

PIONEER

A YATES FAMILY BUSINESS



CANOLA

2026-2027



Trucking along nicely

Tough conditions prove no barrier for Scott Collins



Twelve canola
hybrids to
choose from

Bred and trialed
right here
in Australia

The importance
of effective
weed control



PIONEER
BRAND • SEEDS



It is a pleasure to share with you the Pioneer Canola Catalogue for 2026-27, which contains information on our canola product line-up for the year ahead. It also includes technical articles on herbicide tolerance and the breeding and research effort behind Pioneer canola hybrids specifically bred for the Australian market. We are grateful to the Collins, Hillam, Boyle and Robertson families who have shared the stories behind their successful farming businesses.

This season's Pioneer hybrid line-up includes 12 genetically diverse hybrids covering a range of maturities and trait platforms. Whether you are looking for imidazolinone, triazine or glyphosate-tolerant hybrids or a combination of herbicide tolerances, there is a product option in our comprehensive range.

We are pleased to introduce two new hybrids to the line-up this season. PY433I (page 16) offers growers strong early growth, excellent standability, top-of-the-line blackleg resistance and robust yields under stress. PY634G (page 17) delivers exceptional top-end yield potential and is an excellent choice for high-yielding environments with long season length.

Last year, Pioneer Seeds celebrated 50 years since the company first began selling seed to Australian farmers. This year marks another significant milestone - the centennial anniversary of the Pioneer brand in the global seed industry. Sincere thanks to the generations of farmers and others who supply and support them and have helped shape the company's development over the years.

Since 2016, Pioneer® brand products have been produced and distributed in Australia by GenTech Seeds, a Yates family-owned business. Managing Director Will Yates is the seventh generation of the Yates family to be involved in the seed trade. The family's long-held values shape our company's commitment to growers and the industry, including maintaining an industry-leading range of canola hybrids and ensuring a reliable supply of quality seed. Our experienced and knowledgeable local field team is based in all the main canola-growing areas of Australia, providing support to growers, resellers and agronomists.

We appreciate your support for Pioneer hybrids and look forward to discussing how they fit into your cropping program next season.

With warmest regards,

Clint Rogers
Canola Portfolio Manager



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PIONEER LONG LOOK

We strive to produce the best products on the market.

We deal honestly and fairly with customers, employees and business associates.

We vigorously market our products, but without misrepresentation.

We provide helpful management information to assist customers in making optimum profits from our products.



Local breeding and trialling deliver success

Significant investment in local and global breeding coupled with widescale local on-farm trialling in all the major canola growing regions of Australia has allowed Pioneer Seeds to develop a comprehensive range of high-yielding canola hybrids which meet the agronomic and herbicide resistance requirements of growers across Australia.

Steps in hybrid development

Hybrid canola is created by crossing two genetically different parents. It offers a yield advantage, known as heterosis or hybrid vigour, over traditional, open-pollinated varieties due to characteristics such as better stress tolerance and stronger seedling growth. Although the first canola hybrids were introduced in the late 1980s, they have only been grown on a large scale in more recent years, a trend partly driven by the development of herbicide-tolerant hybrids that offer improved weed control options.

While it is relatively easy to produce hybrid seed for crops such as corn, where there is physical separation between the male and female parts of the plant, it is

much more difficult in self-pollinating crops like canola, where each flower contains both male and female parts (Figure 1).

Producing hybrid canola on a commercial scale is a complex process which relies on two key breeding technologies. Firstly, the female parent must be male-sterile, meaning its flowers produce no pollen but can be cross-pollinated by another plant. Secondly, the hybrid seed which is produced from the cross must be fertile so that when farmers plant it, the crop can flower and self-pollinate. This is achieved by using a male parent that carries a fertility restorer gene.

