



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

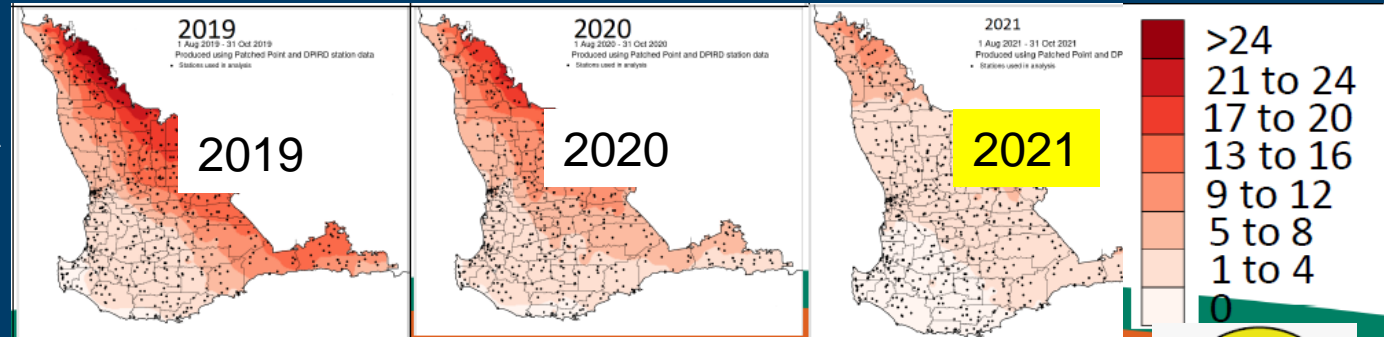
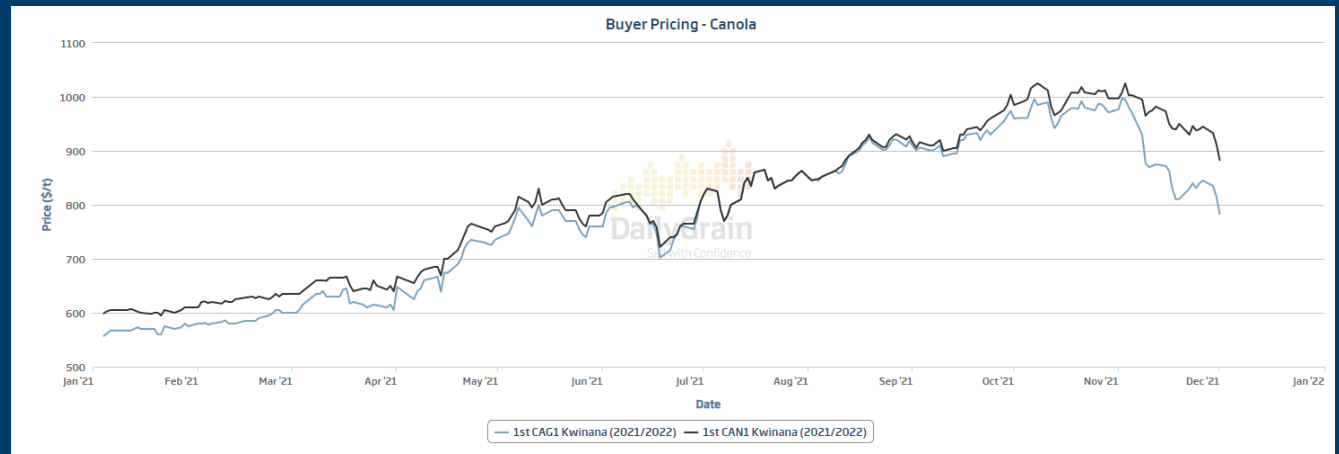
GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# Canola agronomy update for 2022

Jackie Bucat, DPIRD



Seroja 12<sup>th</sup> April



# 2021 canola

- Early break
- High area
- High canola prices
- High inputs
- High yields

Number of days over 30 degrees Aug-Oct



# 2021

- Early break
- High area
- High prices
- High inputs
- High yields

# 2022

- High price
- High area
- Changing climate
- Opening break?
  
- Limited seed & variety choice
- High input prices (N)
- High stubble and disease risk?

