

# Grazing crops in winter has little or no impact on grain yield and quality

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# Why graze crops?

To increase whole farm profit (\$\$\$)

- by increasing crop area
- by increasing livestock numbers & performance
- by improving pasture management
- by delaying crop flowering (<frost risk)
- by improving disease / canopy management



# What did we do?

- 7 paired paddock comparisons in 2011
- Binnu to Esperance
- Canola, Wheat and Barley
- Sown and managed normally
- Grazed briefly in winter

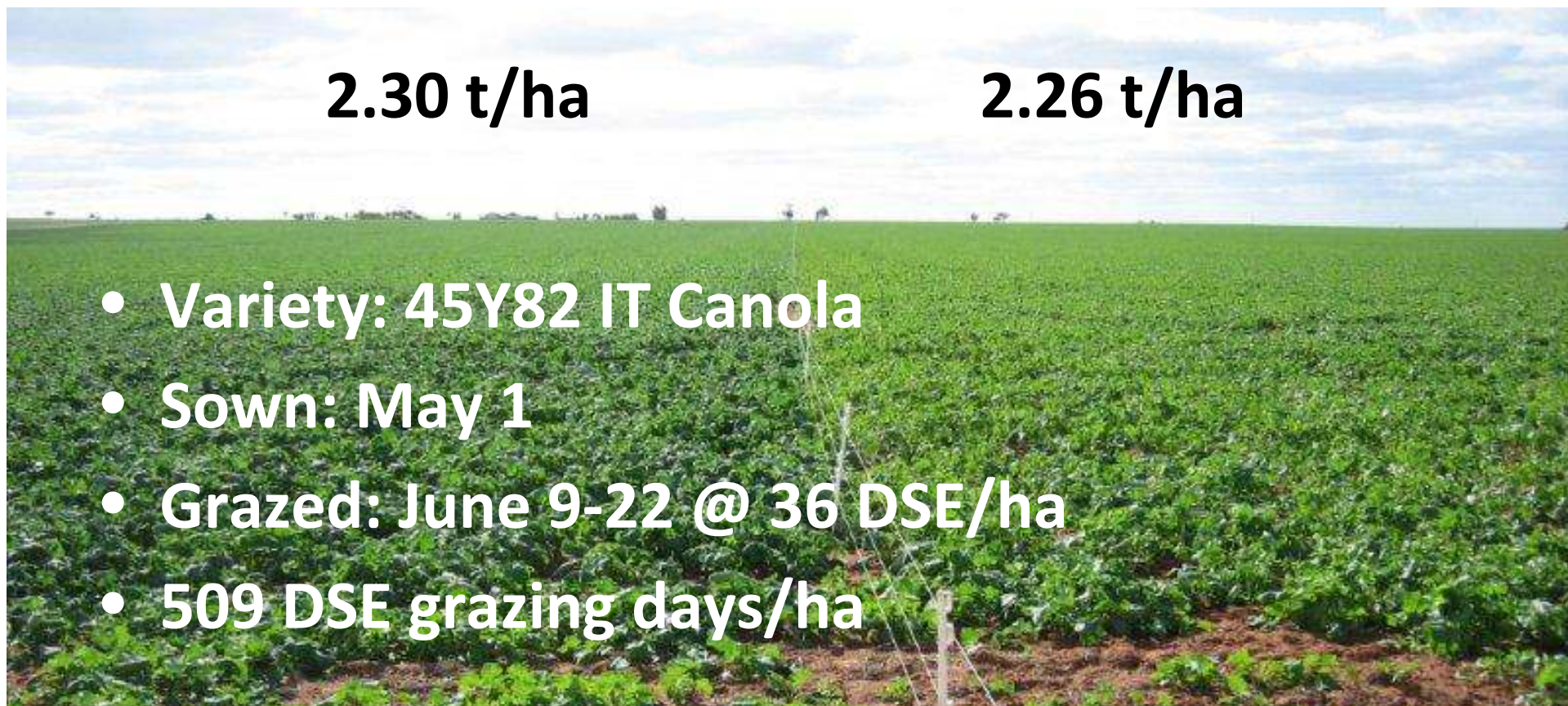


# Binnu

**2.30 t/ha**

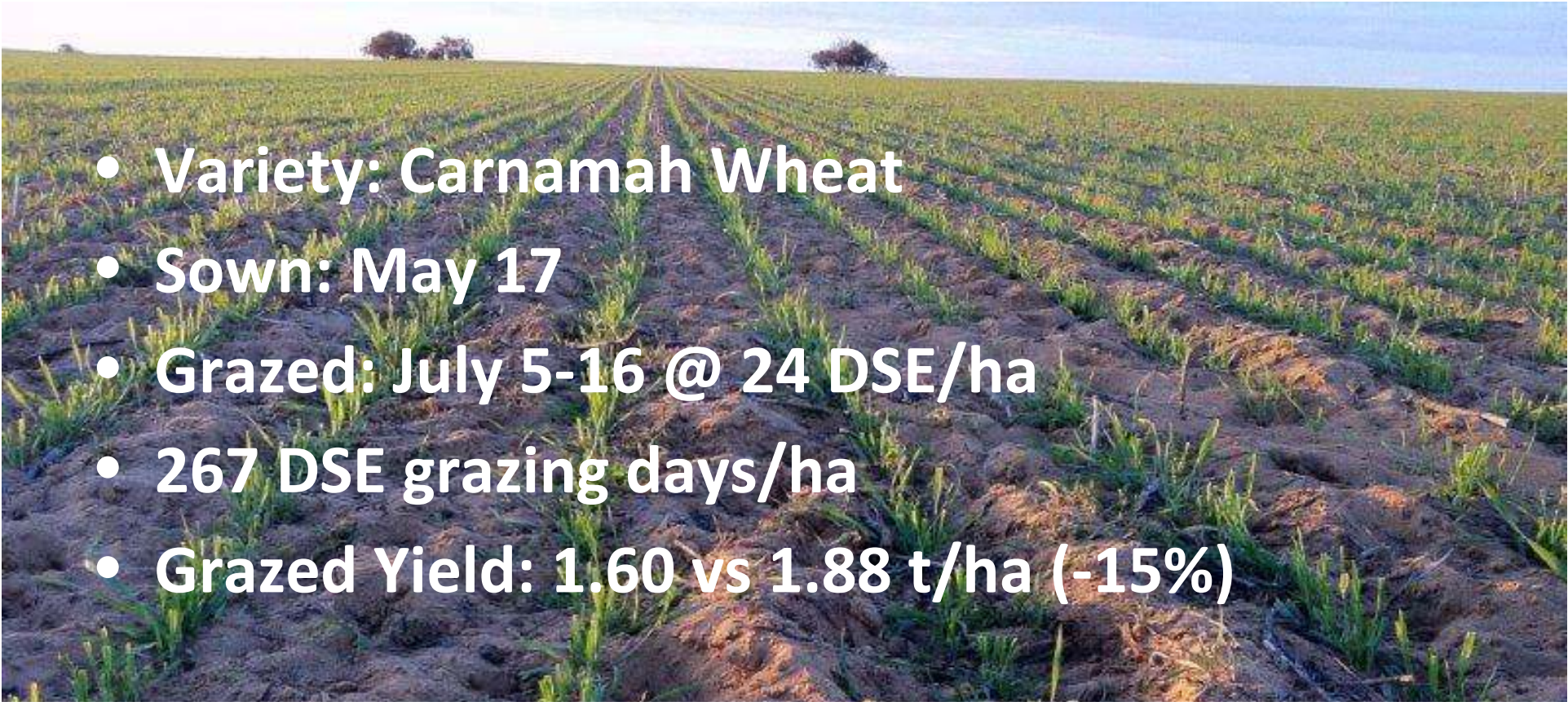
**2.26 t/ha**

- Variety: 45Y82 IT Canola
- Sown: May 1
- Grazed: June 9-22 @ 36 DSE/ha
- 509 DSE grazing days/ha





# Binnu

- 
- Variety: Carnamah Wheat
  - Sown: May 17
  - Grazed: July 5-16 @ 24 DSE/ha
  - 267 DSE grazing days/ha
  - Grazed Yield: 1.60 vs 1.88 t/ha (-15%)



# Mingenew

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**4.51 t/ha**

**4.50 t/ha**

- **Variety: Wyalkatchem Wheat**
- **Sown: May 21**
- **Grazed: July 7-20 @ 17 DSE/ha**
- **218 DSE grazing days/ha**





# Kojonup

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1.73 t/ha

1.65 t/ha

- Variety: Jardee HT TT Canola
- Sown: April 29
- Grazed: July 6-13 @ 50 DSE/ha
- 373 DSE grazing days/ha

# Coomalbidgup

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2.60 t/ha

2.75 t/ha

- Variety: Hindmarsh Barley
- Sown: June 1
- Grazed: July 14-21 @ 55 DSE/ha
- 388 DSE grazing days/ha