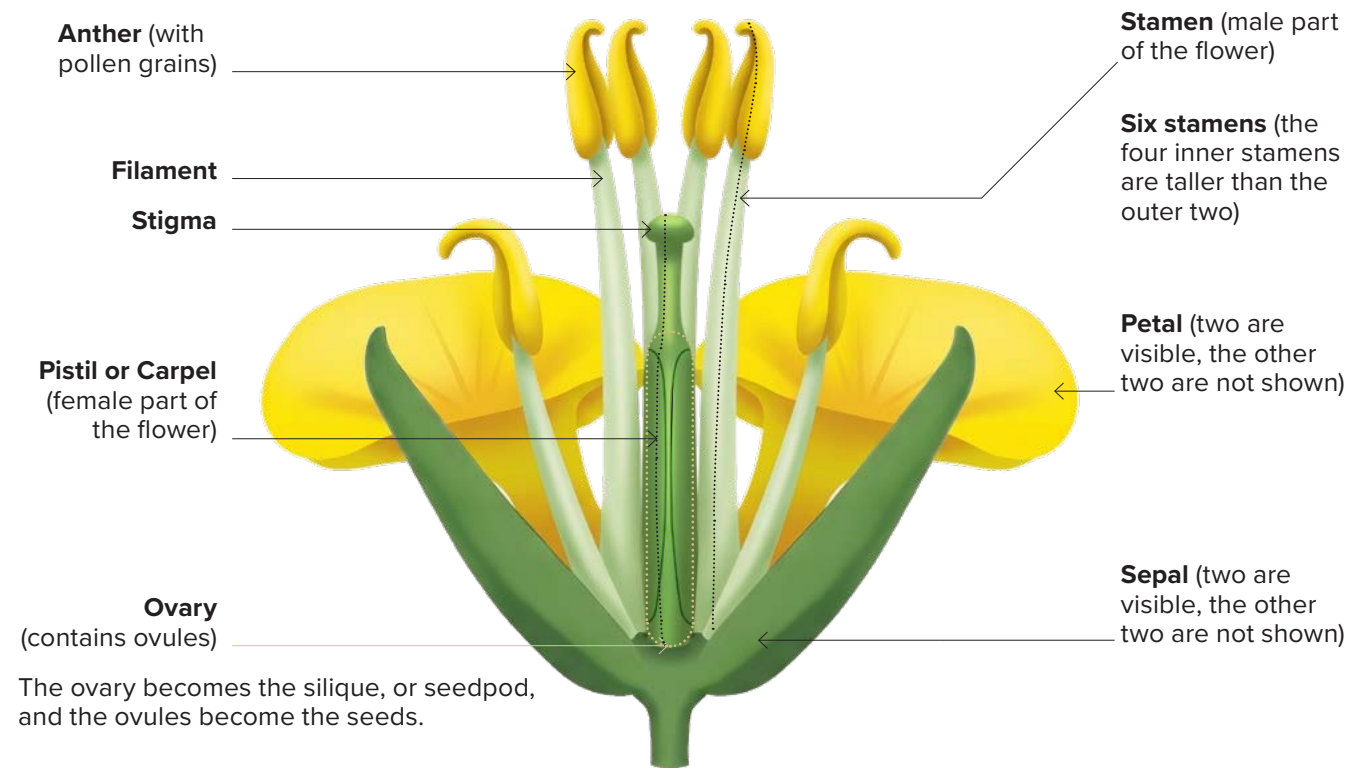


Figure 1: Canola flower anatomy

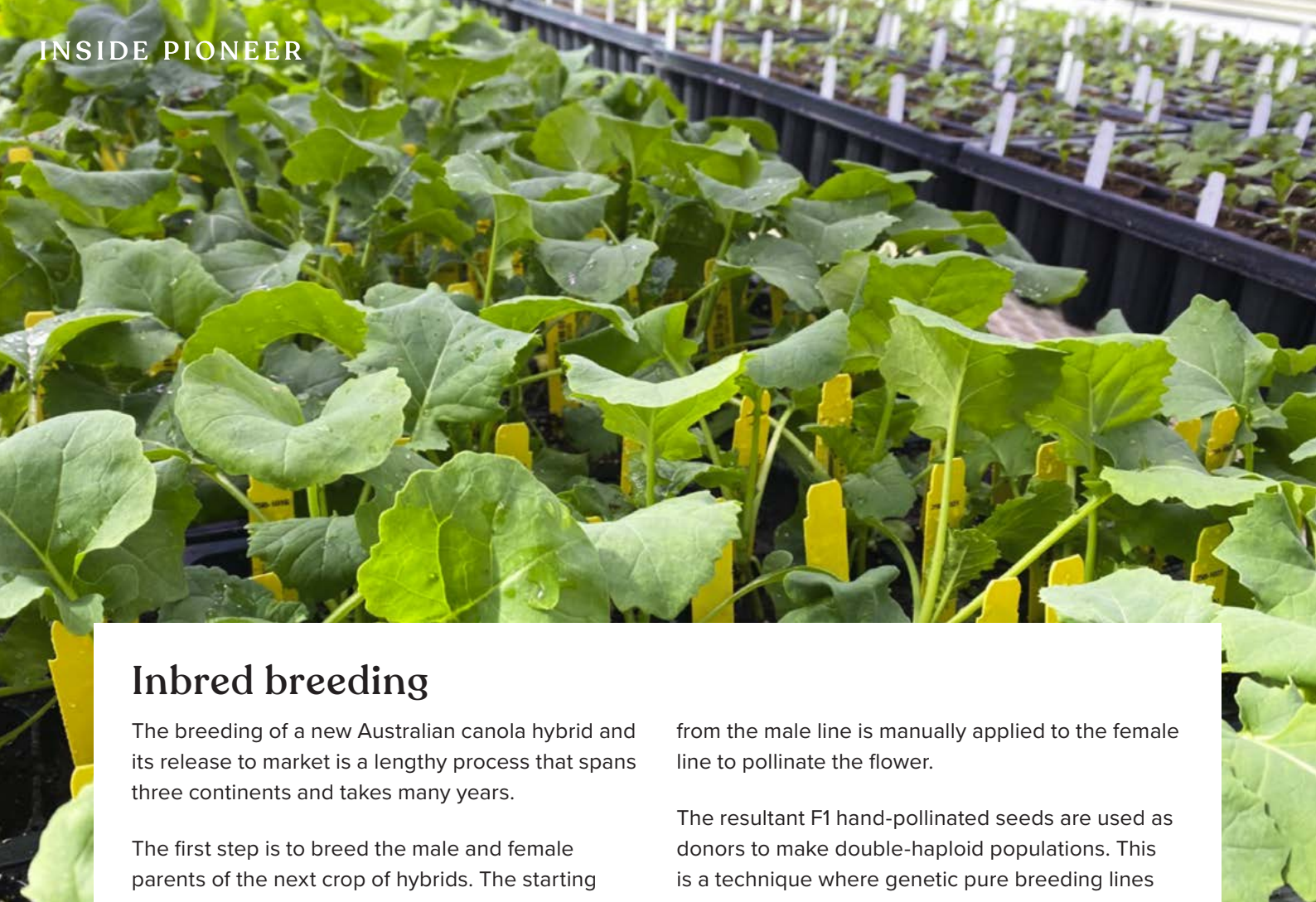
Pioneer's global breeding program

Pioneer Hi-Bred International entered the global canola market in the 1960's. Initially selling open-pollinated varieties, they were quick to move into hybrid canola once the breeding technology became available. The Australian canola breeding and research program has been operating since 1995.

Combining high quality trial agronomy with state-of-the-art breeding methods that predict each plant's genetic value, allows breeders to select superior

individuals for traits like yield or disease resistance much faster and more accurately than traditional breeding methods.

Sensors and drones capture physical plant data from field trials. This technology, known as precision phenotyping, combines cutting-edge technology with artificial intelligence to eliminate the subjectivity associated with manual measurements, providing more reliable data for improved breeding decisions.



Inbred breeding

The breeding of a new Australian canola hybrid and its release to market is a lengthy process that spans three continents and takes many years.

The first step is to breed the male and female parents of the next crop of hybrids. The starting point is detailed genetic assessment of elite adapted Australian-bred lines as well as genetically diverse germplasm sourced from Australia, North America, and elsewhere around the world.

First, Australian Canola Breeder Dr Ray Cowley chooses the parents and decides what crosses to make. This step is critical as we are planning for industry needs over a 10 plus year horizon. Next, the anthers from the flowers of the female line are removed by hand prior to pollen shed, and pollen

from the male line is manually applied to the female line to pollinate the flower.

The resultant F1 hand-pollinated seeds are used as donors to make double-haploid populations. This is a technique where genetic pure breeding lines are created from immature pollen grains in a single generation. Using genomics, superior genetic combinations are selected and fast-tracked to the hybrid testing program.

Every inbred and hybrid must pass key trait criteria every year during the process. Those failing to do so are dropped from the program. This high level of selection pressure drives genetic gain – benefiting Australian growers.

Hybrid test crosses and research trials



Once there are a group of suitable inbreds, predictive breeding tools are used to determine the best-performing parent combinations.

Overseas out-of-season production utilises production tents to make new hybrids from the selected male and female inbreds.

After harvest, the seed of each new hybrid or test-cross is air-freighted to Australia and planted in research trials, which are located across all the main canola growing regions of Australia. At the same time

TOP Young canola plants growing in a controlled environment, providing the foundation for the development of future Australian hybrid varieties.
LEFT Overseas out-of-season production tents are used to make new hybrids.

specialised phenotyping fields are used to assess performance under biotic (such as disease) and abiotic stresses (such as shatter tolerance).

Each season, research trials are assessed for a wide range of agronomic factors, as well as crop yield and grain quality. Hybrids which do not meet minimum trait criteria are discarded, whilst those that do are advanced to the next year's trials. The best-performing products spend three years in research trials (R1, R2 and R3) before being promoted to the STRIKE (Seed Technology Research In Key Environments) trial program.

STRIKE trial program

Pioneer Seeds STRIKE trials are located across Australia from Geraldton (WA) to the Liverpool Plains (NSW).

STRIKE trials include a mix of commercial and pre-commercial Pioneer hybrids, as well as industry standard check varieties.

“STRIKE trials allow us to test our most promising new hybrids in the widest range of growing environments” says Clint Rogers, Canola Portfolio Manager for Pioneer Seeds. “They help us determine where products will have the best fit, which helps customers place the right product in the right paddock. They also provide an opportunity for growers and agronomists to see how our new hybrids perform prior to commercial release”.



STRIKE trials are planted in plots using precision research planters. Each trial is replicated and our biometricians utilise advanced statistical models to account for variation within a location and estimate the true genetic potential of a hybrid across the STRIKE network. Hybrids are grouped according to their herbicide trait and the appropriate technology sprays applied. Nexera® Omega-9 specialty oil hybrids are trialled separately at a number of East Coast trial sites.

STRIKE trial sites are managed to ensure the hybrids can express their maximum genetic yield potential, and the research team performs all agronomic management, including in-crop spraying. Plots are scored for a wide range of agronomic traits, including early growth, flowering, standability, disease resistance, pod shatter and maturity.

Plots are harvested using a research plot harvester which measures yield. Grain samples are retained and tested for oil content and quality parameters to ensure that it meets industry standards and maintains stability across environments.

“We plant double-width plots but only harvest the centre of the plots” says Clint. “This helps minimise edge effects and better mimics commercial practice”.

Each season, multi-year hybrid performance information collected from the research and STRIKE trials is collated and statistically analysed using customised statistical analysis software.

“We collect around 8.5 million data points from the research trials each season” says Ray. “It’s a big job to sift through the data to determine which hybrids get advanced to the next level of testing and which ones don’t make the grade”.

LEFT Pioneer Canola Portfolio Manager Clint Rogers.

National Variety Trials (NVT)

After testing in the STRIKE program, selected hybrids which meet minimum trait criteria are provided to the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) for inclusion in the National Variety Trials (NVT) program.

The NVT trials were established in 2005 to assist Australian grain growers and their advisors with decision-making by providing information on commercially available hybrids, including comparisons of yield performance, disease resistance and grain quality.

“Ultimately, we are looking for similar trends in ranking across all three testing programs – our research trials, STRIKE and NVT” says Clint. “This gives us confidence that the hybrids will perform when growers plant them in their paddocks”.

Commercial release

The final stage of the process is commercial release, which occurs at least five years after the initial test crosses were made. While the testing process starts with tens of thousands of new canola hybrids, only a select few make it into the Pioneer bag and into the hands of Australian growers each year.



If you would like to visit one of the STRIKE trials in your region, please contact your local Pioneer Territory Sales Manager (TSM) or reseller. TSM contact details can be found on the back cover.

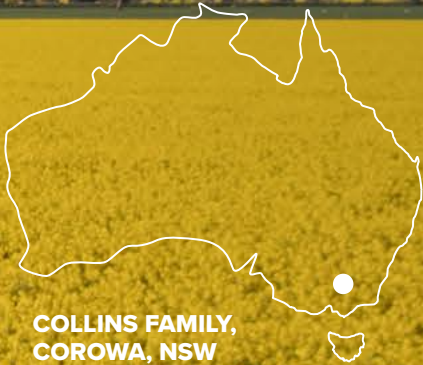


Dr Ray Cowley
Pioneer® Seeds Canola Breeder

According
to Ray

Canola Breeder Dr Ray Cowley has led the Pioneer Seeds Australian breeding effort for the past 13 years.

“Pioneer has developed a very strong genetic base, and it’s on that platform that we build the next generation of Pioneer canola hybrids. We are looking at what growers need, both now and into the future, and have well-established plans to deliver on those requirements”.



COLLINS FAMILY,
COROWA, NSW

From trucks to *Triazine*



After years on the road with Collins Transport, Scott Collins found a new challenge in the paddocks of Corowa, NSW.

