock-to-paddock basis. Thankfully, there were later sown barley paddocks that were still in the boot stage, therefore were not as exposed to frost damage.

Varieties that performed well in the tough conditions were Beast, Combat and Commodus CL. Commodus CL and Maximus CL continue to be the most extensively grown varieties due to their high yield performance and Clearfield herbicide trait even in tough years. This trend should continue with the potential of IMI residue carryover in the 2025 season. Neo CL performed very well in areas with a good level of stored soil moisture. It wasn't best suited to low production areas of ~3t/ha or less but it will continue to have a fit in mid-high rainfall areas and looks very promising. There are also pockets of Titan AX and some conventional varieties being grown predominantly in the Mid North.

The barley export price this year was lower as global production is up. Feed barley was highly sought after with local yields down on previous years and reduced pasture growth across the state. Seed for new varieties in 2025 will have a limited availability due to the dry season this year. It will be important to contact your local Delta Ag store or supplier regarding availability and to secure seed.

## Recommended varieties:

- Neo CL
- Maximus CL
- Commodus CL
- RGT Planet
- Combat

## Seed increase:

- Neo CL
- Granite CL

## New and recent releases:

### Granite CL

- Feed classification
- Shown good test weight and grain size in trials
- Quick-mid maturity
- Erect growth habit and medium plant height
- Suited to low-medium rainfall environments
- Improved spot form and net form ratings
- Intergrain

### Pegasus AX

- Allows group 1 herbicide, Quizalofop-P-Ethyl to be applied in crop
- Feed classification
- Quick-mid maturity
- Short height, less risk of lodging
- Suited to medium-high rainfall environments
- Improved disease package compared to Titan AX
- AGT

### **Bigfoot CL**

- Feed classification
- Marketed as higher yielding than Maximus and Commodus
- Mid maturity
- Suited to low-medium rainfall environments
- AGT

### **Spinnaker**

- Currently undergoing malt accreditation
- Quick maturity
- Suited to medium-high rainfall environments
- Improved leaf scald compared to other conventional varieties
- AGT

### **Neo CL**

- High yielding CL variety
- Feed classification, undergoing malt accreditation
- Improved grain size on Planet
- Mid maturity
- Suited to medium-high rainfall zones
- Good powdery mildew resistance
- Intergrain

### **Combat**

- Malt classification
- Low screenings and high grain retention
- Prone to lodging and head loss in high yielding situations
- Quick-mid maturity, intermediate growth type
- University of Adelaide



