

Safflower: Short Fallow [No-till]

Central Zone - West

Winter 2012

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:

Operation	Month	Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
		hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Weed control eg: glyphosate 540 g/L (Roundup PowerMAX®)	Dec/Jan	0.03	76.36	\$2.50	1.20 L	\$8.67/L	\$10.40	\$12.90
Weed control eg: triclopyr 600 g/L (Garlon®)	Dec/Jan	with above			0.10 L	\$19.60/L	\$1.96	\$1.96
Weed control eg: glyphosate 540 g/L (Roundup PowerMAX®)	Jan/Feb	0.03	76.36	\$2.50	1.20 L	\$8.67/L	\$10.40	\$12.90
Weed control eg: 2,4-D amine 300 g/L (Surpass®)	Jan/Feb	with above			1.00 L	\$3.80/L	\$3.80	\$3.80
Nitrogen fertiliser eg: Urea	May	0.12	104.36	\$12.22	50 kg	\$0.70/kg	\$35.00	\$47.22
Sowing	July	0.12	104.36	\$12.22	8 kg	\$0.62/kg	\$4.96	\$17.18
Starter fertiliser eg: MAP	July	with above			60 kg	\$1.03/kg	\$61.80	\$61.80
Early post emergent grass weed control eg: propaquizafop (Correct®)	Aug	0.03	76.36	\$2.50	0.30 L	\$37.00/L	\$11.10	\$13.60
Early post emergent broadleaf control eg: metsulfuron-methyl (Ally®)	Aug	0.03	76.36	\$2.50	5.00 g	\$0.06/g	\$0.30	\$2.80
Heliothis control eg: alpha-cypermethrin (Fastac Duo®)	Oct/Dec	contract		\$18.15	0.30 L	\$8.07/L	\$2.42	\$20.57
Contract-harvest	Jan	contract		\$50.00				\$50.00
Crop Levies					1.02%	of on-farm value		\$3.21
Crop Insurance					1.28%	of on-farm value		\$4.04

*** Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (March 2012). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical.

NOTES:

Soil type:

- Suited to the deep heavy cracking clay soils with good moisture holding capacity.
- Safflower requires well drained soils.

Place in rotation

- Suitable crop for breaking cereal disease cycles in western areas.
- Short Fallow: Fallow or weed free period of 5-6 months between harvest of one crop and sowing of the next crop. For example, wheat harvested in November would be under a 5-6 month fallow until sowing in the following May.

Sowing time:

- A good crop for extending the sowing time of winter crops into the late winter.
- Seed price used above is for purchased seed. Do not use retained seed.

Weed control:

- Timing of fallow herbicide applications will vary according to rainfall.
- An additional knockdown herbicide application (eg. glyphosate 540 g/L @ 1.0 L/ha) should be considered if weeds are present at the time of sowing.

Insect control:

- Rotate herbicide groups and use other non-chemical methods to delay herbicide resistance.
- Monitor for cutworms at establishment.
- Monitoring for Rutherglen bugs at budding is recommended but there are currently no pesticides registered for control in Safflower.

Machinery:

- A tractor with 196 kW (263 HP) pto power and 242kW (325 HP) engine power is assumed.
- Machinery costs refer only to variable costs: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries & repairs.
- Contract-harvesting does not include the cost of fuel.

Labour:

- Using a labour cost of \$22/hr, an additional \$6.44 can be deducted from the budget

Important notes:

- These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs.
- **Use your own figures and price assumptions to estimate your own gross margin.**
- Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by NSW DPI.