# Today

- Early sowing recap
- 2021 Establishment research
  
- 2021 Density research
- 2021 Nitrogen trials
- Disease brief



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

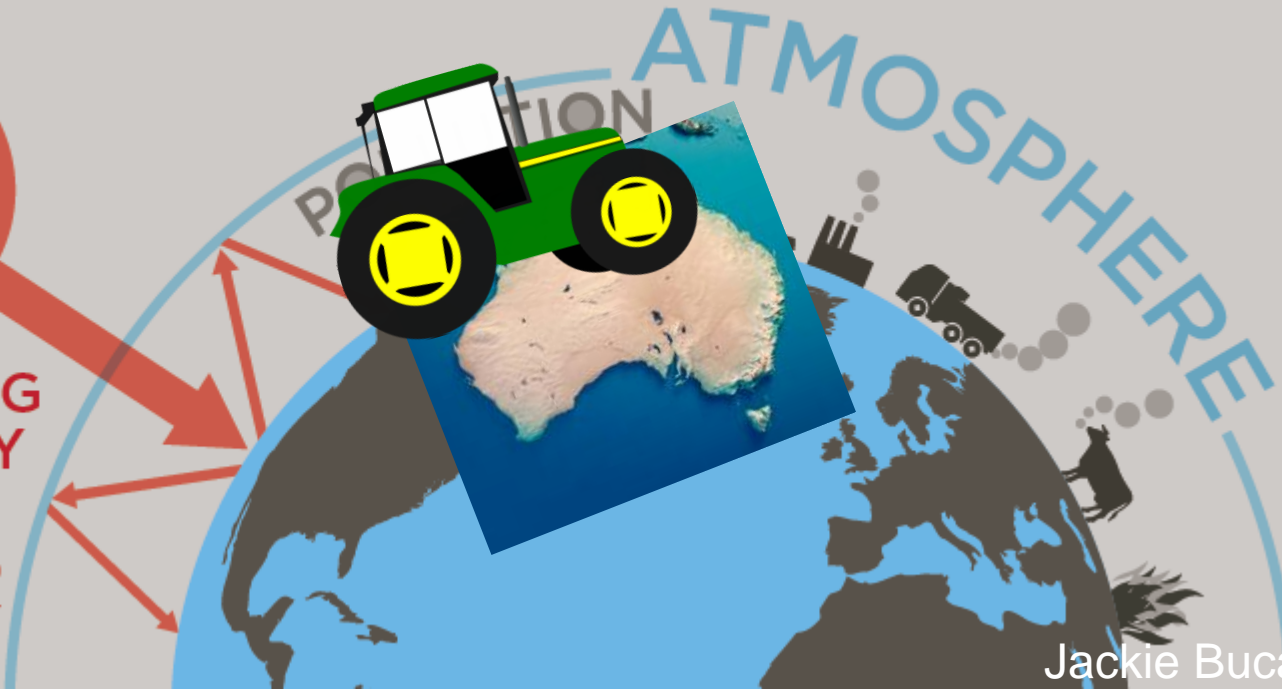
# Climate change in WA

- Less rainfall events in autumn
- Less growing season rainfall
- Higher temperatures
- Hot spells: more, longer, hotter