In the 2025 season, Scott grew 220 ha of canola hybrid PY429T, achieving a yield of 3 t/ha, and an oil content of 41%, an exceptional result given the tough conditions faced by farmers in the southern areas of Australia in the 2025 season.

Originally coming from a trucking background with the family company Collins Transport, Scott’s family made the pivotal decision to purchase their Corowa property around nine years ago, steadily expanding the operation ever since.

“We’ve always been in the agricultural industry. We’ve been carting hay, grain and fertiliser with the transport business for 24 years, and Mum and Dad are from a farming background” says Scott.

“We always wanted to get back into it, and when this farm on the edge of Corowa came on the market nine years ago, the timing was right to have a go. We also recently purchased a cropping farm in central-west NSW, and with land and input costs, there’s a lot of opportunity up there, but it’s also a challenge to see what we can do on land with limited rainfall”.

“I have three kids between 16 and 18, so they also lend a hand on the farm around their school commitments, along with my partner, Bec. Dad still pokes around between the farm and the

transport yard. He’s semi-retired but still likes to get stuck in with little jobs here and there”.

Today, Scott manages approximately 2,500 ha, including 1,000 ha at Corowa, consistently growing Pioneer hybrids in a rotation of canola and cereal crops. Scott leans on the herbicide tolerance of the hybrids to unlock effective weed control and this helps to drive profitability of the crop.

Having grown Pioneer canola hybrids for eight years, including a successful crop of 45Y95CL in 2024, Scott looked to his full-time agronomist, Tim Anderson of Advanced Ag, to plan their next steps for 2025.

RIGHT Pioneer Territory Sales Manager Tim Lovell (left) with Tim Anderson of Advanced Ag (centre) and Scott Collins.





“We were looking for something with a bit of early vigour, just to get some early cabbaging. The trial results for PY429T were pretty impressive, and it came highly recommended by our agronomist, so we thought we’d give it a go” says Scott.

Tim’s recommendation of the early-mid season hybrid was based on two key factors.

“Firstly, like most of my recommendations, I recommended it simply because it’s a Pioneer hybrid. They’re just so reliable and the genetics are so good. Second, we were looking for something with a bit of vigour, so the PY429T fit” says Tim.

The crop was sown between 15-18 April 2025 using a DBS Auseeder, at a rate of 2.3 kg/ha with 100 kg/ha of MAP fertiliser. Prior to planting, on 13 April, 2 l/ha of trifluralin and glyphosate was applied. Like many farmers in the southern regions of Australia in 2025, the moisture profile at planting was less than ideal.

“It was sown into marginal moisture with a split germination, so as some of it started popping up, the rest needed a bit more rain to get up and get going” Scott says.

“We were lucky enough to get a bit of

rain a couple of weeks after sowing, so once it did get a bit of moisture under it, it picked up and got going”.

Overall, throughout the season, the crop received approximately 320 mm of rainfall, well below the area average of around 500 mm.

Right from the start, Tim and Scott were impressed by how the hybrid was thriving despite the tough conditions. The crop showed real promise, standing

out in the paddock with vigour and resilience that caught their attention and set the tone for a strong season ahead.

“For a TT hybrid, it showed exceptional early vigour. You see a lot more IMI tolerant hybrids than TT’s in our district, and you wouldn’t have been able to tell the difference with this hybrid, it kept up really well” says Tim.

“It looked really good at cabbaging too, the only thing that would have helped



this season was a little bit more rain, but it looked really good all year, from day one”.

Throughout the season, Scott’s crop continued to make the most of the early vigour and growth to develop great pod density and excellent grain fill as it matured.

“We were pretty good on weeds and pests this year, so our standard management worked well; early urea, a spray, and then a fungicide at flowering” says Scott.

“It’s been a good, bulky crop, and it’s looked very impressive all year with just enough rain to make it look good, but it was a tight finish. By no means were we ever wet this year, so the season has been a struggle all year long” says Scott.

Following windrowing, a smooth, late November harvest made for a rewarding end to a season that truly showcased the resilience and potential of PY429T and the hard work and commitment put in by Scott and his team.

“The harvestability of the crop was good.

“For a TT hybrid, it showed exceptional early vigour. You see a lot more IMI tolerant hybrids than TT’s in our district, and you wouldn’t have been able to tell the difference with this hybrid, it kept up really well”

For in-crop weeds, the crop received a spray of 1 kg of atrazine, 330 ml of Select Xtra and 500 ml of CanDo per hectare. Two applications of urea were also applied in May and July at 100 kg/ha each. At flowering, on 23 August, the crop received 900 ml/ha of Revystar fungicide.

The pods held up well and we didn’t see any shattering” says Scott.

Scott manages the farm with the support of a dedicated full-time employee throughout the year, but much like the transport business, the real strength comes from the teamwork of family pitching in whenever needed.

to expand, he’s keen to keep exploring what Pioneer canola hybrids have to offer in the seasons ahead.

“At this stage we’ll grow PY429T again next year, it went really well and we’re happy with it”.



Farm walk

- 2,500 ha cropping operation across Corowa and central-west NSW
- 220 ha of PY429T grown in 2025
- Yielded 3.0 t/ha with 41% oil
- Produced on 320 mm rainfall (district average 500 mm)

“Family come in and help at busy times, like harvest. We’re lucky enough to be reasonably close to town, not far from the transport yard, so if we ever need a hand, or need to move trucks, there’s generally someone available” says Scott.

As Scott’s farming business continues



Canola hybrids

Pioneer® brand canola hybrids are bred to help growers get the most from every paddock, every season. Our 2026-27 hybrid line-up includes a range of 12 herbicide-tolerant hybrids designed to fit your cropping rotation.

Our hybrid development program combines more than a century of expertise with modern breeding methods to deliver hybrids with strong yield potential, dependable agronomic performance and a comprehensive range of herbicide tolerances.

Each year, Pioneer canola hybrids are tested

through extensive Seed Technology Research In Key Environments (STRIKE) trials across all major canola regions. This allows us to clearly understand how hybrids perform in real-world conditions and where they fit best, giving growers confidence when selecting hybrids for their farming system.

With a knowledgeable and experienced field team located throughout Australia, you can be assured of access to the best local advice to help you maximise the return on your investment in Pioneer® brand hybrid seed.

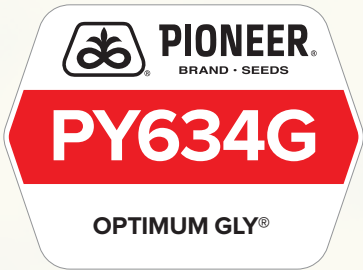
Meet the latest from Pioneer

They're here. Two new exciting hybrids offering strong yield potential, excellent agronomics and a range of proven herbicide tolerance options. This season's new canola offerings deliver growers greater choice.



Strength and consistency with top-of-the-line disease resistance.

See page 16



Reset your paddocks. Redefine yield possibility.

See page 17

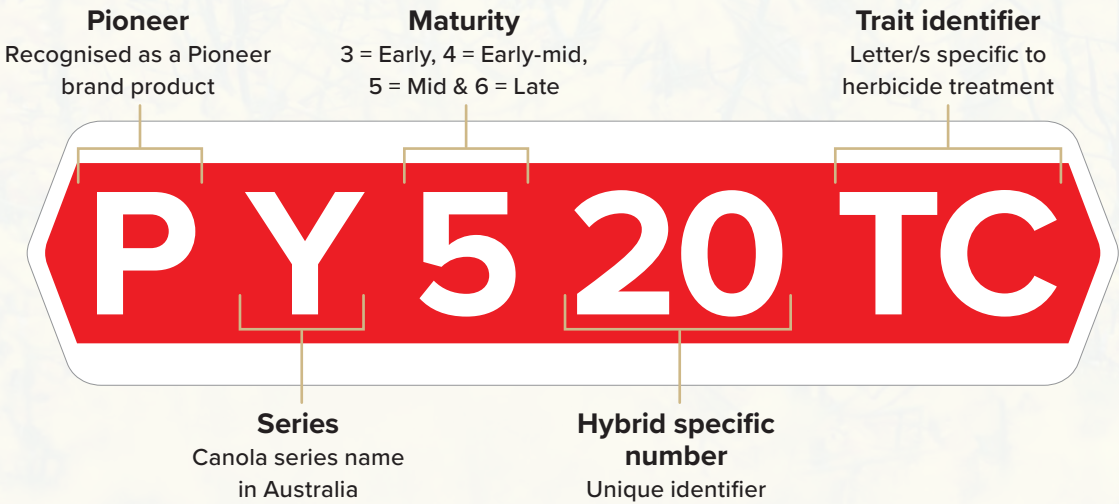
What's in a name?

All Pioneer brand canola hybrids names are moving to a new naming convention.

New canola hybrid names will begin with the letter P (indicating a Pioneer brand hybrid) followed by a "Series" identifier (Y Series® in Australia); three numbers – the first of which indicates the crop maturity, then a unique number designated to the hybrid.