**The South Australian Advisory team inspecting a Growers Supplies cereal variety trial on the Yorke Peninsula.**

**Table 2:** Barley varietal characteristics.

Variety	Grain Class	Breeder	Year of Release	EPR \$/t (GST ex)	Leaf Scald	Leaf Rust	Powd. Mild.	Spot FNB	Net NFNB	Comments	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET
<b>Beast</b>	Feed	AGT	2020	\$4.00	S-VS	MS	S	MS	MR-MS/S	A very high yield potential in low to medium rainfall conditions.	4.39
<b>Bigfoot CL</b>	Feed	AGT	2024	\$4.35	VS*	S*	S*	MS*	MR-MS*	High yielding with solid grain package and plant height similar to Maximus.	4.04
<b>Combat</b>	Feed	Intergrain	2022	\$3.50	MS-S	S-VS	MS	R-MR	MR-MS/S	Described as a broadly adapted, mid-season feed variety. A high yielding variety suited to earlier sowing.	4.54
<b>Granite CL</b>	Feed	InterGrain	2024	\$3.90	MR-S*	S*	S*	MR-MS	MR-MS	Mid maturity, suited to low - medium rainfall. Medium plant height and strong lodging tolerance.	-
<b>Neo CL</b>	Feed	Intergrain	2023	\$4.25	S*	MS-S*	R-MR*	MR *	MS*	Suited in medium-high rainfall, good lodging tolerance.	4.55
<b>Pegasus AX</b>	Feed	AGT	2024	\$4.15	MS-S*	MS*	S*	MS-S*	MR-MS*	Hindmarsh type with lower lodging risk. Screenings risk.	2.91
<b>Spinnaker</b>	Feed	Secobra	2024	\$4.00	S	S	R-MR	S-VS	S-VS	Early - mid maturity, suited to medium rainfall.	4.21
<b>Titan AX</b>	Feed	AGT	2022	\$4.55	VS	S-VS	MS-S	MS	MR-MS/S	The first barley variety in the world that offers tolerance to Aggressor (a group 1, Quizalofop-p-Ethyl herbicide).	4.28
<b>Commodus CL</b>	Malt	Intergrain/GIA	2021	\$4.25	MS-S/S-VS	S	MS-S	MS-S	MR-MS/S	Ideally suited to lighter soils and medium - low rainfall environments, agronomically like compass.	4.20
<b>Maximus CL</b>	Malt	InterGrain	2020	\$4.25	R/S-VS	S	S	MS	MR-MS	Spartacus replacement with improved yield and a general disease package improvement.	4.29
<b>Planet</b>	Malt	RAGT	2017	\$4.00	R/S-VS	S	R-MR	S-VS	MR-MS/S-VS	Very high yielding malt variety, good tillering habit.	4.07
<b>Zena CL</b>	Malt	Intergrain/GIA	2022	\$4.25	R/S-VS	S	R-MR	S	MR-S	A Clearfield barley well suited to medium-high rainfall environments and is agronomically similar to RGT Planet.	4.03

\*Provisional rating.  
 New Variety 2025  
 Source: NVT online



# Oats

In South Australia, the area sown to oats for grain during the 2024 season was approximately 70,000 hectares. This reflects a stable to slightly increasing trend, influenced by the use of oats in both animal feed and domestic demand for milling oats and growers keen to take advantage of milling oat contracts with local buyers. These contracts are often comparable to forward contracts for both wheat and barley. There has also been some recent investment into milling oats in Australia with Intergrain picking up the SARDI milling oats breeding program, releasing two new varieties for 2025, these are Goldie and Millie.

**Recommended varieties:**

- Goldie
- Koala

## New and recent releases:

### **Goldie**

- High yield milling oat
- Strong grain quality package
- Mid-spring maturity
- Tall plant height (15cm taller than Bilby)
- Intergrain

### **Minnie**

- High yield milling oat
- Mid-slow maturity
- Short-medium plant height
- Improved lodging tolerance
- Intergrain

### **Koala**

- Suited to medium-high rainfall zones
- Mid-late maturity
- A tall dwarf variety (Similar height to Bannister)
- Resistant to cereal cyst nematode
- Seednet

### **Bilby**

- Quick maturity
- A dwarf variety
- Yields similar to Bannister
- SARDI

**Table 3:** Oat characteristics and disease ratings SA

Variety	Plant Height	Septoria	Stem Rust	Leaf Rust	BYDV	CCN Resistance	Red Leather Leaf	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET
<b>Bannister</b>	Tall Dwarf	M-MS	S	MS-S	MS	MR	MS-S/S-VS	2.77
<b>Bilby</b>	Dwarf	S	S	MS-S	S	S	MS	2.68
<b>Goldie</b>	Moderate Tall	MS	S-VS	S-VS	MS	MR	S-VS	2.95
<b>Koala</b>	Tall Dwarf	MS-S	MS	MS-S	MS-S	R	S	2.69
<b>Kowari</b>	Dwarf	S	S	S-VS	S	S	S	2.54

Disease ratings: VS = very susceptible, S = susceptible, MS = moderately susceptible, MR = moderately resistant, R = resistant

(P) = Provisional Ratings

# May be susceptible to alternate pathotypes

# Hay Oats

2024 has resulted in reduced hay yields due to dry conditions leaving a short fall in domestic and export oaten hay stocks as well as shortages in hay seed. Late rains have also affected production in some regions. Moving forward, local export companies are expanding operations to allow for more production to come from areas south of Adelaide, improving profitability and marketability of export hay production and providing closer access to markets for producers in nearby regions.

