



press clip

Carisbrook Monola crop

Carisbrook growers Maurice and Barry Forbes utilise a number of canola varieties in their cropping program to help them control weeds and prepare paddocks for the wheat crop that follows.

Originally wool growers and then into mixed farming, the Forbes brothers have for the past 15 years concentrated on continuous cropping.

"As part of our cropping program over the past 12 years, we have been including triazine tolerant (TT) canola varieties to help us maintain control of wild radish and silvergrass," Barry said.

"The two canola varieties we now use are both from Nuseed: Monola 77TT and ATR - Cobbler.

"Both varieties crop well in our conditions and produce grain with at least 42 percent oil."

Barry said Monola yields have averaged 0.8 t/acre in the past few years, but this season with better

Agricultural Scene

and more consistent rain, he expects closer to 1.0 t/acre.

"TT varieties are being improved every year," Barry said.

"We've noticed over the past few years significant improvements in yield potential, oil seed content, increased branching and greater tolerance to blackleg."

This year the Forbes' also introduced into their rotation, a Roundup Ready variety from Nuseed: GT61.

"It's just another tool in our rotation to help control annual ryegrass and minimise the chance of developing herbicide resistance," Barry said.

"And the results have been excellent — we simply followed the spray program developed for this variety.

"It's all about having a selection of tools to use against weeds in order to

prolong the effectiveness of each tool."

Barry added that, not only did they effectively control ryegrass, the GT61 also looks like it will yield well.

The brothers believe Roundup Ready varieties, just like the TT varieties, will soon become a permanent tool in their program to control weeds.

Taking advantage of other improved varieties, the Forbes' planted AH wheat Derrimut.

"Derrimut is not as tall as other varieties, which means it is easier to sow into stubble the following year," Barry said.

"Not only that, it grows and yields well in areas with quite variable rainfall, and it has good resistance to many diseases and to cereal cyst nematode."

Barry said it is moderately susceptible to stripe rust, but by following the recommended fungicide applications, any potential problems are minimised.



Barry (right) and Maurice Forbes (centre) show Nuseed southern region manager, Rob Christie their Monola 77TT which is likely to crop very well and has helped them control wild radish and silvergrass.