



# Getting the best possible sclerotinia control from Prosaro® 420 SC in canola

**Prosaro is the most effective foliar fungicide registered in Australia for the control of sclerotinia stem rot (*Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*) in canola.**

Current management options for sclerotinia are limited to crop rotations, cultural methods and the use of fungicides. In regions prone to sclerotinia infection it is vitally important to have a proactive program for sclerotinia control in canola.

The following conditions are risk factors for a sclerotinia outbreak in canola:

- Wet conditions for at least 10 days with good soil moisture in mid to late winter and temperatures of 11-15°C will germinate sclerotia and trigger spore release.
- The canopy remaining wet for extended periods during flowering will favour petal infection.
- Extended wet periods following petal drop and leaf infection will encourage infection of the leaves and promote subsequent stem infection.
- Stem lesion development is favoured by humid/wet conditions and mild (20-25°C) temperatures.

## Sclerotinia management checklist

- Broadleaf crops and weeds are susceptible to sclerotinia. However, cereals are not.
- Ensure farmer-retained canola seed is free of sclerotinia contamination. Sclerotia are the hard black resting bodies of sclerotinia which resemble rat droppings and carry sclerotinia over to subsequent seasons.
- Prosaro should be applied between 20% and 50% (full bloom) flowering where there is a moderate or high risk of sclerotinia. For best results apply at 20% to 30% flowering prior to disease development.
- Use the 450 mL/ha Prosaro rate under higher disease risk. A second application may be required in high pressure situations.
- When spraying for sclerotinia, good coverage throughout the entire canopy is essential. Use higher water rates (i.e. 100 L/ha for ground application and 30 L/ha for aerial application) to improve spray coverage.
- Prosaro is compatible with a range of insecticides and herbicides. To find out more, contact your local reseller agronomist or Bayer representative.

## Use this risk assessor tool to get the best results from Prosaro.

This table below highlights the risk factors that directly influence the incidence and severity of sclerotinia stem rot in canola and provides a guide to determine whether a fungicide spray is economical or not.

RISK FACTOR	POSSIBLE ANSWERS	RISK POINTS
<b>Number of years since last canola crop</b>	More than six years	0
	Three to six years	5
	One to two years	10
<b>Disease incidence in last host crop</b>	None	0
	Low (1 - 10%)	5
	Moderate (11 - 30%)	10
	High (31 - 100%)	15
<b>Crop density</b>	Low	0
	Normal	5
	High	10
<b>Rain in the last two weeks</b>	Less than 10 mm (40 points)	0
	10 - 30 mm (40-120 points)	5
	More than 30 mm (120 points)	10
<b>Weather forecast</b>	High pressure	0
	Variable	10
	Low pressure	15
<b>Regional risk for apothecia development</b>	None found	0
	Low numbers	10
	High numbers	15
<b>Total risk points for all risk factors =</b>		

### Sclerotinia Stem Rot Checklist

A risk score of 40+ should deliver an economic return from the application of a fungicide.

