

GERMPLASM

evaluation network

your trusted research partner for germplasm evaluation



New for the 2026 Program

- *Increased coverage of MRZ*
- *WA canola site added in HRZ*
- *National summary reporting*



March 2026 – Protocol
(version 1 – 6 March 2026)

SOWING THE SEED FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



An Industry Innovations (II) initiative

**Industry
Innovations**

leading the way to a brighter grains industry



Developing higher yielding crops through germplasm advances



Gnarwarre, VIC



Wallendbeen, NSW



Esperance, WA

FAR Australia has been working with breeders to bring new products to the Australian Grains industry since its inception in 2012. It is a trusted development partner for many breeders, assisting with bringing in new germplasm to the marketplace, whilst ensuring the correct management to fulfil the genetic yield potential.

Industry Collaborations

FAR Australia is once again partnering with industry to independently showcase germplasm performance in a series of high productivity evaluation trials across the country as part of its Industry Innovations (II) initiative that has been expanded in 2026 with more sites, greater coverage of the MRZ and national table summaries.

WHAT IS PROPOSED?

FAR Australia have been running the Germplasm Evaluation Network (GEN) since 2022. Now including wheat, barley, oats and canola, the GEN network across the country focuses on genetic yield potential and disease resistance with all trials run "plus and minus" fungicide.

In 2026 our program has a number of new features:

- By popular demand, we have added two new canola sites to our GEN network at Frankland River in WA and Bundalong in NE Victoria, meaning that we will be testing canola plus and minus fungicide in three states: Victoria, South Australia and now Western Australia.
- An additional milling oat GEN location in the WA HRZ at Esperance.

This independent initiative delivers a coordinated and independent network of high productivity trials in wheat, barley, milling oats and canola. The trials will be managed 'plus and minus' fungicide with control varieties provided by FAR Australia.

Provisional trial results will be reported to the breeders within 28 days of harvest. FAR Australia will report results of all trials to the wider industry after all breeders have been informed of their results.

The breeders and FAR Australia will jointly own the results produced. Pre commercialisation breeding lines can be identified by the breeders or a FAR Australia code and will be displayed at our field days.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To develop independent research results on profitable germplasm developments in wheat, barley, milling oats and canola, using specific research strategies designed by FAR Australia for the High and Medium Rainfall Zones of Australia.

Seed requirements

Entry requirements are a minimum of **one cultivar for a minimum of three centres (two centres for milling oats and canola)**. At each centre there will be a need for eight seed packets of each line for wheat, barley, milling oats and canola (4 reps untreated and 4 reps fungicide treated). All plots established at 180 seeds/m² (canola 60 seeds/m²) unless otherwise stated (excluding WA to be sown at 200 seeds/m²). For later times of sowing in May, seed rates will be increased to 200 seeds/m². Seed request forms are attached and can be emailed back.

Minimum dataset:

Grain yield and quality receival standards, phenology, disease scores; other agronomic traits such as lodging will also be measured if appropriate.

Entries will be compared to following national controls per site:

Wheat site controls:

April sown WA: Brighton, Mowhawk and Scepter.

April sown eastern states: Big Red, RGT Cesario, RGT Accroc and Brighton.

Milling wheat and May Sown: Scepter, Matador, AGT Rio (eastern states only), and Vortex (WA only).

Barley site controls: RGT Planet, Neo CL, Maximus CL (MRZ sites and WA HRZ only) & Minotaur

Canola site controls: Roundup ready True Flex - Nuseed Eagle TF, Clearfield - Pioneer 45Y95 CL and Triazine tolerant - Hyola Blazer TT.

Each cultivar will be sign-posted with experimental name and your organisation's logo (or kept anonymous if desired).

SITE DETAILS AND PROPOSED SOWING DATES – Cereals

Cereal trials unless otherwise stated

HRZ Sites	Target sow date	Crops
Esperance, WA	TOS 1 April 15-25 and/ or TOS 2 May 5 -15	Wheat, barley and milling oats* (oats TOS 1 only)
Frankland River (Albany PZ), WA	April 25-May 5 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley
Lower Southeast, SA	TOS 1 May 5-15 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley
Gnarwarre, Vic	TOS 1 April 25-30 and/or TOS 2 May 15-25	Wheat, barley and milling oats* (oats TOS 1 only)
Wallendbeen, NSW	April 15-25 (one sow date)	Wheat

MRZ Sites	Target sow date	Crops
Scaddan, WA	May 1 -10 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley
Bordertown, SA	May 1-10 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley
Daysdale, NSW	May 1-10 (one sow date)	Wheat, barley and milling oats*
Bundalong, Vic	April 20-30 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley
Young/Grenfell, NSW	May 15-25 (one sow date)	Wheat and barley

*Oat GEN subject to industry support, trials require 5 entries total to continue.

COSTS

A minimum of one cultivar across three sites totaling \$1260 plus GST per entry; additional site entries of the same cultivar for wheat and barley will cost \$395 plus GST per site.

Should you wish to invest in entries into FAR Australia's Germplasm Evaluation Network, please contact Darcy Warren
darcy.warren@faraustralia.com.au (0455 022 044)

SITE DETAILS AND PROPOSED SOWING DATES - Canola

Canola trials unless otherwise stated

HRZ Sites	Target sow date
Millicent, SA	May 5-15
Gnarwarre, Vic	April 20-30
Frankland River, WA	April 5-15
Bundalong, VIC	April 15-25

COSTS

A minimum of one cultivar of canola across two sites totaling \$1642 plus GST per entry with FAR providing controls. If you would like to make two entries (hybrids of different season length) at four sites (two HRZ and two MRZ sites) the cost would be \$3284 +GST. Additional single site entries of the same or different cultivar will cost \$815 +GST per site.

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