

CAPTAIN CL

Hybrid Dual-Purpose Winter Canola



MATURITY 	POD SHATTER RESISTANCE 	BLACKLEG RATING R	UCI BLACKLEG RATING R	BLACKLEG GROUP AH	TUYV RESISTANCE 	
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Captain has proven it's potential for market leading yields in grain and biomass for grazing. With high oil percentages, a strong disease package and an AH blackleg group resistance, Captain can help you lead the way with Winter Canola.

OVERVIEW

Higher Yielding

Table 1: Yield CL varieties expressed as t/Ha (Sources AGF Seeds, FAR,)

Variety	AGF Smeaton 2024		AGF Smeaton 2023			AGF Smeaton, Vic		FAR Millicent 2023, SA		FAR Gnarwarre 2023, Vic		FAR Millicent 2022, SA	
	Graze and Grain	Grain Only	Ungrazed	Grazed TOS 1	Grazed TOS 2	2022	2021	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed
Captain CL	4.13	3.63	3.6	4.3	3.38	6.55	6.53	5.7	5.7	4.19	3.93	4.57	4.84
Phoenix CL	3.17	2.9	3.13	3.28	2.97	5.31	5.49	4.51	4.52	3.65	3.47	4.18	3.92
Hyola 970 CL	4.11	3.33	2.57	3.65	2.59	5.63	5.64	4.71	4.16	4.11	3.41	3.81	4.23

Higher Oil

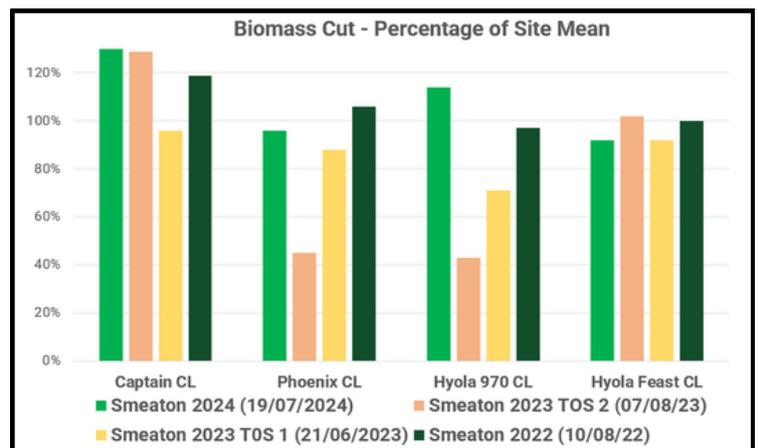
Table 2: Oil percentage (Sources AGF Seeds, FAR, SFS)

Variety	AGF Smeaton, VIC 2024	FAR Millicent 2023, SA		FAR Gnarwarre 2023, Vic		FAR Millicent 2022, SA		FAR Wallanbeen 2022, NSW		FAR Gnarwarre 2022, Vic		SFS Streatham Vic	
	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	Grazed	Ungrazed	2021	2022	
Captain CL	42.0	44.6	43.2	43.2	43.2	44.4	43.6	45.7	45.6	41.8	46.6	47.7	
Phoenix CL	39.3	43.2	41.7	42.2	41.7	43.6	43.5	45.6	46.5	41	45.3	47.5	
Hyola 970 CL	39.0	41.3	39.9	41.1	39.9	42.6	41.5	45.2	45.4	39.9			

Higher Biomass

Captain CL continues to shine in trials and in the field for biomass. Early sowing can lead to exceptional feed for stock and fill autumn and winter feed gaps. Captain CL can be sown as early as late October and can provide multiple grazings throughout the season, provide ground cover, and reduce weed competition.

Table 3: Biomass cut as percentage of the site mean. (Brackets indicate cut date). Sources AGF Seeds



Disease

Captain CL has a strong disease package and is rated resistant to blackleg for both crown canker and for upper canopy infections. Winter canola also allows crops to be sown earlier in the season which can greatly reduce the risk of crown canker as stated in GDRC's Blackleg Management Guide, 'Early sown crops that also germinate early, grow quickly avoiding seedling infection and therefore will also avoid crown canker (plant growth prior to winter may avoid blackleg infection).'

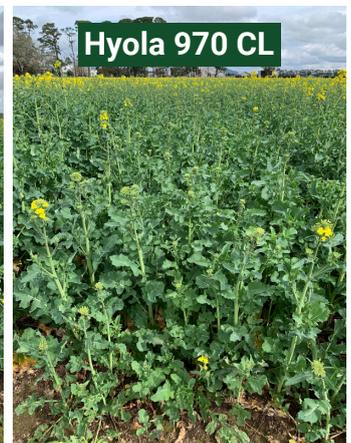
Captain CL also has genetic Turnip Yellows Virus (TuYv) resistance traits which are more important than ever with observations of the virus on the rise in southern NSW and northern Victoria. Transmitted by aphids, mainly the green peach aphid, experiments conducted by DPIRD have shown TuYv can lead to seed yield losses of 10-50% and negative seed quality impacts such as oil content decreases or increases in erucic acid and glucosinolate. Once plants are infected with the virus there is no cure, so varieties with improved resistances, such as Captain CL, are one of the best tools available to manage against TuYv. Screening work is currently underway in Australia to determine resistance ratings.

