

# **Spring Linseed Bulletin**

03/17

## **CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS**

Due to drought conditions in April and early May, crop emergence has been variable. This variability is both within fields and across regions. Notill and direct drilled crops have, for the most part, come through this dry period in the best order. Crops are now ranging from 7cm tall to early flower, with the bulk of crops heading for Green Bud.

## **NITROGEN**

Crops approaching the green bud visible stage are now at the ideal time for the final split of nitrogen to "feed the yield". The rate will depend on the yield potential, soil Nitrogen available and the amount already applied, but the following is a guide.

| Crop Yield Potential | Take Total Applied Nitrogen Rate Up To: |
|----------------------|---|
| Good (3.0t/ha)       | 120kg/ha                                |
| Average (2.5t/ha)    | 100kg/ha                                |
| Poor (2.0t/ha)       | 70kg/ha                                 |

## **DISEASE CONTROL**

## We strongly recommend the use of a fungicide!

Linseed yield is produced from active photosynthesis (not from re-distribution), so maintaining green leaf area with fungicides during flowering and pod fill is vital. The fungicide activity will also keep the Boll clean of disease infections that can creep in later in the season.

The most common diseases on linseed (in no particular order) are:

- Botrytis
- Septoria Linicola
- Alternaria sp

A suitable product would be:

| Product | Rate     | Timing                   |
|---------|----------|--------------------------|
| Folicur | 1.0lt/ha | As pods are fully formed |

If crops are in disease prone areas (high rainfall and humidity) or show good potential, Filan (0.25kg.ha) can be tank mixed with Folicur for added protection.

## **THRIPS**

Occasionally Thrips are a problem for Linseed. Pyrethroid insecticides used preventatively give good repellence, so the addition of the following with the fungicide gives good insurance.

| Product                       | Rate    | Notes  |
|-------------------------------|---------|--|
| Hallmark with Zeon Technology | 75ml/ha | <ul> <li>Tank mix with fungicide</li> <li>Apply after bees have finished foraging for<br/>the day</li> </ul> |

#### HOW TO ASSESS THRIPS INFESTATION

As crops come into bud (from when the buds can be found in the head of the plant):

- 1. Dampen the palm of your hand.
- 2. With the palm down (and with a full sweep of the arm) brush it across the top of the crop.
- 3. Check your palm and if 5 Thrips are stuck to your hand, treatment is warranted.

## **MOTHS**

Every year we have some reports of Tortix Moth damange (top of plant 'webbed' and bent over). Although seldom of economic significance, the application of Hallmark (see above) will normally give

adequate control.

There has been a number of reports of Diamond Backed Moths in crops in large numbers this year, but no damage has been found.

## **CLAAS LEXION COMBINES**

Over recent years we have had occasional reports of Linseed straw wrapping around the rear rotor of Class Lexion combines.

All new combines (since 2013) have a modified rear rotor to prevent this. Many older machines have been upgraded. If you have an older Lexion or you are buying a second-hand machine, you may want to check with your dealer that it has had the modification.

The modification does not otherwise affect the performance of the machine.

## DO YOU GROW OILSEED RAPE?

Grow HEAR rapeseed for the highest gross margins available for UK rapeseed growers.

HEAR is currently worth 12% more than "00", has the same yield and the same agronomy.

Speak to Sam, Lee, Dave or Josh in our contracts team for more information on 02392 632883.

Alternatively, contact our Farm Contracts Manager, Francesca Parker-Partridge on 07387 023624.

## **CEREALS 2017**

Premium Crops will be at Cereals at Boothby Graffoe, Lincolnshire on the 14th and 15th June. Drop by stand No. 912 to meet the team.

## **CONTACTS**

If in doubt consult your agronomist on any of the points.

Our agronomist Sam Deane is also happy to take your calls on questions or queries you might have.

Tel: 02392 632883 Mobile: 07917 275053

All products used under EAMU are entirely at grower's own risk.

Always read the label before using pesticides. Use pesticides safely.

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