Conventional oaten hay varieties are not tolerant to IMI herbicide carryover and this will be an important consideration for oaten hay production in 2025 and therefore, farmers will need to consider Kingbale or Archer Oats to manage IMI carryover where appropriate or for specific grass weed management such as brome grass with the use of pre-emergent IBS OnDuty only.

### Recommended varieties:

- Kingbale
- Mulgara

### Seed increase:

- Kultarr

## New and recent releases:

### Archer

- Single gene IMI tolerant
- Mid maturity
- Medium height, good early colour and hay colour retention
- Intergrain

### Kingbale

- Single gene IMI tolerant
- Mid maturity, tall height, good early vigour
- Intergrain

### Wallaby

- Slow maturity
- Good digestibility, high water soluble carbohydrate & low NDF.
- Medium-tall height
- Suited to medium-high rainfall zones
- Intergrain

### Kultarr

- Quick-mid maturity
- Higher hay yields than Brusher and Mulgara
- Tall height
- Suited to medium rainfall zones
- Intergrain

**Table 4:** Oat hay characteristics and disease ratings SAYield data for Kingbale and Archer only present in 2021 & 2022.

Variety	Plant Height	Septoria	Stem Rust	Leaf Rust	BYDV	CCN Resistance	Red Leather Leaf	WA MET Intergrain 17-22
Archer	Moderate	MR-MS*	MS-S	R/S*	MS-S*	VS*	S-VS*	10.20
Kingbale	Tall	MS-S	MS-S	S	MS	R	S*	10.41
Kultarr	Tall	MS*	S-VS*	MR*	MS-S*	MR-MS*	S*	10.42
Mulgara	Tall	S/MS	S	MR	MS-S	R	S-VS	10.06
Wallaby	Moderate Tall	MS*	S-VS*	MR*	MS*	MR*	S-VS*	10.31
Winteroo	Tall	MS#	S	S	MS	R	S	10.29

Disease ratings: VS = very susceptible, S = susceptible, MS = moderately susceptible, MR = moderately resistant, R = resistant

(P) = Provisional Ratings

# May be susceptible to alternate pathotypes

# Canola

Canola remains a very profitable crop for South Australian growers. It's an excellent break crop to reduce the prevalence of cereal root diseases and is well suited to cleaning up problem weeds in paddocks prior to cereal rotations. Modern plant breeding and genetic modification (GM) programs have produced canola varieties with excellent yield potential, agronomic traits that allow a wide range of chemical control options in-crop and improved genetic resistance to key establishment diseases such as blackleg.

The 2024 growing season proved to be a challenging year for canola production in South Australia. The late patchy start, record or near record dry conditions and widespread frost events impacted canola production across the state. Canola has proven to be a remarkably resilient crop under these adverse conditions. While yields and oil content have been down due to these factors, and some crops were cut for hay due to frost damage, overall, the performance of our modern canola varieties has been remarkable. Early blackleg (stem canker) was well controlled this season using seed dressings and robust and new varietal blackleg resistance gene combinations. Aerial blackleg and sclerotinia infections did not occur in most cases due to the dry conditions. The 20% flowering fungicide application remained a key tool in protecting yields in the HRZ of the Lower SE.

Pioneer's 44Y94CL continues to be the benchmark for the MRZ, with unfrosted crops averaging 2 t/ha+. Badly frosted 44Y94CL crops recovered to yield around 1-1.2 t/ha. This recovery appears to have been due to the ability of late pods on the lateral stems to fill, and increased seed size in partially frosted pods. The replacement for 44Y94CL, PY421C was sown over a limited area due to supply, however, visually it looks like a step up from 44Y94CL, with better early vigour and more yield potential. Once harvest is completed, we will have a better idea of PY421C's full potential. This year again saw the hybrid Clearfield varieties as the standouts for yield in paddocks with low annual ryegrass (ARG) pressure and/or low resistance to clethodim/Intervix. However, where clethodim/Intervix is beginning to fail on ARG or other weeds (such as wild radish), alternative chemistry should be considered. These alternatives are the triazine tolerant (TT) varieties or the genetically modified (GM) varieties such as TruFlex, OptimumGly, Liberty Link or combinations with multiple herbicide tolerant traits called "stacks".