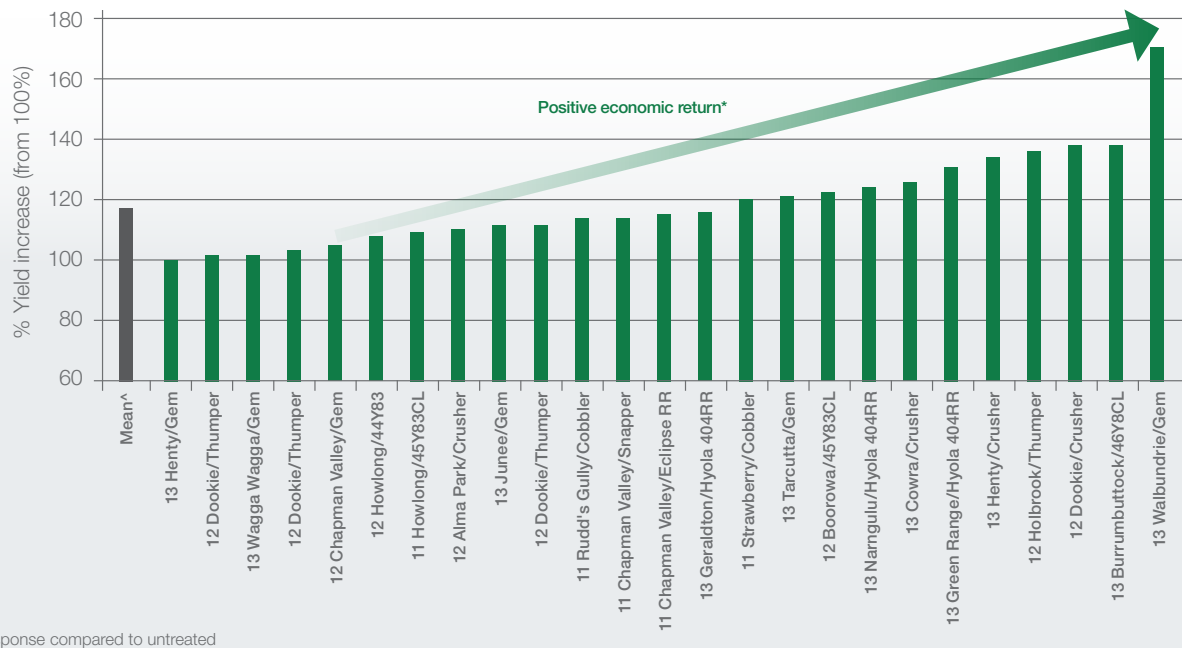
#### Possible high risk factors:

- Full soil moisture profile
- Heavier soil type
- History of broadleaf crops (canola, lupins), pasture, or fallow
- Big full canopy
- Number of rain days in the month
- My neighbour has had sclerotinia

# See the results for yourself.

Trial work over the last two seasons has shown the benefits of the foliar application of Prosaro for sclerotinia management.

## Prosaro control of sclerotinia in canola – 2011-2013 trial work



\*Economic return from an average of 1.9 t/ha yield from 100% based on canola at \$500/tonne and an average application cost of \$6/ha.

**Jockey Stayer or Intake® yield average (applied alone): 1.90 t/ha**

**^Mean yield increase from Prosaro 375 mL/ha over untreated: 20% (25 trials)**

**Trial ID:** Data generated from commercial applications


### Key observations from the 2011-2013 trial work:

- Across 25 trials over three seasons a mean yield increase of 20% over the untreated was recorded.
- The range of responses highlights the importance of spray timing, disease levels and weather conditions. Higher yield increases were recorded when conducive conditions coincided with high incidence of infection and severity with application of Prosaro made prior to significant infection in the crop.
- A maximum of two applications of Prosaro per crop and season is allowed. The number of sprays of Prosaro that may be applied per crop includes any applications made earlier in the season for blackleg control, a two-spray strategy will differ in the timings to protect the crop's yield potential.


### Canola growth stages - Sclerotinia

To achieve the best control of sclerotinia infection and protect the crops' yield potential, it is recommended that Prosaro is applied before the disease symptoms become visible. Prosaro applications should be made between 20-50% flowering. Applying Prosaro too early can reduce the economic benefits from the fungicide application by not protecting the most critical stages of canopy development and petal fall.


#### Flowering




**Flowering stages:** In order to ensure the crop growth stage is accurately determined it is recommended that growers and advisors assess a minimum of 20 plants across a paddock to make sure the application timing is correct.




**10%**  
10 flowers open on main stem




**20%**  
14-16 flowers open on main stem



**30%**  
20 or more flowers open on main stem



**50%**  
All flowers are open or have opened on the main stem, crop is at its most intense yellow



**60%**  
Flowering intensity is beginning to decline