



Hello, and happy New Year. I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and well recovered from the holiday period.

PGR

Winter Linseed crops continue to grow due to the ongoing warm and wet winter. This unusually mild weather has prevented farmers from getting into field to make PGR fungicide sprays, which has resulted in tall crops.

Figure 1: Linseed on the right received no PGR, while the Linseed on the left received two.



Figure 1 shows two plants from the same field that are growing only feet from each other. The plant on the left of the picture received Plover (difenconazole) (.3 l/ha) and Folicur (tebuconazole) (.75 l/ha) and was followed up three weeks later with Sunorg Pro (metconazole) (.8l/ha).

Planning Ahead

With no frost or cold weather forecast for the next month, and current climatic conditions expected to continue, priority needs to be given to getting a PGR fungicide onto any crops that have not already received treatment. Most urgent are crops that were drilled in the first half of September.

Early spring PGR control can be achieved using Toprex (difeconazole and paclobutrazol) at .35l/ha on crops coming out of the winter that are 20cm or greater . The last timing for Toprex is at green bud stage (BBCH 51).

Toprex can also be used to control Kabatiella Lini in Winter Linseed. Previously this was done using Plover (Difenconazole), however this carried no PGR benefit.

Continued overleaf

Figure 2: Where no PGR applications have been made, the crop is taller, paler in colour and starting to lean over.



2015 Winter Linseed Yields

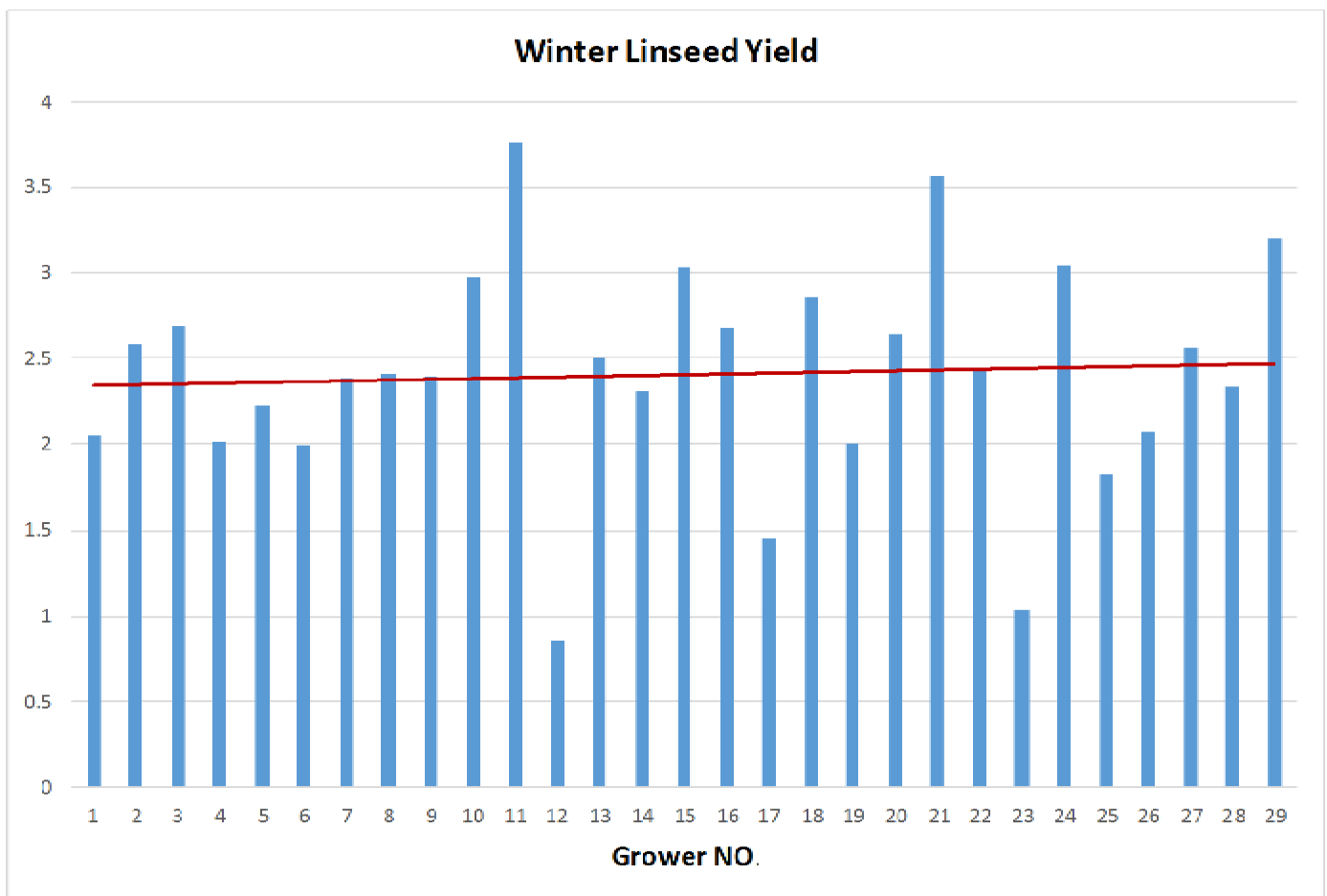


Figure 3: Winter Linseed yields in 2015—average across the board at 2.4t/ha

Review of 2015

2015 was a good year across the board for combinable crops, with the UK not only claiming the world wheat yield title back from New Zealand, but smashing it again only days later.

Winter Linseed also performed well under these conditions, with a top yield of 3.7t/ha being achieved, and an average yield of 2.4 t/ha across all growers. While there were some lower yields, the vast majority of crops yielded 2t/ha or more.

We would like to encourage farmers and agronomists to contact us, regardless of where they are on the chart, to provide us with grower feed back on the crop. We want to hear your experiences. Grower input and feedback is vital to shaping the agronomy of Winter Linseed, thereby increasing the yield and lifting the average for all growers.

With Winter Linseed generally in good to very good conditions across the country, and with three times the growers for 2016 harvest, we look forward to hearing your experiences and thoughts on the crop. Working together we can continue to raise the yields and profitability of Winter Linseed.

Spring Contracts

We have a number of attractive contracts available for spring cropping options, for more information, please contact the contracts team on 02392 632 883.

For any agronomic queries, please contact:

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