Since the lifting of South Australia's GM crop ban in 2020, there has been a gradual uptake of GM canola varieties, particularly those tolerant to glyphosate (Roundup Ready/TruFlex/OptimumGly) or glufosinate (Liberty Link). These varieties have proven effective in managing paddocks with weeds resistant to clethodim and IMI chemistries, though traditional 'single stack' GM varieties cannot be planted where IMI residue persists.

The introduction of 'multiple stack' varieties like Pioneer's PY424GC, which combines glyphosate and Clearfield traits, addresses this limitation. Non-GM options, such as triazine-tolerant (TT) varieties like HyTec Trident and the "multiple stack" PY520TC, also provide flexibility for managing IMI residues. Whilst GM canola offers benefits like better weed control, wider application windows and higher yields in resistant paddocks, challenges include a 5-10% price penalty, higher seed cost, limited delivery sites and the need to manage existing glyphosate resistance.

## Recommended varieties:

### Clearfield

- 44Y94CL
- PY421C
- 45Y95CL

### Triazine Tolerant

- Hytec Trifecta
- Hytec Trophy
- Hyola Blazer TT
- PY429T

### GM

- InVigor LR4540P
- 44Y27RR
- PY428R

### Dual Stack

- Hyola Regiment XC
- PY520TC
- Hyola Defender CT



With the release of many new varieties of canola and new chemical traits in recent years, the table below gives an outline of these new traits and codes. It's important to understand these names and codes, as they provide information on variety traits, target rainfall zones, phenology (time to maturity) and chemical tolerance traits. Varieties can have just one herbicide tolerant trait (e.g., CL - Clearfield) or multiple stacked traits (e.g., GC - Optimum Gly and Clearfield), to give greater flexibility in chemical use.

Code	Technology	Chemical tolerance	GM	Comments
<b>T or TT</b>	Triazine Tolerant	Triazines (e.g. Atrazine)	No	Can be a yield penalty when triazine trait is used – up to 30% penalty compared to the best CL hybrids. Improved weed control on IMI resistance weeds.
<b>C or CL</b>	Clearfield	Clearfield - imidazolinones (e.g. Intervix)	No	Higher yielding than glyphosate/triazine tolerant varieties. Increasing IMI resistance occurring in key weeds. No plantback issues to IMIs.
<b>R or RR</b>	Roundup Ready	Glyphosate	Yes	Small seed size and lower yield potential compared to CL hybrids. Less robust glyphosate rates and timings compared to Optimum Gly/TruFlex varieties. <b>2 x glyphosate applications of 621g ai/ha up to 6 leaf stage only</b>
<b>X or R or TF</b>	TruFlex	Glyphosate	Yes	Small seed size and lower yield potential compared to CL hybrids. More robust glyphosate rates and timings compared to first generation Roundup Ready hybrids. <b>2 x glyphosate applications of 900g ai/ha or 3 x glyphosate applications of 621g ai/ha up to early flowering stage</b>
<b>G</b>	Optimum Gly	Glyphosate	Yes	Small seed size and lower yield potential compared to CL hybrids. More robust glyphosate rates and timings compared to first generation Roundup Ready hybrids. <b>3 x glyphosate applications of 621-1080g ai/ha up to early flowering stage</b>
<b>L or LL</b>	Liberty Link	Glufosinate	Yes	Alternative mode of action to glyphosate and IMI. Greater rotation flexibility with no residue issues. Requires 2 x glufosinate applications 7-14 days apart in opposite directions, sunshine, humidity, SOA and high water rates.