Earlier Flowering

In AGF winter canola trials, Captain CL has demonstrated consistent quicker maturity in comparison to Hyola 970 CL.

Table 4: Start of flowering date of eight winter cultivars sown on 6 April at Wallendbeen, 2022. Source FAR Australia. **Images:** Photos from 26th September 2022 comparing flowering, Smeaton

Captain CL	30-Sep
Hyola Feast CL	30-Sep
Phoenix CL	2-Oct
RGT Nizza CL	2-Oct
Hyola 970 CL	4-Oct
RGT Clavier CL	5-Oct



Grazing Success with Captain CL

Toby Acocks from Rochester sowed 50 hectares of Captain CL Winter Canola under irrigation in December 2024 and has been reaping the rewards ever since.

Lambs were first moved onto the canola on January 1st, and by February 18th they had achieved 5 weeks of grazing with 950 lambs and a separate 2-week period with another 750 lambs.

While in the Captain CL paddocks the lambs were gaining over a kilogram of carcase weight (or over two kilograms of liveweight) each week during a period when lamb was selling for \$8 per kg. Toby has calculated his gains equated to \$1350 per hectare over that 7-week window.

Since February the Captain CL paddocks have been crash grazed 3 or 4 additional times and Toby estimates the overall returns since February would be at least 3 times the original \$1350 per hectare figure. Some of the paddocks will now be locked up to be taken through for a grain crop.



Toby Acocks and Ivan Pyke inspecting a grazed crop of Captain CL in Rochester

FAQ for Spring & Summer Sown Winter Canola For Graze & Grain

As a dual-purpose crop winter canola can be sown in spring or summer to provide multiple grazing's before being carried through for a grain crop. In the next two pages we aim to answer some of the common questions we receive around spring sown winter canola, for more information please reach out to your [local seed sale representative](#).

When can I sow?

For growers looking to utilise the grazing potential of winter canola before taking the crop through for grain, we advise sowing no earlier than late October. This is to avoid accumulation of cold temperature vernalisation that can lead to early bolting in following autumn/winter. In cases where grazing is the primary objective, earlier spring sowing can be completed but this will lead to a significant increase in the likelihood of early bolting in the subsequent year.

Feed Budgeting

Common grazing achieved over a range of winter canola studies has seen Dry Sheep Equivalent (DSE) days/ha = 750-2500. CSIRO's & NSW DPI's research* has indicated that at the point of first grazing (6-8 leaf stage, with ~3t/ha of biomass & full ground cover), 25-30 DSE/ha for 6-12 week period (1000 – 3500 DSE.days/ha) is typical in the high rainfall zone. In practice stocking rates and duration need to be adjusted to match the biomass available.

Quality of winter canola forage can be considered as similar to forage brassicas with generally high digestibility (>80%), >20% crude protein and 12-14 MJ/kg ME.

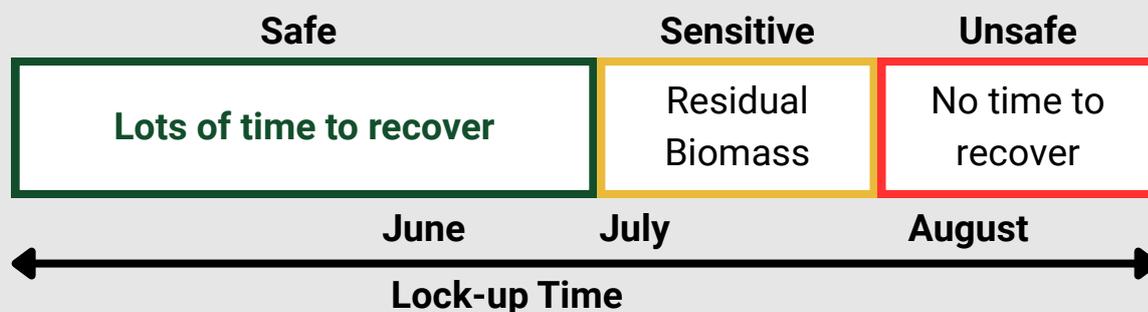


How late into the season can I graze winter canola?

Summer through to early winter period is a time where it is generally safer to graze the winter canola harder, as this allows sufficient time for recovery for secondary grazing/achieving enough residual biomass in the crop prior to stem elongation to not negatively impact grain yield.

Summer grazing does need to be managed to avoid significant plant stress due to heat or lack of moisture. As you get deeper into winter the grazing management becomes more sensitive as care needs to be taken to ensure the emerging green bud is not damaged during the beginning of stem elongation.

Growers need to also ensure there is sufficient residual biomass prior to the beginning of stem elongation. Research has shown significant yield reductions of 20 to 30% when crops were grazed late (bud has elongated 10cm or more) and less than 1t/haDM of residual biomass was left behind as crops began stem elongation.



Weed Management

As a Clearfield variety Captain CL gives growers group B herbicide control to manage weeds within their canola crop. Sowing early where soil moisture/irrigation allows will also allow the canola to establish ground cover quicker due to increased soil temperatures, leading to improved weed and pest competition.

**Dual-purpose crops – roles, impact and performance in the medium rainfall farming systems (Kirkegaard, Sprague, Bell, Swan, Dunn)*

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