Lastly, the specific trait suffix letters identify the herbicide tolerance system

- G = Optimum GLY®
- I, C, CL = Imidazolinone tolerant (IMI)
- T = Triazine tolerant (TT)
- R, RR= Roundup Ready®
- GI, GC = Optimum GLY® + Imidazolinone tolerant (IMI) combination
- TI, TC = Triazine tolerant + Imidazolinone tolerant (IMI) combination



Our hybrids and herbicide types

Imidazolinone tolerant (IMI) Page 16

The IMI trait delivers a versatile herbicide solution. Growers can depend on enhanced weed control, excellent standability and high yield potential.

Optimum GLY® Page 17

Optimum GLY® is a breakthrough third-generation glyphosate-tolerant canola trait designed to optimise sustainable weed management through improved crop safety, enhanced control, and a wider application window.

Optimum GLY® and Imidazolinone tolerant Page 18

Pioneer® brand hybrids with Optimum GLY® and IMI traits combine the benefits of both systems to deliver the greatest versatility for sustainable weed management.

Roundup Ready® Page 18

Pioneer® brand canola with the Roundup Ready® trait delivers excellent weed control, outstanding yield potential, superior agronomic traits, and leading disease resistance.

Triazine tolerant Page 19

Pioneer® brand canola with the triazine herbicide-tolerant trait provides proven weed control strategies for Australian growers. Uniquely based on our market-leading Y Series® germplasm, specifically bred to maximise yields under Australian conditions.

Triazine tolerant and Imidazolinone tolerant Page 19

Pioneer® brand canola with triazine and IMI herbicide traits provides versatility in weed control and Group 2 herbicide residue management. Based on our market-leading Y Series® germplasm, specifically bred and tested for Australian canola growers.



NEW



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Strength and consistency with top-of-the-line disease resistance.

- Very appealing modern plant type, with dense pod set, excellent standability and strong shatter tolerance.
- Robust yields under stress assisting in risk management in low to medium rainfall environments.
- Strong early growth and early canopy closure help deliver effective weed control.
- Combines industry-leading quantitative and effective major gene blackleg resistance.

Plant where blackleg, tight springs and standability are seasonal concerns.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



The package deal - high yielding, adaptable and agronomically sound.

- Early to mid-maturity, fast phenology hybrid.
- **PY421C** provides exceptional yields in the IMI-tolerant market segment when supported by robust crop nutrition.
- Outstanding standability, reliable shatter tolerance and a high oil content.

PY421C continues to demonstrate incredible adaptability, making it the first choice for growers across most IMI canola growing regions.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



The benchmark for mid-maturity IMI canola.

- Exceptional early growth resulting in superior crop competition and early canopy closure for enhanced weed control and reduced weed seed set.
- Reliable standability, very good shatter tolerance and high to very high oil yields.
- The most grown IMI canola hybrid which is proven to deliver dependable yields across all canola growing regions.

Year after year, **44Y94CL** provides outstanding results for growers across growing environments.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Long season heavy hitter bred for performance.

- Unmatched yield potential in longer season, high production environments.
- Mid-phenology presents early sowing opportunities.
- Superb crop standability, very good shatter tolerance and a high oil content.

45Y95CL is best suited to long-season, high-rainfall environments but can be grown in medium-rainfall regions when established early.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Take back control, start clean with Optimum GLY®.

- Optimum GLY® delivers superior glyphosate tolerance, allowing more effective control of hard-to-kill weeds.
- **PY525G** is built to deliver where weed pressure limits your options.
- Strong early growth delivers above-average early-season biomass.
- Excellent standability, reliable shatter tolerance and high to very high oil content.

PY525G delivers clean paddocks today, to set up stronger rotations and higher-performing crops tomorrow.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.

NEW



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Reset your paddocks. Redefine yield possibility.

- High-yielding hybrid with strong yield stability, superb disease resistance and superior standability.
- Robust blackleg resistance, combining both quantitative and effective major gene resistance.
- A management-responsive hybrid that will reward growers with top-end yields.

Plant **PY634G** in high-yielding environments with long season length.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Optimum GLY® and IMI tolerance for maximum systems versatility.

- Resilient and adaptable hybrid with solid early growth, very good standability and superior shatter tolerance.
- First choice when IMI residues need to be managed.
- The combination of Optimum GLY® and IMI tolerance means **PY424GC** offers unparalleled weed control and systems management advantages.

Performs well across a wide range of growing environments but is best suited to medium-rainfall zones.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Exceptional yield, impressive oil, reliable returns.

- Outstanding yield for maturity in the Roundup Ready® segment.
- Early to mid-maturity with fast phenology, making it well-suited for diverse environments and conditions.
- Exceptional standability and shatter tolerance for harvesting peace-of-mind.

Best suited to medium rainfall zones, but it does have a fit for early planting in low rainfall zones and later sowing in high rainfall zones in warmer regions.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Trusted performer back by popular demand.

- Industry benchmark for consistency in top-end performance and profitability in the mid Roundup Ready® segment.
- Outstanding agronomic package coupled with unmatched performance makes for consistent results and ease of management.
- Excellent early growth and crop standability with very good shatter tolerance and a very high oil content.

Best suited to early sowing opportunities in medium-long season environments where top-end yield is your goal.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Heavy hitter delivers segment-leading yields.

- Bred to meet the needs of high-performance Australian canola growers.
- Mid-fast phenology for a wide market fit.
- Excellent standability and outstanding shatter tolerance.
- Segment-leading yield for maturity in STRIKE and NVT trials.

Best suited to medium-rainfall regions or for early sowing in low-rainfall zones.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



Strong starter, powerful finisher.

- Segment-leading early growth helps **PY429T** outcompete weeds.
- Resilient under tough growing conditions, leading to consistently outstanding yields.
- Appealing modern plant type with large leaves, dense pod set and reliable foliar health.
- Combines industry-leading quantitative and effective major gene black leg resistances for the best protection in high-pressure situations.

Unique physiology gives **PY429T** a wide area of adaptation while strong vernalisation requirement means it is well suited to capitalise on early planting opportunities.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



AGRONOMIC PROFILE

YIELD ADAPTABILITY t/ha



TARGET RAINFALL ZONE



PHYSIOLOGICAL MATURITY



PHENOLOGY CLASS <15th April*



System versatility meets hybrid resilience.

- Combines triazine and IMI herbicide tolerance for more flexible weed management.
- Delivers mid-fast phenology when sown before 15 April.
- Superior standability, strong shatter tolerance and high oil-content grain.
- Ideally suited to traditional sowing dates in longer season growing environments but also suitable for earlier sowing in medium rainfall zones.

The combination of system versatility and hybrid resilience makes **PY520TC** a strong fit for triazine-tolerant canola growers across Australia.

*For canola sowing before April 15th.



Annual ryegrass is a major challenge for Australian winter cropping systems, with herbicide resistance on the rise. When the pressure from this weed started building up, Illabo NSW grower Scott Hillam turned to Optimum GLY® Pioneer canola hybrid PY525G to help clear up his paddocks without compromising yield.

After growing IMI tolerant canola hybrids for over six years, in the 2025 season Scott planted 440 ha of PY525G in his paddocks with the highest ryegrass weed burden, along with 660 ha of Pioneer 44Y94CL. Despite a dry season, the hybrids pulled through for Scott, however the real winner was the elimination of the Clethodim-resistant ryegrass.

The Hillam family have been farming in the Illabo area for three generations. Today, Scott runs the farm alongside his wife Amber and their four children.

"Our two sons and two daughters are all still in school, but the eldest especially would love to be home helping on the weekends if he could" says Scott.



Optimum GLY®
clears the way



Farm walk

- 1,900 ha cropping operation at Illabo, NSW
- Grew 440 ha of PY525G and 660 ha of 44Y94CL in 2025
- Achieved 3.0 t/ha average canola yield in a dry season
- Successfully cleaned up heavily infested ryegrass paddocks using the Optimum GLY® system

ABOVE Pioneer Territory Sales Manager Luke Gooden with Scott Hillam.

ABOVE RIGHT Agronomist Neil Durning of Riverina Independent Agronomy with Scott Hillam and Pioneer Territory Sales Manager Luke Gooden.

The family's 1,900 ha farm is one of few in the region that are purely cropping-focused, working on a rotation of wheat and canola, with a few Merino wethers which graze the grass around the house and sheds.

When it came to in-paddock weeds, ryegrass pressure had reached a tipping point. With 80% resistance to Clethodim, Scott needed a new strategy.

"The ryegrass would immediately choke the crop out in some areas of the paddock; you couldn't grow anything there at all" says Scott. "It just got progressively worse over the last 15 years".

Agronomist Neil Durning of Riverina Independent Agronomy recommended that Scott should plant an Optimum



GLY® canola hybrid in his most impacted paddocks.