### New and recent releases:

#### Clearfield

##### PY327C

- Early maturity
- Tall plant height
- High-very high oil
- Pioneer

##### PY421C

- Early-mid maturity
- Group A blackleg
- MR upper canopy infection
- Slightly earlier flowering than 44Y94
- Medium plant height
- High-very high oil
- Pioneer

## Triazine Tolerant

### PY429T

- Early-mid maturity
- Group ABH Blackleg
- R upper canopy infection
- Medium-tall plant height
- Moderate-high oil
- Pioneer

## Triazine Tol. & Clearfield (Multi Trait)

### Griffon TTI

- Early-mid maturity
- Group AC blackleg
- R-MR upper canopy infection
- Medium-tall height
- Triazine and Clearfield tolerant
- Nuseed

## Roundup Ready - GM

### PY428R

- Early-mid maturity (low-medium rainfall)
- Group AB blackleg
- Medium-tall plant height
- High-very high oil
- Pioneer

## Opti Gly & Clearfield (Multi Trait) - GM

### PY424GC

- Early-mid maturity (low-medium rainfall)
- Group BC blackleg
- MR-MS upper canopy infection
- Medium plant height
- Pioneer

## Liberty & Triflex (Multi Trait) - GM

### Invigor LR3540P

- Early-mid maturity (medium rainfall)
- Group BF blackleg
- MR upper canopy infection
- Short plant height
- High oil
- BASF



Elyssa Hausler  
inspecting 45Y95  
at Ullswater.

**Table 5:** Canola varietal characteristics.

Canola System	Variety	Company	Year of Release	Maturity *****	Blackleg Rating (Bare)	Blackleg Rating (Saltro)	Blackleg Group	OP or Hybrid	Plant Height ****	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET	
Triazine Tolerant	HyTtec Velocity	Nuseed	2023	Early	MR		AB	Hybrid	Moderate	2.39	
	InVigor T 4511	BASF	2023	Early - Mid	R-MR	R (ILeVo)	TBC	Hybrid	Moderate	2.76	
	Renegade TT	AGT	2023	Early - Mid	MR	R	A	OP	Short to Moderate	2.52	
	HyTtec Trophy	Nuseed	2018	Early - Mid	R	R	AD	Hybrid	Moderate	2.87	
	Hyola Blazer TT	Pacific	2021	Early - Mid	R-MR	R	ADF	Hybrid	Moderate	2.83	
	RGT Capacity TT	RGT	2022	Early - Mid	MR-MS	R	B	Hybrid	Moderate	2.65	
	PY429T	Pioneer	2025	Early - Mid	R	R	ABH	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.90	
	HyTtec Trifecta	Nuseed	2021	Mid	R	R	ABD	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.86	
	RGT Baseline TT	RGT	2023	Mid - Late	MR-MS	R	B	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.57	
Clearfield	Nuseed Ceres IMI	Nuseed	2024	Early	R-MR		AD	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.60	
	43Y92 CL	Pioneer	2018	Early	R-MR	R	B	Hybrid	Moderate	2.86	
	PY327C	Pioneer	2025	Early	R	R	TBC	Hybrid	Tall	3.15	
	44Y94 CL	Pioneer	2021	Early - Mid	R-MR	R	BC	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.07	
	PY421C	Pioneer	2024	Early - Mid	R-MR	R	A	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.10	
	45Y95 CL	Pioneer	2022	Mid	R-MR	R	C	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.03	
CL & TT	Griffin TT	Nuseed	2025	Early - Mid	R-MR		AC	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.32	
	PY520TC	Pioneer	2023	Mid	MR	R	BC	Hybrid	Moderate	2.74	
	Hyola Defender CT	Pacific	2024	Mid	R	R	ADF	Hybrid	Moderate	2.72	
Opti Gly & CL	GM Segregation	PY424GC	Pioneer	2025	Early - Mid	MR-MS	R	TBC	Hybrid	Moderate	3.24
Truflex & CL		Hyola Regiment XC	Pacific	2023	Early - Mid	R	R	ADFH	Hybrid	Moderate	3.32
RoundUp Ready		PY428R	Pioneer	2025	Early - Mid	R-MR	TBC	AB	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.46
Optimum GLY		PY323G	Pioneer	2025	Early	MR-MS	R	BC	Hybrid	Moderate	3.36
		PY422G	Pioneer	2024	Early - Mid	MR	R	AB	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.09
		PY525G	Pioneer	2024	Mid	MR	R	AB	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	3.05
TruFlex		Nuseed Hunter TF	Nuseed	2023	Early - Mid	R-MR	R	AB	Hybrid	Moderate	3.45
		InVigor R 4520P	BASF	2021	Early - Mid	MR-MS	R (ILeVo)	B	Hybrid	Moderate	3.38
		Nuseed Eagle TF	Nuseed	2023	Mid	R	R	ABD	Hybrid	Tall	3.58
Liberty & TF		InVigor LR 3540P	BASF	2025	Early	MR	R (ILeVo)	AB	Hybrid	Short	
		InVigor LR 4540P	BASF	2024	Early - Mid	R-MR	R (ILeVo)	B	Hybrid	Moderate	3.47
		InVigor LR 5040P	BASF	2025	Mid	R-MR	R (ILeVo)	AB	Hybrid	Moderate	3.35
Liberty & TT		InVigor LT 4530P	BASF	2022	Early - Mid	R-MR	R (ILeVo)	BF	Hybrid	Moderate to tall	2.63

