2023 On Farm Field-scale Research Program Review

Results, lessons learned and looking forward

NDIAN HEAD AGRICULTURAL RESEA

IHARF Soil & Crop Management Seminar – February 7, 2024

Program Organization





IHARF Soil & Crop Management Seminar – February 7, 2024

2023 Protocols & Sites

Protocol	Crop	No. Sites
Foliar-Applied Nitrogen-Fixing Biological Products	Sask Wheat	12
Foliar-Applied Nitrogen-Fixing Biological Products	SaskCanola	9
Lentil Seeding Rate	SPG	17
Barley Seeding Rate	SaskBarley	2





Foliar N-fixing biological on wheat and canola

Option A: Two Treatments x 4 replicates

- 1 No foliar N-fixing biological
- 2 Envita®

Option B: Four Treatments x 3 replicates

- 1 Normal N rate + No Envita[®]
- 2 Normal N rate + Envita[®]
- 3 Reduced N rate + No Envita[®]
- 4 Reduced N rate + Envita®





Trial Seeding Dates



Product Application Dates

UD



Weather



Carrot River





Plenty



Hepburn

Wynyard



Wheat yield response to Envita and N supply

Site	N Pate	Yield (bu. per acre)			
	N Rate	Untreated	Envita	SE	Difference
Wynyard	Normal	60.1	68.0	±1.8	+7.9
Hepburn	Reduced	63.6	66.9	±2.1	+3.3
Wynyard	Reduced	63.7	65.9	±1.8	+2.2
Wynyard	Low	64.2	65.9	±1.8	+1.7
Balgonie	Normal	76.5	77.9	±1.0	+1.4
Cutknife	Reduced	69.3	70.5	±1.5	+1.2
Davidson	Normal	48.8	50.0	±1.8	+1.2
Craik	Reduced	23.7	24.8	±1.6	+1.1
Craik	Normal	20.6	21.6	±1.6	+1.0
Plenty	Normal	31.0	31.4	±0.9	+0.4
Indian Head	Normal	75.5	75.7	±1.2	+0.2
Kipling	Normal	28.0	28.1	±2.1	+0.1
Hepburn	Normal	69.8	69.6	±2.1	-0.2
Milestone	Reduced	73.5	72.9	±3.0	-0.6
Delisle	Normal	50.1	49.5	±2.6	-0.6
Milestone	Normal	72.8	71.9	±3.0	-0.9
IHARF	Normal	71.0	69.9	±0.9	-1.1
Davidson	Low	46.1	43.5	±1.8	-2.6
Cutknife	Normal	71.6	68.5	±1.5	-3.1
Plenty	Reduced	32.8	29.7	±0.9	-3.1
Davidson	Reduced	50.7	47.5	±1.8	-3.2





Wheat yield - Davidson





P (N rate): 0.814 Wheat yield - Wynyard P (Envita): 0.057* P (N x E): 0.162 Untreated Envita 70 70.0 A В 66.6 60 60.0 62.6 **NOT SIGNIFICANT**

10.0

0.0

Untreated

Envita



10

0

Normal N

Reduced N

Low N

Wheat Protein

IHARF



90 110 130 150 170 190 210 Soil NO3 + Applied N (lbs. per ac)



P (N rate): **0.035**** P (Envita): 0.478 P (N x E): 0.977



Canola trial sites

COM LONG

Bonnyville



Canola yield response to Envita and N supply

Site	N Rate	Yield (bu. per acre)			
		Untreated	Envita	SE	Difference
Wynyard	Low	55.3	57.6	±1.2	+2.3
Davidson	Normal	43.1	44.4	±1.2	+1.3
Maidstone	Normal	63.8	64.8	±1.0	+1.0
Davidson	Reduced	43.9	44.1	±1.2	+0.2
IHARF	Normal	51.1	51.0	±0.5	-0.1
Carrot River	Normal	78.4	78.1	±0.9	-0.3
Davidson	Low	44.2	43.6	±1.2	-0.6
Wynyard	Normal	60.1	59.2	±1.2	-0.9
Luseland	Normal	45.3	44.2	±1.2	-1.1
Vibank	Normal	53.9	52.7	±1.1	-1.2
Luseland	Reduced	45.0	43.7	±1.2	-1.3
Wynyard	Reduced	59.3	57.7	±1.2	-1.6
Shaunavon*	Normal	39.4	28.9	±5.7	-10.5





Canola Protein







Foliar N-fixing biological on wheat and canola: Discussion

- Consider factors that may affect efficacy of foliar-applied biological products:
 - Storage, handling, application
 - Conditions after application esp. moisture
 - N-supply for N-fixing products
- Other research results:
 - USask Knight/Farrell: colonization of tissues in most but not all cases; colonization did not always lead to N fixation
 - NDSU Review of 61 site-years in 10 different states and with 4 crops; 59 sites showed no yield increase with product over N rate alone