"Historically, IMI Tolerant hybrids have done really well for Scott, but we really needed to get that resistant ryegrass under control" says Neil. "There was a degree of glyphosate resistance there too, but we knew if we hit it at the right time, it would work with a glyphosate-tolerant hybrid. Pioneer Territory Sales Manager Luke Gooden, suggested that PY525G was the best choice."

With below-average rainfall in the lead-up to the 2025 season, the crop was off to a dry start. Scott planted his 2025 crop in early April at a seeding rate of 2.5 kg/ha using a Bourgault Paralink planter. The crop's fertiliser regime included 100 kg/ha of urea broadcast in front of the planter along with 80 kg/ha of MAP as a starter fertiliser.

Due to the very dry profile, Neil and Scott made the decision to plant at a depth of 50-70 mm to access the moisture held deep within the soil.

"Honestly, good on Scott for taking the risk, because it could be catastrophic if you get it wrong, but because he did sow so deep, it hit that moisture and got up early – that was the real game changer with those crops" says Neil.

Emergence was reasonably even for the conditions, although establishment was slow and staggered due to the depth. Despite no reprieve arriving in the form of follow up rain, Scott and Neil were

impressed with the exceptional vigour and biomass that the crop built early in the season.

"It got up and going and it had massive plants that handled the crop competition with the weeds really well. Just huge, bulky plants all the way through the crop" says Scott.

"You certainly can't argue with the stability of PY525G" says Neil. "From an early sowing to a staggered germination, to handling a few hot days and not bulking too early, it was really impressive to see. The biomass and vigour were impressive all year, with 6.5 t/ha dry matter at bud elongation. We were worried it was going to be a bit of a white elephant, grow big and not yield for some reason, but it handled everything really well. If we had got some rain in September, the yield potential would have been huge".



The spray regime for the PY525G crop began with an application of Crucial with SOA at 1.8 l/ha on 2 March. This was followed by 140 kg/ha of urea applied on 25 May. On 14 June, Roundup was used at 1.8 l/ha, combined with 330 ml/ha Status Hiload, Lontrel, and Hasten. Further nutrition support included 100 kg/ha urea on 4 July, and a foliar trace element treatment of 2 l/ha Supabor, 400 ml/ha Activist Max Zinc, and 1 l/ha Mag-Flo on 13 July. An additional 90 kg/ha

As Scott progressed through his spray regime for the crop, he noticed the impressive herbicide tolerance of the hybrid.

"With PY525G, we can spray up to 10% flowering, and that's absolutely the most important spray of the year when it comes to ryegrass. It's hard to kill ryegrass in the middle of winter, but later in the season the glyphosate seems to work a lot better on it" says Scott.

chance of shattering. I've never seen that before" says Scott.

The crop was windrowed on 8 November and was harvested 30 November. Across his entire canola program, Scott achieved an impressive yield of 3.0 t/ha, a great result given the season's challenges. Most importantly, the problem paddocks were left "clean as a whistle".

"The key to growing any successful crop of canola is summer spraying, conserving

“The seeds were jam-packed in the pods with no gaps in between. It did stay green for a bit longer than we expected on the outside, but when you opened the pods, the seeds were black, so they were ready to windrow and there was no chance of shattering”

of urea was applied on 21 July. Disease and weed management continued with a spray of 800 ml/ha Aviator and 1.8 l/ha Crucial on 25 August. Finally, due to the crop's dense growth preventing access for the ground sprayer, 250 g/ha Pirimor was applied by air for aphid control on 15 September.

Later in the season as the pods formed, Scott was surprised at what he saw.

"The seeds were jam-packed in the pods with no gaps in between. It did stay green for a bit longer than we expected on the outside, but when you opened the pods, the seeds were black, so they were ready to windrow and there was no

moisture from any summer rainfall, and getting it planted on time" says Scott. "Canola is a great break crop for wheat and seems to be well-suited and quite profitable for our environment, so we'll definitely keep growing it".





Controlling weeds

in herbicide-tolerant canola

Effective weed control underpins both yield and the long-term profitability of canola rotations. Herbicide-tolerant canola systems are a powerful tool, but they must be used within a broader integrated weed management strategy to maximise performance and minimise the risk of resistance.

WeedSmart’s ‘Big 6’ principles provide solutions to control problem weeds utilising herbicide, mechanical and cultural tactics. It’s a diverse approach that includes several chemical and non-chemical tactics that place downward pressure on the weed seed bank, reducing the risk of herbicide resistance. Big 6 is all about the grower calling the shots, not the weeds.



Figure 1: WeedSmart BIG 6 guidelines. For more information visit weedsmart.org.au

Select the right canola system

The best canola herbicide system for your paddock will depend on a range of factors including weed spectrum, resistance history, crop rotation plans and state legislation. What’s right for one cropping block may not suit another on your farm.

Pioneer® canola hybrids are available across multiple herbicide tolerance platforms including Imidazolinone tolerant (IMI), Optimum GLY®, Optimum GLY® + IMI,

Triazine Tolerant (TT), TT + IMI and Roundup Ready®.

All herbicide-tolerant systems provide flexibility, but combination-trait systems are particularly helpful where paddocks have IMI herbicide residues or where weed pressure is high. These allow growers to utilise more than one herbicide mode of action within the same crop, increasing control options and reducing resistance risk.



Right herbicide, correct spray set-up

The use of pre-emergent herbicide products is vital with all herbicide-tolerant canola systems, to provide early-season weed suppression and reduce over-reliance on post-emergent herbicides. Post-emergence weed control should be timely and use the right herbicide. Herbicide choice will depend on the tolerance system

and the type of weed present (see table below). Always use registered herbicides and follow the label directions for rate, timing, and maximum limits on the amount of active ingredient that can be used within a growing season. Using multiple modes of action is essential for resistance management. Combining pre-emergent

and post-emergent herbicides and rotating herbicide groups within and between seasons reduces selection pressure and improves overall weed control outcomes. Spray application quality should not be overlooked. Factors such as droplet size, boom height, water rate and quality and the use of appropriate adjuvants

influence herbicide performance. Poor applications can reduce efficacy and increase the risk of resistance development.

Herbicide product options for herbicide resistant canola

	PRE-PLANT	AT PLANTING	POST-PLANT PRE-EMERGENT	COTYLEDON	2-LEAF	4-LEAF	6-LEAF	8-LEAF	PRIOR TO BUD	FIRST FLOWERING	10% FLOWER	PRE HARVEST	90% SEED BLACK
IMI Imidazolinone tolerant Pioneer® brand PY4433I, PY421C, 44Y94CL, 45Y95CL	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, Goal™ , Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Rustler®, Overwatch®, Dual Gold®, Sentry®, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Edge Unify®	Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	Lontrel®	No herbicide application recommended during stem elongation (bolting), budding and early flowering			Crucial® (refer to product label for application timing information)	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)
OPT GLY® Optimum GLY® Pioneer® brand PY525G, PY634G	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, Goal™ , Hammer® , Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Dual Gold®, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	—	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)
OPT GLY® & IMI Optimum GLY® and Imidazolinone tolerant Pioneer® brand PY424GC	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, Goal™ , Hammer® , Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Rustler®, Overwatch®, Dual Gold®, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST	—	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)
RR Roundup Ready® Pioneer® brand PY428R, 45Y28RR	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, Goal™ , Hammer® , Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Rustler®, Overwatch®, Dual Gold®, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Crucial®, weedmaster® DST, clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®	Lontrel®	No herbicide application recommended during stem elongation (bolting), budding and early flowering			Crucial® (refer to product label for application timing information)	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)
TT Triazine tolerant Pioneer® brand PY432T, PY429T	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, Goal™ , Hammer® , Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Rustler®, Overwatch®, Dual Gold®, atrazine, simazine, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Edge Unify®, atrazine	Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel® , atrazine	Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®, atrazine	clethodim, quizalofop, Lontrel®, atrazine	Lontrel® , atrazine	No herbicide application recommended during stem elongation (bolting), budding and early flowering			Crucial® (refer to product label for application timing information)	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)
TT & IMI Triazine tolerant and Imidazolinone Pioneer® brand PY520TC	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, Basta®, paraquat, Goal™ , Hammer® , Terrad'or®, Amicide® , Advance , Estercide® 680 , Kamba® 750 , Lontrel®	Crucial®, Spray.Seed® 250, Gramoxone®, trifluralin, Edge Unify®, Rustler®, Overwatch®, Dual Gold®, atrazine, simazine, Avadex® Xtra	Dual Gold®	Edge Unify®, atrazine	Edge Unify®, Tenet®, clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel® , atrazine	Tenet® (to 3-leaf), clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel® , atrazine	clethodim, quizalofop, Intervix®, Lontrel® , atrazine	Lontrel® , atrazine	No herbicide application recommended during stem elongation (bolting), budding and early flowering			Crucial® (refer to product label for application timing information)	Reglone® (refer to product label for application timing information)

Note: blue text indicates broadleaf weed control only

IMPORTANT: The information in this table and article is general in nature and intended as a guide only and is not a comprehensive list of every available herbicide. GenTech Seeds makes no representation as to accuracy, completeness, reliability or performance. Your use of, or reliance on,

the information in this table and article is at your own risk and, to the extent permitted by law, GenTech Seeds excludes all liability (including for negligence) for any loss or damage incurred by you as a result of that use or reliance. Talk to your local agronomist for paddock specific advice on herbicide type, application rates, timing and existing weed resistance. Always follow label guidelines, including for rate, timing and withholding and plant-back periods.



