

## Pickling for \$2.70 now could return \$297 next year!

WA farmers have long been aware of the major yield increases that can be gained by treating fertiliser with a fungicide, but great dividends can also be obtained by treating seed with a fungicide.

Research publicised in the Esperance Crop Update some years ago (Table 2) on the effect of treating Westonia wheat seed with Triadimenol showed a massive

\$297/ha return on an expenditure of \$2.70/ha!

Assuming a current cost of \$31/L for Triadimenol which is applied at the rate of 1.5L/t onto the seed which is then sown at 60kg/ha, the cost per ha of treating the seed is \$2.70.

Taking the price of wheat at \$300/t, the 26pc increase in yield produced an extra 990kg of grain per hectare, giving a \$297 return on the original \$2.70 investment.



Fungicides applied to seed or fertiliser now could stop this rust appearing in your crops next year.

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4Farmers has a special offer on this great grass killer to grass free your pastures for next year—only \$37/kg

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## .. and big dividends for barley too!

DAFWA research in Esperance and Mt Barker some years ago showed that treating seed or fertiliser with fungicide can also return great dividends in a barley crop.

Treating the seed with Triadimenol gave an 11pc yield increase, or 244kg/ha, which at a price of \$300/t for malting barley would return an extra \$73/ha for an investment of \$2.70.

Eleven treatments with three replications were carried out over two years, involving Triadimenol (Bayton®) and Flutriafol (Armour®) as seed dressings, plus Triadimefon (Bayleton®) and Flutriafol (Armour®) applied in-furrow onto double superphosphate.

These products are still in general use, so the research is still relevant as it tested the effect on leaf diseases and yield.

The summary said, in part; “Fungicide treated fertilisers provided the most disease control for the longest duration, Triadimefon coated fertiliser increasing yield by up to 30%”.

This WADA research was carried out by T.N. Khan and K.J. Young and, although this summary contains the pertinent information, the full report can be obtained from the Department or from 4Farmers.

Table 1. Disease development at Esperance in 1986 and 1987

Treatment	1986		1987		1986 yield	
	% leaf area 11 wks	% leaf area 18 wks	% leaf area 11 wks	% leaf area 18 wks	kg/ha	%
Nil fungicide	31.7	19.6	5.9	54.7	2155	100
<b>Seed dressing</b>						
Triadimenol 150 mg/kg	10.1	9.0	2.6	31.7	2399	111
Triadimenol 225 mg/kg	6.7	1.8	1.9	53.2	2399	111
Triadimenol 375 mg/kg	4.3	0.6	1.1	50.4	2387	111
Flutriafol 130 mg/kg	8.6	2.6	2.0	45.3	2399	111
<b>Fertiliser treatment</b>						
Triadimefon 150 g/ha	1.9	0.0	1.4	0.3	2810	130
Flutriafol 100 g/ha	2.6	0.0	0.8	17.8	2440	113
Flutriafol 200 g/ha	4.1	0.0	1.3	15.1	2536	118

Table 2. Esperance Crop Update, Westonia wheat

Fungicide	Mean of three sites	Cost/ha*
Untreated	3.84t/ha, 100%	\$0
Triadimenol	4.83t/ha, 126%	\$3.50*
Tebuconazole	4.14t/ha, 108%	\$2.70*
Flutriafole	4.25t/ha, 111%	\$2.60*
Triticonazole	4.5t/ha, 118%	\$13.50*

\* Price ruling at time of trials

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