Advanced N management for canola, wheat and soybean: Evaluation of a new biological for N-fixation in non-legumes

Researcher(s): Diane Knight, University of Saskatchewan; Richard Farrell, University of Saskatchewan Term: 4 years, completed Feb 2023 Status: Complete SaskCanola Investment: \$64,993 NDSU EXTENSION EXTENDING KNOWL

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE >> CHANGING LIVES

SF2080 (April 2023

Performance of Selected Commercially Available Asymbiotic N-fixing Products in the North Central Region



Lentil Seeding Rate

RATIONALE	A common seeding practice for lentils is a flat rate of 60 lbs/ac for small red and 90 lbs/ac for large green lentils. Target plant stands of 12 plants/sq ft are currently recommended but research has seen up to 22 plants/sq ft can provide the highest yield.
OBJECTIVE	To evaluate the effect of seeding rate on survivability, yield, and grain quality of lentils across various growing conditions and landscape positions.
TREATMENTS	Three target plant densities: 12 plants / sq ft 18 plants / sq ft 24 plants / sq ft



Lentil Seeding Rate Trial Sites





Seeding rate definitions

Target plant density

- Desired plant population after emergence
- Takes into account germination rate and estimated mortality

Seeding rate

- Weight per area (e.g. lbs per acre)
- When targeting a specific plant density, will depend on seed size (TKW), germination rate, and estimated mortality

Seeding density

- Number of viable seeds per area
- Takes into account germination rate, but not estimated mortality



Lentil Seeding Rate – Plant density



 12 of 14 sites (86%): plant density increased significantly with seeding rate (P<0.05)

- 2 sites: no significant difference in plant density (P>0.05)
 - Shaunavon & Stranraer poor emergence, high variability



Lentil Seeding Rate – Seedling mortality



 8 of 14 sites (57%): seedling mortality increased significantly with seeding rate (P<0.05)

o 2 of 14 sites: P<0.1</p>

 4 of 14 sites (29%): no significant change in seedling mortality with seeding rate



Lentil Seeding Rate - Yield



- 2 of 17 sites (12%): yield decreased significantly with seeding rate
 Plenty, Shaunavon
- 2 of 17 sites (12%): yield increased significantly with seeding rate
 Milden1, Milden2
- 13 of 17 sites (76%): no significant difference in yield with seeding rate



Lentil Seeding Rate - Discussion

- Other visual observations were noted but not formally assessed
 - More even emergence, earlier and more even canopy closure at higher seeding rates
 - More weed pressure at lower seeding rates
 - Healthier, bushier plants and roots at lower seeding rates
 - Earlier senescence (disease or maturity?) with higher seeding rate
- Sites to be characterized by differences in growing conditions to see if response varies
 - Also landscape position implications for VR seeding





Lessons learned...

What is holding back farmers from participating in on-farm research?

- 1) Protocol selection
- 2) Protocol inflexibility

3)

4)





Protocol selection and inflexibility

- Protocols and treatments decided in advance and specific because:
 - Keep trial execution simple
 - Keep trials replicable
 - Ensure experimental validity
- From a research perspective, modifications can be made as long as does not affect replicability or experimental validity
- Participating in on-farm network you get support
- Protocol choice will continue to expand as the programs grow
 - Previous collaborators will influence future protocol selection





Lessons learned...

What is holding back farmers from participating in on-farm research?

- 1) Protocol selection
- 2) Protocol inflexibility
- 3) Confidence, inexperience
- 4) Time management





Inexperience and time management

- Time management gets better with more experience!
- VR technology can help plan trial ahead of time; digital agronomy tools for record keeping and data collection
- Participating in on-farm network you get support
 - Trial managers assigned to each trial and are responsible for ensuring the protocol is followed and for collecting data
- View time spent doing a trial as a good investment





Future Protocols



Plotting the Future

- Biologicals
- Seed Treatments
- Enhanced Efficiency Fertilizers
 - PGR's
 - Variety Trials

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2024 BarleyBin Field Lab

- Applications due February 9
- Seeding Rates
- Fertility
- PGR
- Harvest Weed
 Seed Control



FARMING

Future Protocols

- Foliar Applied Nitrogen Fixing Biological Products
- Seeding Rates
- Enhanced efficiency fertilizer

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SASKATCHEWAN DUISE Growers

<u>PROFIT: Pulse Replicated On-</u> <u>Farm Independent Trials</u>

- Lentil seeding rate
- Opportunities for other trials related to IPM, fertility, or other agronomic practices on all pulse crops

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Give me a call or email to chat about on-farm trials!

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