Right weed size, right crop stage

Canola establishment can be challenging at the best of times and if weeds are not controlled early, they compete for light, moisture and nutrients and ultimately reduce crop yield potential. If you let weeds get ahead early, you’ve already given yield away; you won’t claw it back later.

Applying herbicides when weeds are small significantly improves control and reduces the likelihood of survivors. Post-emergence sprays should target weeds

at 1–2 leaf (grasses) or 2-3 cm diameter for broadleaf weeds.

Later spray applications can be problematic, as it is often harder to hit the target with large hybrid canola canopies and weeds become harder to control as they develop in size.

Crop stage is also critical. Most herbicides are only safe within a defined crop-stage window, and late application increases the risk of crop injury.



Focus on best-practice crop agronomy

Crop competition plays a key role in suppressing weeds. Choosing a hybrid with strong early vigour, achieving even establishment of optimal plant populations and getting crop nutrition right will help reduce weed growth and seed set.

Long-term success depends on stewardship. Rotating crops and herbicide groups, preventing weed seed set and integrating non-chemical control methods will help maintain the effectiveness of herbicide-tolerant systems.

The most effective weed control programs combine the strategic use of pre-emergent herbicides, timely post-emergent applications and the rotation of herbicide modes of action. When combined with strong agronomy, Pioneer herbicide-tolerant canola hybrids can deliver reliable weed control and support sustainable cropping systems.

Clint Rogers
Pioneer® Seeds Canola Portfolio Manager

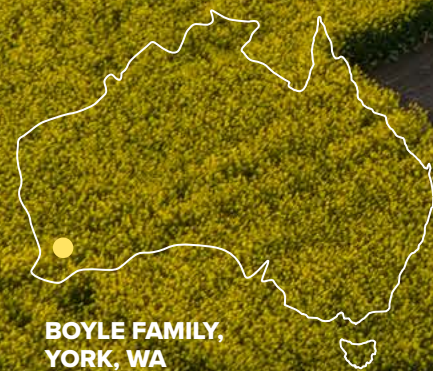
According to Clint

Canola Portfolio Manager Clint Rogers has been part of the Pioneer Seeds team for the past 14 years. Key focuses of his role include managing the canola hybrid portfolio, overseeing the STRIKE trialling program and working alongside agronomists to help growers maximise their return from planting Pioneer canola.

“Good weed control is an integral part of a successful canola program, and the decisions growers make early in the season often determine crop yield and profitability” says Clint. “Starting with a clean paddock is critical, but maintaining control comes down to crop competition. Pioneer herbicide-tolerant hybrids are bred for strong early emergence and growth, helping the crop establish quickly, close the canopy earlier and reduce the opportunity for weeds to compete and set seed”.



STRIKE-ing gold with TT canola *in rotation*



BOYLE FAMILY,
YORK, WA

Knowledge is key when relying on a hybrid canola to perform. York WA grower Charlie Boyle relies on experience, research and performance when selecting hybrid canola for his 5,500 ha mixed cropping operation.

In the 2025 season, Charlie grew 270 ha of PY520TC and 350 ha of PY429T, achieving a yield of 2.5 t/ha and an

average oil content of 44%. After a solid performance compared to his long-term average, Charlie is sowing 1,250 ha of canola in 2026.

The Boyle family have been mixed farming, both crops and livestock, at York for generations until the family transitioned to 100% cropping in the mid-nineties. After taking over from his father, Tony, Charlie now manages the farm with the help of his family, including his wife, Meg, and their three children, Bessie, Joseph and George.

Charlie keeps the rotation on his farm

flexible, with canola, oaten hay, wheat and barley in the mix. Hybrid canola has been a constant in Charlie's rotation for many years, delivering a reliable balance of weed control and profitability. Having grown canola since returning to the farm in 2000, he's seen its role shift from a break crop to a key profit driver.

"We used to grow open-pollinated canola, but when you look at the NVTs there's a fair yield penalty. Over the last few years, canola has become the priority crop rather than just a tool for weed or disease control" says Charlie.

Weed pressure largely determines how Charlie structures his rotation. Export oaten hay and canola play a critical role in managing ryegrass, providing strong control before cereals are reintroduced.

"Hay provides mechanical control of ryegrass, which is the primary weed, so then if you clean up with a herbicide-tolerant canola phase, you've effectively got two good years of ryegrass control. Coming into wheat, I've generally got canola stubble that's been crunched, and the exposed dirt sets it up well for pre-emergent applications. Then I'd typically go from wheat into IMI tolerant barley, which gets a full rate of Intervix, which is very decisive on softer grasses, so that's where the IMI tolerant canola following that is becoming useful" says Charlie.

Charlie has been an avid grower of Triazine tolerant hybrids, including PY429T for many years, so the introduction of a Triazine and IMI tolerant PY520TC fits perfectly into his rotation with IMI tolerant barley.

"I found the TT system stayed cleaner for us, particularly with good early atrazine use and good crop competition,



ABOVE Charlie Boyle.



and resistance to glyphosate is only increasing. With IMI barley in the rotation, PY520TC gives me the flexibility to manage volunteer barley and keep the paddock clean going forward” says Charlie.

Maturity is another key consideration for Charlie when selecting hybrids to manage the often-unpredictable conditions his region faces, with

get a hot and dry finish” says Charlie.

Another tool in Charlie’s knowledge toolbox are the STRIKE (Seed Technology Research In Key Environments) and Phenology trials that Charlie hosts at his farm on behalf of Pioneer Seeds.

A STRIKE trial is designed to evaluate seed technology performance across varying environments, while a phenology

“The biomass was very good, despite the rough start it had and by mid-August, you’d never have known what it had been through”

everything from extreme heat to frosts to consider.

“I choose mid-length maturities, so if it’s dry sown and you don’t know when the break is going to come, they’re not going to be too long. If you do get a late break, I need a hybrid that’s going to get its skates on at the end and fill grain if we

trial investigates how different canola hybrids respond to environmental factors like temperature and day length throughout their growth cycle. These trials help farmers make informed decisions on hybrid selection and management practices specific to their local conditions.

“There are micro changes across environments, and it’s good to see how things respond in your particular set of circumstances, with the soil type, terrain and climate. It can’t be more applicable than when the trial is right in the middle of your farm”.

“I like to try to attend a couple of field days out there throughout the year to listen to what the Pioneer team have to say”

Charlie has regular contact with Pioneer Technical Support Manager Peter Bostock throughout the growing season,

“He visits the trial once or twice a week throughout the season – he’s heavily invested, and a good bloke” says Charlie.

After receiving 30 mm of rain in March, Charlie began dry sowing his canola on 10 April 2025. Crops were shallow seeded at a rate of 2 kg/ha of PY429T and 2.2 kg/ha of PY520TC using a DBS airseeder with a hook boot.

“The shallower, the better. The soil around here is pretty heavy, and when you’re dry seeding like that it can become a bit cloddy, and that makes depth control quite difficult, so the

airseeder rolls the seed out just in front of the press wheel. I try to sow canola in some form of residue, whether it’s a short hay crop or barley stubble that’s had the straw baled off it, so there’s some cover, a bit of protection from wind and the heat. If you’re dry sowing in early April, it can still get over 30 degrees” says Charlie.

In terms of crop nutrition, Charlie applied 1 t/ha of gypsum prior to planting and NK21 at a rate of 70 kg/ha and K-Till Plus at 100 kg/ha were applied at sowing.

“Every season is different. If the season isn’t looking too good, then we’d keep inputs lower, but if the spring is wet, then we can usually go back and top it up with liquid nitrogen” says Charlie.

The PY429T received another application of NK21 at 120 kg/ha on 3 May. Both hybrids were then topped up with two applications of Flexi-N at 80 l/ha on 17-18 July and 70 l/ha on 7-8 August.

Prior to planting, paraquat and trifluralin were applied at 2 l/ha each. On 5 June, the PY429T crop received 2.2 kg/ha of atrazine, 250 ml/ha of QPE 100, 330 ml/ha of Clethodim 360, and 1% Inbound. Two days later, on 7 June, the same application was carried out for PY520TC.

According to Charlie, the growing-season rainfall posed a challenge for the crop.

“Last year was a pretty unique one with about 230 mm of growing-season rainfall

from March through to October, which is low by comparison to previous years” says Charlie.

