

# Sclerotinia economics case study: Lockhart 2015

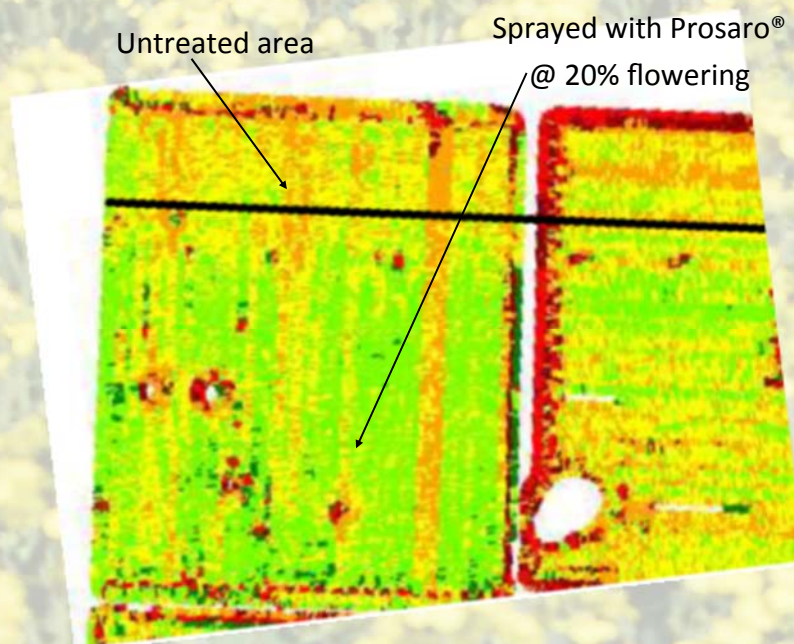
## BACKGROUND

Steve and Mark Day of “Woodlea Farms” operate a predominantly cropping enterprise with a pulse, canola, wheat, barley rotation. The paddock selected for this trial had come out of brown manure vetch in 2014 which had set this crop up for good yields.

Mark and Steve regularly see sclerotinia in there crops, but have never sprayed as incidence has been deemed too low to warrant fungicide application.

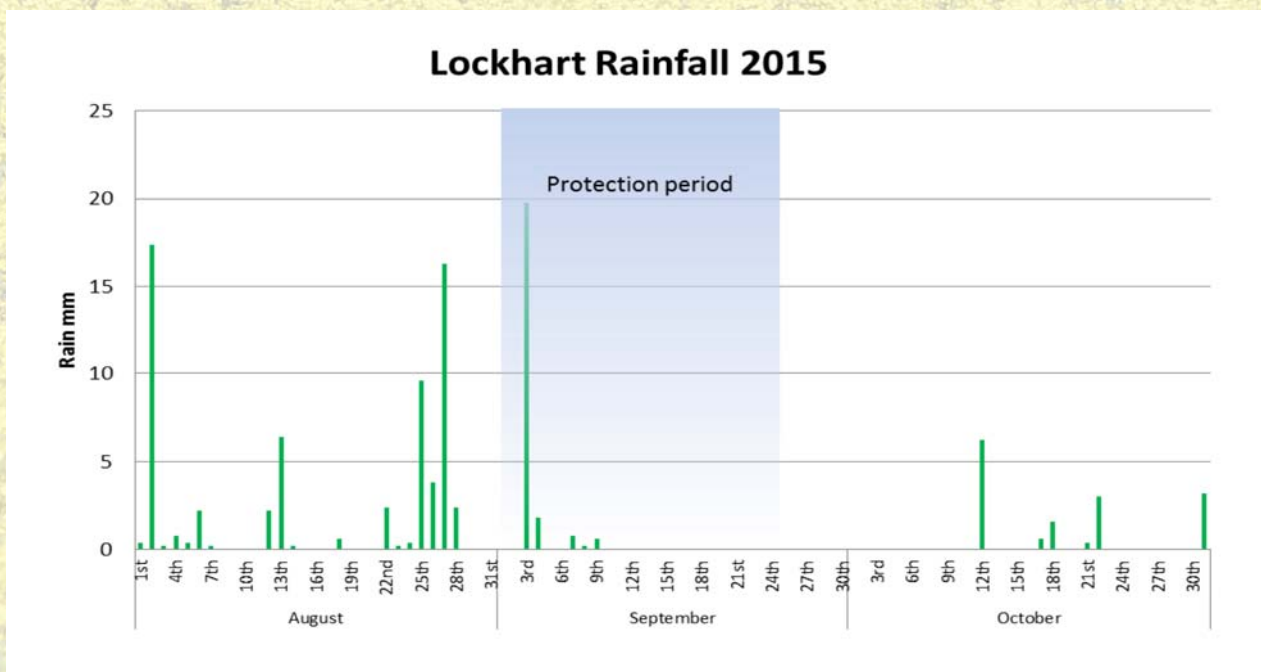
Location	Lockhart
Grower	Steve & Mark Day
Variety	ATR-Gem
Flowering length	7-8 weeks
Sowing date	25 <sup>th</sup> April
Application date	30 <sup>th</sup> August
Application	30L/ha water (air)
Prosaro <sup>®</sup> rate	375 mL/ha
Flowering stage	20%
Prosaro <sup>®</sup> yield	2.30 t/ha
Untreated	1.85 t/ha
ROI \$/ha	<b>\$185.50 /Ha*</b>

\* = Assumes canola price of \$500/T, Prosaro<sup>®</sup> \$25.50 and aerial application cost of \$14.00/Ha





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## OUTCOMES AND CONSIDERATIONS

As seen in the above chart, rainfall during the last week of August and first week of September would have provided the conditions which favour sclerotinia infection (moist / humid), during this period the crop would have at 10-30% flowering which again is ideal for infection to occur. It is likely that some sclerotinia infection had already taken place prior to application however the Prosaro® has provided a level of “kick-back” to halt existing disease infections as no infection was found prior to windrowing. Conditions post the Prosaro® protection period of 2-4 weeks did not favour further infection therefore a single spray provided adequate protection.

## GROWERS' COMMENT

“2015 provided the perfect conditions for sclerotinia pressure in our canola. On review of the yield data for that year it was evident that spraying Prosaro® provided a good return on investment.

“We now have the experience and parameters set to make the decision easy for seasons moving forward.”

- Mark Day.



Bayer CropScience

This is one in a series of four case studies developed from research undertaken in a partnership between FarmLink and Bayer Crop Science in 2015. The full series can be found at [www.farmlink.com.au](http://www.farmlink.com.au)

NOTE: Aviator® Xpro is a new foliar fungicide by Bayer Crop Science which contains the active ingredients prothioconazole and bixafen. Aviator® Xpro will be registered in a range of broad acre crops including canola and is expected to be commercially available in 2017.

