



Research Participant Information Sheet – Impact survey



CANOLA ALLIES

Project overview

Canola is an important oilseed crop in Australia but is subject to attack by at least 30 different species of invertebrate pests, causing estimated average annual loss of \$54M. Beneficial organisms (natural enemy species, such as predators and parasitic wasps) can suppress a wide range of pests. If integrated into existing pest management systems beneficials could improve the sustainability of our grain production systems. You are invited to help us to explore how we can provide the canola industry with the tailored tools needed to integrate beneficial organisms on farm. This project will start the process of developing the tools, knowledge and practices needed to enable more active management of beneficials. The project has four key outputs:

1. Delivery of knowledge on the distribution, biology, and ecology of beneficial invertebrate species that impact pests of canola. Determine how to integrate information on beneficials into a surveillance system to enable active management of beneficial species.
2. Estimate the impact of beneficials and develop implementation strategies tailored to the needs of growers.
3. Explore strategies to manipulate and optimise habitats to conserve beneficial species in canola landscapes.
4. Develop a spatially-explicit model that incorporates field, farm and regional dynamics. This will inform agripest risks and help tailor solutions to individual canola crop fields.

CSIRO is leading this five-year, GRDC funded, project and coordinating with four partners to deliver the project outcomes: WA Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), NSW Department of Primary Industries and Rural Development (NSW DPIRD), SA Research and Development Institute (SARDI, and its alignment with University of Adelaide) and Murdoch University. In addition, we have established a collaborative partnership with Biological Services (a company that supplies live biologicals to a diversity of industries) and would like to establish more delivery partnerships with organisations in the value chain as the project progresses.

Participation in the impact survey

We request your participation in a short anonymous online survey. All questions are optional.

It is anticipated that the findings from this survey will be used to guide the work of the research team to be more focussed on the types of information stakeholders such as yourselves want to know.

Risks and benefits

Aside from giving up your time, there are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in this project. Whilst your participation in this project may not benefit you directly, your participation will help the Australian canola industry to reach and perhaps exceed any future sustainability standards.

Withdrawal from the research project

Participation in this project is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with the researchers at CSIRO or any of the partner organisations. You are welcome to skip over questions in the online survey.

Confidentiality

All information provided by you will be treated confidentially. Your name, workplace or any other personal information will not be gathered by this survey. All data collected in this study will be reported in such a way that responses will not be able to be linked to any individuals. De-identified, non-sensitive data collected by the project may be shared with other researchers for the purposes of advancing research on this topic (but we won't share private information). Any data collected as part of this study will be securely stored as per CSIRO's Recordkeeping Procedure.

How will my information be used?

It is anticipated that the information obtained through the survey will be integrated into the justification and research plans of the project team. We will use this knowledge to make our outputs more useful. There may be an opportunity for us to present the generalized findings in a scientific journal publication and/or conference presentation. We will ensure this information cannot be linked to you before it is published.

Ethics clearance and contacts

This study has been approved by CSIRO's Social Science Human Research Ethics Committee in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (Updated 2018). If you have any questions concerning your participation in the study, please contact the researchers via their contact details provided. Alternatively, any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study can be raised with the Executive Manager of Social Responsibility and Ethics on +61 7 3833 5693 or by email at csshrec@csiro.au.

Privacy

Your personal information is protected by the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) (Privacy Act).

CSIRO does not intend to collect any personal information about you in this project. However, the survey contains 'free-text' boxes where you might provide information from which you may be identifiable. In such cases, CSIRO will handle your information in accordance with the Privacy Act and the National Health & Medical Research Council (NH&MRC) National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023), or as otherwise required by law.

Your personal information, if collected, will only be used for the purposes of conducting the project. CSIRO will not disclose your personal information to third parties including the project funders and any service providers involved in the project. However, to access an online service you may be requested to provide your email (this data won't be stored for future use).

Results from the project will be aggregated and (where identifiable) de-identified. They will be presented or shared for communication of the project findings.

For further information on how CSIRO handles your personal information and our access, correction and complaints process please read our [privacy policy](#) available on our website or by contacting us at privacy@csiro.au.

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Thank you for taking the time to help with this project. Please keep this sheet for your information.