Despite the tough start, Charlie was impressed by the emergence of the hybrids and the canopy’s effectiveness at blocking out weeds.

“The crop got a good head start, and despite the drought stress, it continued to grow while the weeds didn’t. Both hybrids had good vigour at the cabbaging stage. The biomass was very good, despite the rough start it had and by mid-August, you’d never have known what it had been through” says Charlie.

Further along in the season, as the canola started podding, Charlie was impressed by the large pods both hybrids were setting and saw positive signs for the upcoming harvest.

“I liked the structure of them - good, long, even pods. It was quite a tall crop, but it had a relatively dense pod set, which made it easier to harvest” says Charlie. “You can have a really good-looking crop, but if you can’t get the grain in the header, it’s very annoying”.

The crop was direct-head harvested from 20 November. With nice, dry grain and a little bit of moisture remaining in the stem, the crop was easy to harvest.

When it comes to future planning, Charlie takes each season as it comes and uses the knowledge and confidence gained



Farm walk

- 5,500 ha cropping operation at York, WA
- Grew 620 ha of Pioneer TT canola hybrids in 2025
- Achieved 2.5 t/ha yield with 44% average oil
- Produced on just 230 mm growing-season rainfall

from one season to make his decisions for the next one.

“I don’t look more than a year ahead, but I get a good gauge of the weed situation at harvest time, and I make my decisions then. We had a great experience with PY429T, so I’m growing another 650 ha of that in 2026, and then the rest is following IMI tolerant barley, so a big chunk of PY520TC will be going in there.

“The key to a successful canola crop is getting the crop density right at the start. Once you get onto a system that works well, stick to what you know” says Charlie. “We’ve gotten to a point where we can confidently get the establishment right, and then after that, we’ve got time to manicure the crop for the rest of the year”.

“At this stage we’ll grow PY429T again next year, it went really well and we’re happy with it”.



ABOVE Pioneer Territory Sales Manager Lisa Furey with Charlie Boyle.



PIONEER
HUNDRED YEARS

**MANY CROPS.
100 YEARS.
ONE
LONG
LOOK.**

PIONEER LONG LOOK

- We strive to produce the best products on the market.
- We deal honestly and fairly with customers, employees and business associates.
- We vigorously market our products, but without misrepresentation.
- We provide helpful management information to assist customers in making optimum profits from our products.



Last year, Pioneer Seeds celebrated 50 years since they first began selling seed to Australian farmers in 1975. This year marks another significant milestone, with the centennial anniversary of the Pioneer brand and its global business.



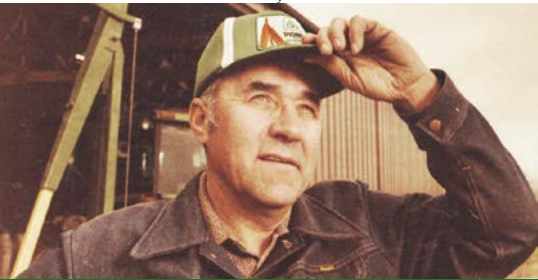
1926 - 1945

THE HYBRID REVOLUTION

Founded by Henry Wallace in 1926, Pioneer began as a bold experiment in corn breeding which quickly grew into a driving force for agricultural progress. Wallace’s vision and scientific curiosity laid the foundation for a company that would revolutionise crop genetics, empower farmers, and set enduring standards for quality and agronomic support.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF CROP SCIENCE

As the space race took off, so too did farm yields — soaring to new heights thanks to innovations like on-farm mechanisation and nitrogen fertiliser. Pioneer pushed progress even further, building research centres focused on improving yields and stress tolerance in hybrid corn and creating its first agronomy team. The company went on to expand its product offerings to include grain and forage sorghum, canola, silage inoculants and beyond.



1946 - 1985



1975

PIONEER LAUNCHES ITS AUSTRALIAN VENTURE

In 1975, the Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Company was established in Australia. This allowed the company to make their knowledge and experience with hybrid seeds available to local farmers. Since 2016, the Yates family has been producing and distributing Pioneer brand products in Australia and continuing Pioneer’s legacy of supporting local agriculture with innovative products and agronomic support.

THE RISE IN TECHNOLOGY

While the first 60 years saw yield growth through traditional breeding methods, the last four decades have delivered advancements in the science of genomics. Pioneer scientists now use DNA fingerprinting to help unlock the potential of seeds, while new technologies like AI and automation are being used to increase the rate of genetic gain.



1986 - today

Pioneer’s 100-year milestone reflects more than longevity — it represents a legacy built on science, integrity and partnership. Sincere thanks to the generations of farmers and those others who support them, who have helped shape the company’s growth and development through the years. Thank you for trusting Pioneer products in your fields.



Spreading phenology risk with hybrid diversity

At Boyup Brook in Western Australia's south west, Wayde Robertson and his father Grant take a measured but forward-thinking approach to farming. A third generation grower, Wayde, his wife Emma and their children Henry and Florence, farm the same country his grandfather Charles began working in 1977. Today, the business spans a mixed farming operation of cropping and sheep, with canola firmly established as one of the most profitable and reliable components of the rotation.

"We've always been farming, but over time we've refined our system to suit the land we're on" Wayde says. "Canola just works for us, both agronomically and financially".

The Robertsons crop approximately 2,100 ha, running a rotation of canola, barley and wheat. The less productive arable pastures are used for sheep grazing, occasionally coming back into cropping where it makes sense. In 2025, 1,150 ha of the program was sown to canola, using a range of herbicide tolerance systems and maturity lengths to spread risk and maximise yield potential.

The Robertson family have been growing canola at Boyup Brook since 2001, gradually transitioning away from open pollinated varieties. In 2021, they moved to 100 per cent hybrid canola.

Long term canola yields on the farm have risen from an average of 2.4–2.5 t/ha to around 3.25 t/ha overall. In 2025, that lift was reflected in results across multiple

LEFT Florence, Wayde and Emma Robertson.



Farm walk

- 2,100 ha mixed farming operation at Boyup Brook, WA
- Planted 1,150 ha of canola in 2025
- Top-performing hybrid 44Y94CL yielded 3.5 t/ha
- Uses multiple herbicide tolerance systems and maturity types to spread phenology risk

hybrids, with PY428R averaging 3.1 t/ha, PY525G yielding 2.5 t/ha, and 44Y94CL reaching 3.5 t/ha.

Canola planting typically begins in early April, using a DBS planter. In 2025, seeding commenced on 8 April, with the final paddock sown on 26 April.

“We plant on the deeper side, about 35 mm, to tap into deeper moisture and manage warmer soil temperatures” Wayde explains. “The profile was dry early, with marginal moisture at the end, so depth was important”.

At seeding, the crop received 150 kg/ha of compound fertiliser, with Wetter applied through the airseeder to help manage the non wetting soils common in the area. Nutrition was then built in stages as the season progressed. At the two leaf stage, a potash blend supplying 30 units of nitrogen, 12 units of potassium and 35 units of sulphur was applied at 168 kg/ha.

At the six leaf stage, the crop received 120 kg/ha of Urea Sustain, supplying 55 units of nitrogen, followed by an application at early bolting of 195 kg/ha of a urea–potash blend, delivering 85 units of nitrogen and five units of potash. Nutrition was topped up again at 20 per cent flowering, with 20 L/ha of Flexi N (eight units of nitrogen) applied in crop alongside fungicide.

Weed management begins well before seeding, with Wayde preferring a double knockdown strategy where seasonal conditions allow. In 2025, limited opportunities meant the program was adapted.

“We prefer to keep it pretty simple – just a glyphosate and Terrad’or spray – but last year we didn’t get that opportunity” Wayde says. “So we went with Overwatch at 1.25 L/ha and paraquat at 2 L/ha in front of the seeder”.

That application was combined with an insecticide blend applied around 26 April. A follow up insecticide spray was applied soon after seeding to manage ongoing pressure from vegetable weevils, red legged earth mites, slugs and earwigs.

In the PY428R and PY525G paddocks,



the first in crop application was made on 8 May, using glyphosate DST 470 at 1.3 L/ha, combined with omethoate at 120 mL/ha. A second application followed on 8 June, again using glyphosate DST 470 at 1.3 L/ha, along with Select Xtra at 330 mL/ha and Veritas Opti at 500 mL/ha. These paddocks also received Prosaro at flowering.

IMI tolerant paddocks were treated slightly differently, with Intervix at 700 mL/ha, Select Xtra (clethodim) at 330 mL/ha and Veritas Opti at 500 mL/ha applied around 9 June, with Lontrel added selectively where required. A final late season pass on 14 August included Flexi N and Miravis® Star fungicide at 700 mL/ha.



“The IMI tolerant varieties also benefit from the residual control that Intervix gives you, then they cabbage up really well and smother the rest of the weeds out” Wayde says. “The Optimum GLY® doesn’t have that same residual, but the spray window gives us the flexibility to come in later if we need to”.

