

Harvest in the Riverina is in full swing and while the start of the year looked promising for grain and oilseed production, growers have to deal with extremely challenging growing conditions throughout the year. The rains came and went sporadically and unfortunately southern NSW has had a difficult finish to the season with very little rains in September and October. Finally, mature grains were stung by frosts late in their development.

The Riverina is seeing good protein levels in its wheat but this is being counteracted by the high level of screenings coming in. Weather conditions, however, have been favourable for harvest with hot conditions across southern NSW allowing growers to get stuck into their harvest. Canola oils are going between 37-43% with Canola mts ranging from 0.3-1.5mt/ha and wheat from 0.5mt/ha to 3mt/ha. Barley receivals have been going mainly F1 but with some small amount going Malt.

Growers once again have the difficult task of marketing their crops for the 2009-10 season. With the drop in prices we are expecting to see most wheat go into warehousing. Some growers are taking advantage of canola cash prices, while others are expecting prices will rise and are therefore warehousing their stock. We are hearing of growers buying in sheep and feeding their lower grades to them and ultimately making more money out of their sheep enterprise than selling lower grades!

Growers still have many options when marketing their grain this season; we are pleased to offer premiums into Footscray for canola and Henty West joint venture site for canola and wheat. Other delivered markets for growers in southern NSW include barley into Jindalee, wheat into Narrandera, Hanwood, Melbourne and Goulburn valley.

AGA can offer growers 'No Price Established' (NPE) contracts which are available for those growers looking to achieve some cash flow now and are expecting the price to rise in the New Year. Growers can receive an advance for the contract 30 days end of week of delivery and they have until the 31st August 2010 to lock in the final price. Advantages of this product include no warehouse fees, providing cash at time of harvest and participation in market rallies post harvest. Cash and contract prices are also available as per normal. Cash prices for all sites are updated the night before by 8.30 pm on all relevant websites.

Call your local AGA office for your grain marketing needs.

For further details please contact your local Australian Grain Accumulation
Field Merchant – Bianca Beasley, Henty (02) 6933 6002.