# Dalyup

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**1.97 t/ha**

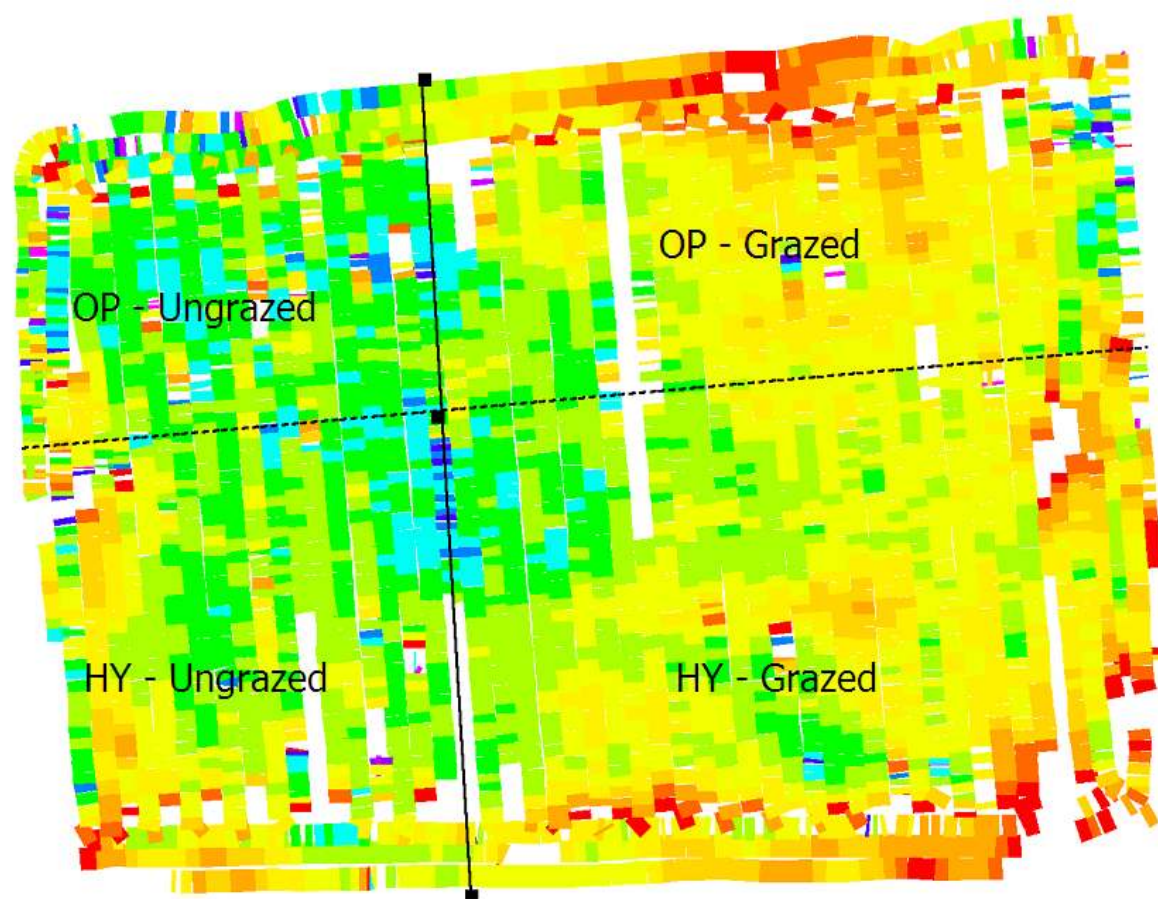
**2.04 t/ha**

- **Variety: 45Y82, Rocket & 46Y79 IT Canola**
- **Sown: May 11**
- **Grazed: July 4-8 @ 39 DSE/ha**
- **157 DSE grazing days/ha**