Across the program, early crop competition played a major role in suppressing weed pressure.

“The crop looked impressive right from emergence” Wayde says. “Once it’s cabbaged up and competing well, it gives you a lot of confidence going into the rest of the season”.

The crop received approximately 500 to 560 mm of rainfall throughout the growing season – a welcome sight after five very dry years in the area.

All three hybrids demonstrated exceptional harvestability, though some hail damage to the PY525G crop proved challenging at harvest. They began direct head harvesting on 1 December and went all the way up to Christmas.

Rather than relying on a single hybrid, Wayde deliberately runs multiple

herbicide tolerance systems and maturity lengths.

“We’re targeting maturity types in the 4-5 range and a range of phenology timings across the program” he says. “It helps manage flowering windows and lengthens our sowing window, so we’re not putting all our eggs in one basket”.

hybrid canola with yields as high as over 4 t/ha, the project raises funds for major upgrades to the local sporting precinct.

“It’s amazing to see what’s come from it” Wayde says. “We’ve got clubhouse renovations underway, a new basketball court incoming, and interim facilities to keep footy and cricket running while the main buildings are upgraded”.

“Preparation is everything. If you’re on your timing and not chasing your tail, canola can be incredibly rewarding”

“In our region, we’re lucky to have good flowering and grain fill windows” Wayde says. “If moisture hangs around and it stays cool, that’s what turns a 3 t/ha crop into one that’s getting closer to 4 t/ha”.

Beyond the farm gate, Wayde is also coordinator of the Boyup Brook community crop, now entering its third year. Grown using Pioneer IMI tolerant

For Wayde, the success of the community crop mirrors his own approach to farming – prepared, proactive and built for the long term.

“Preparation is everything” he says. “If you’re on your timing and not chasing your tail, canola can be incredibly rewarding”.



Trait characteristic notes.

1 **Herbicide tolerance**

I = Imidazolinone tolerant G = Optimum GLY® R = Roundup Ready® T = Triazine tolerant.
Where two letters are shown the hybrid has more than one herbicide tolerance.

2 **Yield adaptability**

The ability of a hybrid to produce favourable yields across a wide range of environmental conditions. A wider adaptability range refers to more favourable performance across diverse environments, while a more specific adaptability refers to superior performance in a limited range of environments. Expressed as a yield range (1.0 t/ha – 6.0 t/ha)

3 **Target rainfall zone**

Canola is adapted to varied rainfall zones, with successful crop production largely determined by matching the hybrid and management to the available moisture. In Australia, the target rainfall zones for canola range from low-rainfall, short-season environments to high-rainfall areas.

- High rainfall zones (high): > 500 mm
- Medium to high rainfall zones (med): 350 mm - 500 mm
- Low rainfall zones (low): 250 mm - 350 mm

4 **Physiological maturity**

Canola physiological maturity is defined as the point at which the developing seed reaches its maximum dry weight and is no longer reliant on the plant for nutrients. At this stage, the seed has reached maximum potential, and the translocation of photosynthates from the pod and stem ceases. The seeds have changed colour from green to brownish-green, light brown, red, or black depending on the cultivar.

Comparative ratings are assigned when 50% of the plants have reached physiological grain maturity.

In the new Pioneer canola nomenclature system, the first number gives an indication of maturity. 3 = early, 4 = early mid, 5 = mid, 6 = mid-late. For example, PY433I is an early/mid hybrid while PY634G is a mid-late.

5 **Phenology class <15th April**

Defines the speed at which a variety reaches flowering when planted before 15th April. Hybrids are categorised into four main groups: fast, mid-fast, mid-slow, and slow. These groupings help match sowing dates to local environments, with faster varieties suited to later sowings and slower varieties for early sowing.

- **Fast:** Require low thermal time, flower quickly, and are suited for late sowing or short-season environments.
- **Mid-fast/mid-slow:** Intermediate types adapted to standard sowing windows.
- **Slow/late:** Require longer periods to reach flowering, often needing vernalisation (cold period), ideal for very early sowing.

Canola phenology is determined by a combination of genetics and environment, classified by how they respond to:

- **Thermal time (temperature):** Accumulated daily heat ("day degrees") to move from germination to maturity.
- **Vernalisation (cold):** The need for a cold period to trigger flowering.
- **Photoperiod (day length):** Response to changing daylight hours.

6 **Grain oil content**

Ratings indicate the relative amount of oil in the grain. A one score difference represents approximately 0.5% difference in grain oil content.

The scale is: very low, very low – low, low, moderate, moderate – high, high, high – very high, very high

7 **Plant height**

Plant height is recorded at physiological maturity (time for windrowing) or at harvest maturity. It is a measure of average height (in centimetres) for a group of plants using a measuring stick, the height is then converted to a scale based on internal check hybrids.

The scale is: very short, short, short-medium, medium, medium-tall, tall, tall-very tall, very tall, extremely tall

8 **Early growth**

Early growth is recorded when plants are in the 4 to 6 leaf stage. It is an evaluation of the 'healthiness' of plants and plant development (number of leaves and amount of the soil surface area covered).

1 to 9 score. As the early growth increases the score increases.

9 **Crop standability**

A measure of the plant's ability to withstand lodging under the weight of its own yield whilst withstanding environmental stresses such as wind, rain and hail.

1 to 9 score. As the standability increases the score increases.

10 **Shatter tolerance**

A measure of the plant's ability to withstand shattering under environmental stresses such as wind, rain and hail.

1 to 9 score. As the shatter tolerance increases the score increases.

11 **2026 GRDC blackleg rating (bare)**

High risk		Moderate risk					Low risk	
VS	SVS	S	MSS	MS	MRMS	MR	RMR	R

VS = very susceptible, S = susceptible, MS = moderately susceptible, MR = moderately resistant, R = resistant.

The GRDC blackleg rating system is a standardised, independent, and quality-assured scale used to classify canola variety resistance to *Leptosphaeria maculans* (blackleg disease). It measures the severity of crown canker caused by early infection, helping growers predict potential yield loss and fungicide management strategies based on ratings from R (Resistant) to VS (Very susceptible).

Blackleg ratings are determined by the performance of each variety in blackleg disease nurseries. The ratings are a product of both the Major Gene Resistance (MGR) and Quantitative Resistance (QR) in each variety. Blackleg rating is an industry rating derived from % plant survival and % internal infection.

Varieties with “MR” blackleg rating or above are suitable in high-risk situations; “MS” and “MS-MR” ratings are suitable in medium risk areas.

Source: https://grdc.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0033/626991/blackleg-management-guide-grdc-20250919.pdf

12 **2026 upper canopy infection (UCI) blackleg rating**

High risk		Moderate risk			Low risk	
		MS	MRMS	MR	R	

The Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) blackleg ratings are an industry-based rating to help manage canola yield losses and fungicide management decisions. As traditional crown canker ratings do not directly correspond to UCI resistance, the industry has developed a separate rating to help growers understand the risk of UCI.

R-UCI varieties: are likely to have effective multiple gene resistance (MGR) and will therefore be unlikely to have yield loss associated with UCI. If leaf lesions are found, treat your variety as MR-UCI.

MR-UCI varieties: have resistance to UCI. Yield losses will only occur if disease severity is high, that is, flowering starts early in the growing season, there is sufficient rainfall and higher risks such as high canola intensity. Fungicide application at 30% bloom is recommended if flowering is early, there is higher canola intensity and there is rainfall during flowering.

MRMS-UCI varieties: have low resistance to UCI. Yield losses will occur if disease severity is moderate, that is flowering starts early in the growing season. Fungicide application at 30% bloom is recommended if flowering is early and there is rainfall during the flowering growth stage.

MS-UCI varieties: have low or no resistance to UCI. These varieties should only be sown into situations of low blackleg severity, that is, low canola intensity and lower rainfall. Fungicide application at 30% bloom is recommended if flowering is early and there is rainfall during the flowering growth stage.

Source: https://grdc.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0033/626991/blackleg-management-guide-grdc-20250919.pdf

13 **GRDC blackleg group**

Blackleg disease is controlled by two forms of genetic resistance – major gene resistance (MGR) and quantitative resistance (QR). Both forms of resistance are important for controlling blackleg in crops. GRDC blackleg groups are based solely on the presence of seedling resistance (Rlm) genes. These grouping are standardised across the industry and assigned as part of the GRDC Blackleg Management Guide.

Each MGR is allocated a resistance group letter (A, B, C, D, G, H and S). Varieties can have a single or multiple MGR. MGR is only effective if the plants MGR recognises the blackleg fungus. If the fungus evolves over time to overcome the plant MGR, the plants MGR no longer recognises the blackleg fungus, and the plants will become susceptible. The MGR will still be present in the variety, but it will not be effective.

For more information see: https://grdc.com.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0033/626991/blackleg-management-guide-grdc-20250919.pdf



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