\*\* Varieties highlighted in red are new for 2025 (TBC = To be confirmed).

\*\*\* All NVT data based on mid sown canola trials. Includes modelled data for years where varieties not in NVT trials.

\*\*\*\* Phenology rating refers to time to flowering

\*\*\*\*\* Maturity rating refers to time to physiological maturity/harvest



# Lentils

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The lentil boom in SA continued in 2024, with areas of increased growth being the Eyre Peninsula. The eastern EP tripled from 20,000 ha's in 2023 to 60,000 ha's and the southern mallee quadrupled from 6,000 ha's to 25,000 ha's (PIRSA).

In traditional lentil growing regions like the Yorke Peninsula there has been extensive trial work completed over the years. We are now seeing more R & D in lentils than ever before with new research coming from the SA Mallee and Eyre Peninsula. This new research in new varieties and weed control has been a massive driver in lentil growth and a positive for all lentil growers in the state.

## Recommended varieties:

- Thunder
- Lightning
- Highland XT

Lentil varieties in SA have been dominated by Hurricane XT and Highland XT for several years. The recent releases of Thunder and Lightning have given growers a new benchmark with the high yielding Thunder and a sandy soil specialist in Lightning which is more suited to lower rainfall areas. The most exciting advancement in new lentil varieties has been the release of dual herbicide tolerant varieties Metro (metribuzin tolerant) and Sire (clopyralid tolerant). These varieties give growers new options for weed control, especially where group B resistance has become issue.

ALB Terrier is a small, red, IMI tolerant lentil variety bred from PBA Hurricane XT and PBA Jumbo2. It is a high-yielding variety with provisional disease ratings MR to the Hurricane virulent and R to the Nipper virulent of Ascochyta Blight and MRMS to Botrytis Grey Mould (BGM). It can be broadly adapted with mid flowering and mid maturity.

## New and recent releases:

### **ALB Terrier:**

- Small red lentil
- High yielding variety
- Mid flowering
- Mid maturity
- IMI tolerant

### **GIA Thunder:**

- Small round lentil
- High, stable yields in all regions and most broadly adapted IMI-tolerant lentil
- Mid flowering
- Mid maturity
- Similar IMI and soil residue SU herbicide tolerance to existing XT varieties
- Small premium round market for grain – similar size to PBA Hurricane XTA

### **GIA Lightning:**

- Small round lentil
- Best adapted lentil to light-textured sandy soils (Mallee regions)
- Upright bush plant structure – May aid in harvestability in lower rainfall areas
- Similar IMI and soil residue SU herbicide tolerance to existing XT varieties
- Mid-Late flowering
- Mid maturity