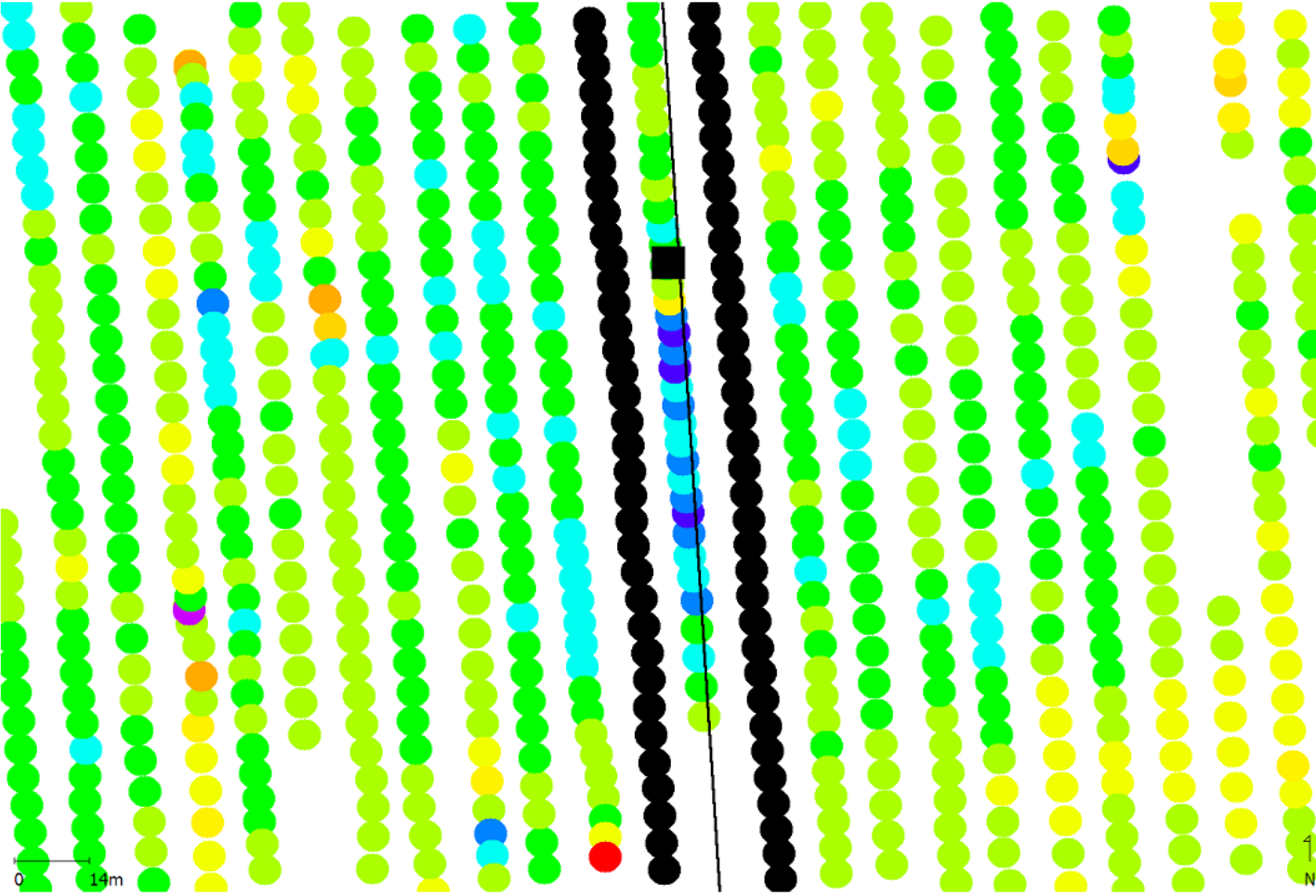




# Yield Mass (Dry) (tonne/ha)

3.22 - 3.40	(0.023 ha)
3.04 - 3.22	(0.016 ha)
2.85 - 3.04	(0.023 ha)
2.67 - 2.85	(0.020 ha)
2.49 - 2.67	(0.066 ha)
2.31 - 2.49	(0.176 ha)
2.13 - 2.31	(1.001 ha)
1.95 - 2.13	(3.302 ha)
1.76 - 1.95	(5.012 ha)
1.58 - 1.76	(4.812 ha)
1.40 - 1.58	(3.130 ha)
1.22 - 1.40	(1.487 ha)
1.04 - 1.22	(1.106 ha)
0.85 - 1.04	(0.560 ha)
0.67 - 0.85	(0.440 ha)







# Neridup

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**1.33 t/ha**

**1.51 t/ha**

- **Variety: Hurricane TT Canola**
- **Sown: May 12**
- **Grazed: July 16-25 @ 24 DSE/ha**
- **237 DSE grazing days/ha**

# Summary



Location	Crop	Variety	Sowing date	Stock out	Clip or Crash	Growth stage	Yield Penalty
Binnu	IT Canola	45Y82	1 May	22 June	Clip	Bud 10cm	2%
Binnu	Wheat	Carnamah	17 May	16 July	Crash	Z30	15%
Mingenew	Wheat	Wyalkatchem	21 May	20 July	Clip	Z31	0%
Kojonup	TT Canola	Jardee HT	29 April	13 July	Crash	Bud visible	5%
Coomalbidgup	Barley	Hindmarsh	1 June	21 July	Crash / Clip	Z30-31	5%
Dalyup	IT Canola	45Y82, 44C79 Rocket	11 May	8 July	Crash	6-7 leaf	3%
Neridup	TT Canola	Hurricane	12 May	25 July	Crash	Bud visible	12%



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# Key messages

- Grazing had little or no impact on grain yield and quality
- Yield penalties occurred when grazing was relatively late and hard
- Crops provided valuable winter grazing



# 10 tips for 2012...

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1. All cereal and canola varieties can be grazed
2. Sow as early as possible to maximise feed supply
3. Choose clean paddocks when grazing cereals
4. Select the right variety for the sowing date
5. Adhere to WHP's for chemicals
6. Graze early (pinch & twist) and evenly
7. Supplement stock with Ca:Na:Mg (cereals) and fibre (canola)
8. Don't graze too late (before GS 30, Bud 10cm and mid-late July)
9. Clip rather than crash graze when approaching Z30 or Bud 10cm
10. Apply top-up Nitrogen after grazing, not before







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# Questions?

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