



Current crop conditions

The warm, dry weather of late has meant that winter linseed, like winter oilseed rape and winter barley is turning very fast. With dry weather during the flowering period also, boll fill appears to be good for the most part. Crops are now going off colour and it will soon be time for desiccation.

Desiccation

Desiccation kills any green crop material, eases harvest and ensures the crop is ready to cut at the first opportunity. Crops this year are generally clean with regard to weeds, however desiccation is still important due to the nature of linseed fibres. When making the decision as to *when* to desiccate, it is best to walk into the crop and open a numbers of bolls to aid the decision-making process. Repeat this across the field to get a sample of the crop. See below diagram:

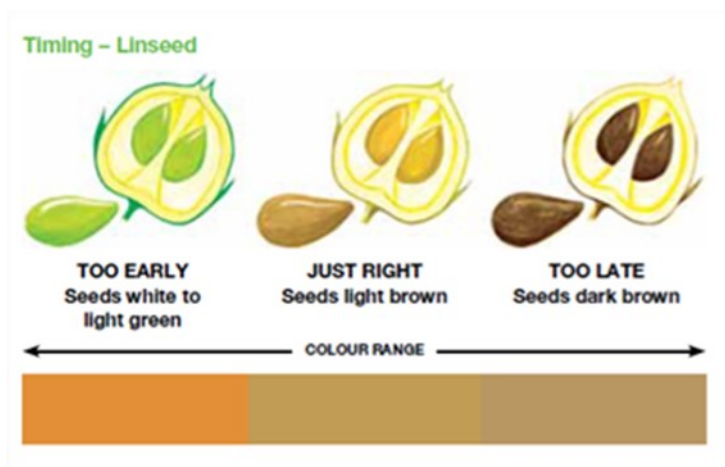


Figure 1: desiccation timing for linseed. The centre is the optimum for diquat application

Diquat - the best choice

- Timing - capsules will be dark brown.
- The linseed colour should be light brown.
- For crops with variable maturity apply when the latest of the crop has reached the desiccation timing.
- The majority of Diquat products are approved for use in linseed (check individual labels).
- The use of non-ionic adjuvant to increase canopy penetration of the desiccation agent- e.g. Activator 90. Activator 90 should be used 0.1% of the final water volume.

A suitable mix would be:

Product	Rate	Water Volume	Spray Quality
Reglone + Activator 90	3.0 l/ha + 0.4l/ha	400l/ha	Medium

- Best to spray in the evening
- NEVER spray in hot sunny conditions.
- Observe correct spray quality
- Target the stem, not the crop canopy and ensure full crop coverage.
- Harvest from 7 days after spraying.

Spray Quality

Correct spray quality and volume is essential for effective desiccation. Spray quality cannot be achieved simply by increasing pressure or by reducing forward speed: **correct nozzle selection is the key to success.**

Glyphosate

We do not recommend the use of Glyphosate (Roundup) in Winter linseed because the timing of application can be problematic. In some cases by the time the seed is sufficiently mature, there is no longer green leaf available to take up and translocate the chemical-leading to crops NOT being ready to cut before the start of the Wheat harvest.

Experience has shown that Winter linseed crops combined late, e.g. after wheat harvest, have more harvesting "issues".

DO YOU GROW OILSEED RAPE?

Grow HEAR rapeseed for the highest gross margins available for UK rapeseed growers.

HEAR is currently worth 12% more than "00", has the same yield and the same agronomy.

Speak to Sam, Lee, Dave or Josh in our contracts team for more information on 02392 632883.

Alternatively, contact our Farm Contracts Manager, Francesca Parker-Partridge on 07387 023624.

CONTACTS

If in doubt consult your agronomist on any of the points.

Our agronomist Sam Deane is also happy to take your calls on questions or queries you might have.

Tel: 02392 632883 Mobile: 07917 275053

**All products used under EAMU are entirely at grower's own risk.
Always read the label before using pesticides. Use pesticides safely.**

Whitedale Farm, East Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4RZ

02392 632883 info@premiumcrops.com www.premiumcrops.com