**GIA Metro:**

- Large red grain
- First dual herbicide tolerant lentil with IMI and ET tolerance
- Expanded weed control option with metribuzin
- Significantly lower yield under low weed pressure
- Late flowering

**GIA Sire:**

- Premium small round red lentil
- First lentil with improved tolerance to clopyralid soil residues from a prior crop
- Similar IMI and soil residue SU herbicide tolerance to existing XT varieties
- Short slow growing with increased branching
- Best suited to early sowing in soils optimum for lentil growth
- Mid-Late flowering
- Low yielding compared to commonly grown varieties

**Table 6:** Lentil varietal characteristics and disease resistance ratings

Variety	Grain Type	Flowering	Herbicide Tolerance	Lodge Res*	Pod Drop	Height	A.blight Hurricane Virulent	A.blight Nipper Virulent	BGM	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET
ALB Terrier	Small Red	Mid	IMI	MR-MS	MR	Med	MR*	R	MR-MS*	2.28
GIA Lightning	Small Red	Mid	IMI	MR	MR	Med	MR-MS*	R*	MS*	2.44
GIA Metro	Large Red	Late	IMI & MET	MR	MR	Short/Med	R-MR*	MR*	MR-MS*	1.79
GIA Sire	Small Red	Mid-Late	IMI & Clopyralid	MR	MR	Short	MR-MS*	R*	MS*	2.06
GIA Thunder	Small Red	Mid	IMI	MR-MS	MR	Med	MR-MS*	R*	MR-MS*	2.46
PBA Highland XT	Medium Red	Early-Mid	IMI	MR-MS	MR	Med	MR*	MR	MS	2.32

\*Provisional rating



**Growers Supplies facilitating a client day at their Lentil trial site on the Yorke Peninsula.**

# Faba Bean

The 2024 faba bean growing season in South Australia has been particularly challenging due to dry weather conditions throughout the season. The absence of opening rains until mid-June significantly impacted the ability of growers to plant and establish faba beans effectively. As a result, many growers were forced to sow beans in dry soil rather than into a band of desired moisture.

**Recommended varieties:**

- PBA Samira
- PBA Bendoc
- PBA Amberley

Growers who chose to plant early, in anticipation of potential rainfall, found their crops were sitting in dry soil for up to two months before any signs of germination. This prolonged period, combined with limited moisture, led to patchy and weak germination. Faba bean crops that did eventually emerge showed low vigour, with growth rates that were far below typical expectations.

Despite the challenges of one of the driest growing seasons in 100 years, the yield results from the major faba bean growing areas of the state have been surprisingly positive. While the yields were notably lower than average, particularly in comparison to previous years, there were still areas where faba beans performed better than anticipated. At the time of writing, beginning from the lowest amount of growing season rainfall, the Mid North, yields ranged from 500 kg/ha to 1 t/ha. The Upper South East saw yields ranging from 500 kg/ha to 2.2 t/ha, while the Lower South East experienced yields ranging from 2.5 t/ha to 4 t/ha. These figures highlight the region-specific variations, with the Lower South East showing the most favourable outcomes despite the overall challenges of the season.

## New and recent releases:

### **PBA Samira**

- High yielding, widely adapted
- Mid flowering
- Large bean, good colour
- Seednet

### **PBA Amberley**

- High yielding
- Later flowering suited to longer season environments
- Improved chocolate spot resistance
- Seednet

**Table 6:** Faba bean varietal characteristics and long term.

Variety	Maturity	Ascochyta Blight	Chocolate Spot	Rust	SA Av. t/ha Long Term MET
Farah	Medium	S	S	VS	3.32
Nura	Short	MS	MS	VS	3.24
PBA Amberley	Medium	MR-MS	MR-MS	VS	3.27
PBA Bendoc	Medium	S	S	VS	3.31
PBA Marne	Medium-Short	MS*	MS*	MR-MS	3.64
PBA Rana	Medium-tall	MS	MS	VS	2.94
PBA Samira	Medium	MS	MS	S	3.32
PBA Zahra	Medium-tall	MS	MS	S	3.36

\*Provisional Rating