



BBRO Advisory Bulletin No.13 - Week Ending 3rd November 2017

- **Foliar diseases such as cercospora and rust continue to progress in crops, encouraged by the current warm conditions.**
- **As foliar diseases spread the yield potential of crops will be progressively reduced. Assess crops regularly to decide which crops may have the most potential to gain if left for later harvesting.**
- **Maintain vigilance for root rots in crops as this appears to be increasing.**
- **Harvesting tests show soils surface losses remain generally low although root damage levels are variable, with dry conditions increasing losses in some cases.**
- **Some crops are being over-crowned. This is a source of potential yield loss.**



Patch of violet root rot



Severe cercospora infection

BBRO Harvest Testing Update

- Root Breakage continues to be the major issue with dry conditions causing difficulties. Root breakage is resulting from both leaving tap roots in the ground (see photo) or breaking them through the harvester cleaning system.
- Encourage operators to achieve and maintain optimal share depth and reduce turbine speeds where possible. See information on harvester set-up in dry conditions below.



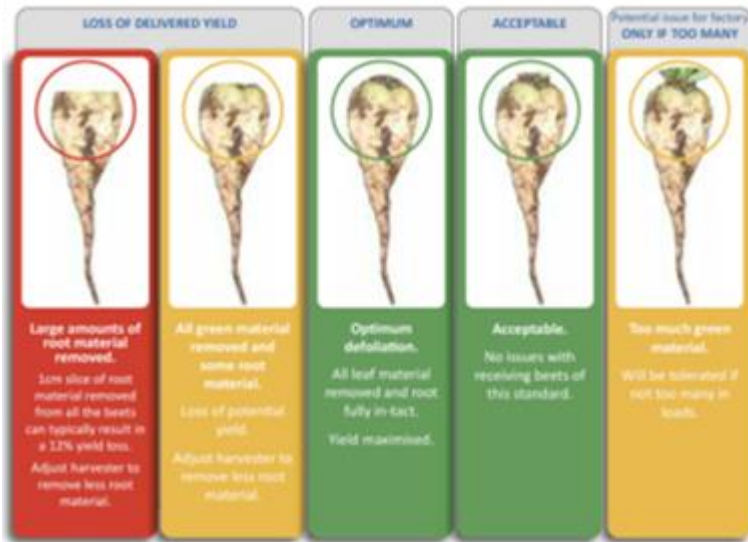
	Root Breakage (T/ha)	Total Loss (T/ha)
Average	3.05	3.42
Lowest value recorded	0.97	1.15

Harvester Set-up: DRY SOIL CONDITIONS

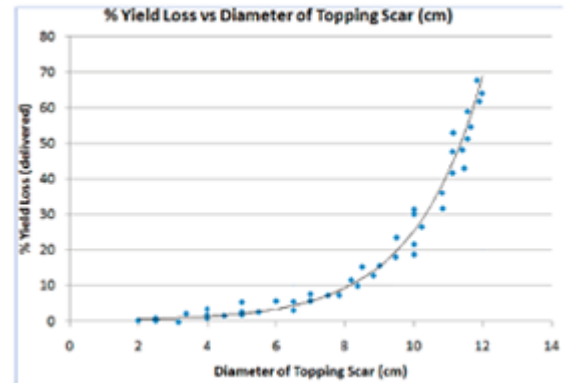
Type of loss/damage	Suggested setting changes
Whole root losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set lifting mechanism deeper • Fit discs in place of shares • Decrease forward speed • Add Oppel wheel star wheels • Check condition of shares - if worn, replace or repair if possible
Root tails broken off at lifting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce forward speed
Root damage - chipping, breakage and cracking in the cleaning mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set lifting mechanism deeper • Fit turbine gate plates • Reduce turbine speed • Fit ringed turbines and/or more helper lines • Consider increasing or decreasing forward speed • Remove agitator rollers from chain cleaning systems

- Over crowning continues to be a discussion point and very prevalent with variable beet size. Where beet is being clamped short term, and loaded with a cleaner loader, growers should have more confidence to focus on crowning the large beet correctly and allowing the cleaner to deal with any excess top left on the smaller beet.

Whole Beet Delivery Guide



Aim for a crown scar of 3cm - the size of a two pound coin.



Use this chart to identify potential yield loss based on leaf scar and the impact of over crowning.

Caution: this information is based on results of experiments and experience but cannot constitute a recommendation.

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