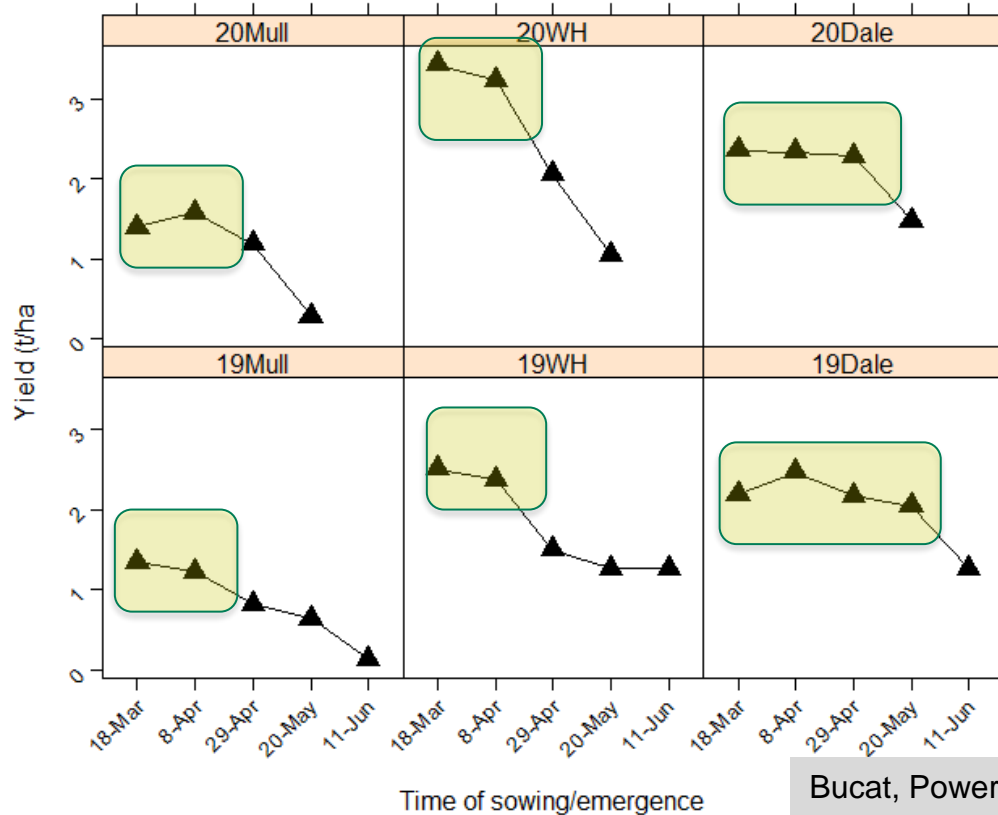
INCOMING  
ENERGY

TRAPPED  
ENERGY



# Early sowing research 2019-2020

## Key result- Highest yields with sowing 18 March OR 8 April

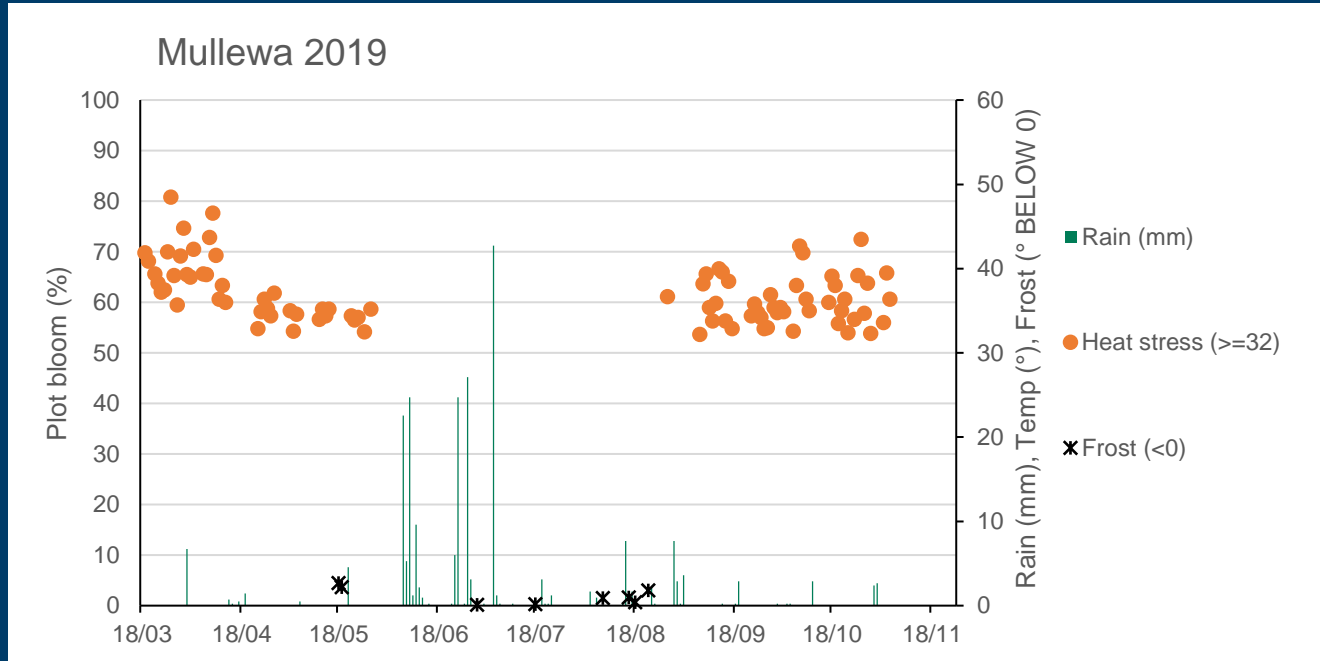


No significant difference in yields

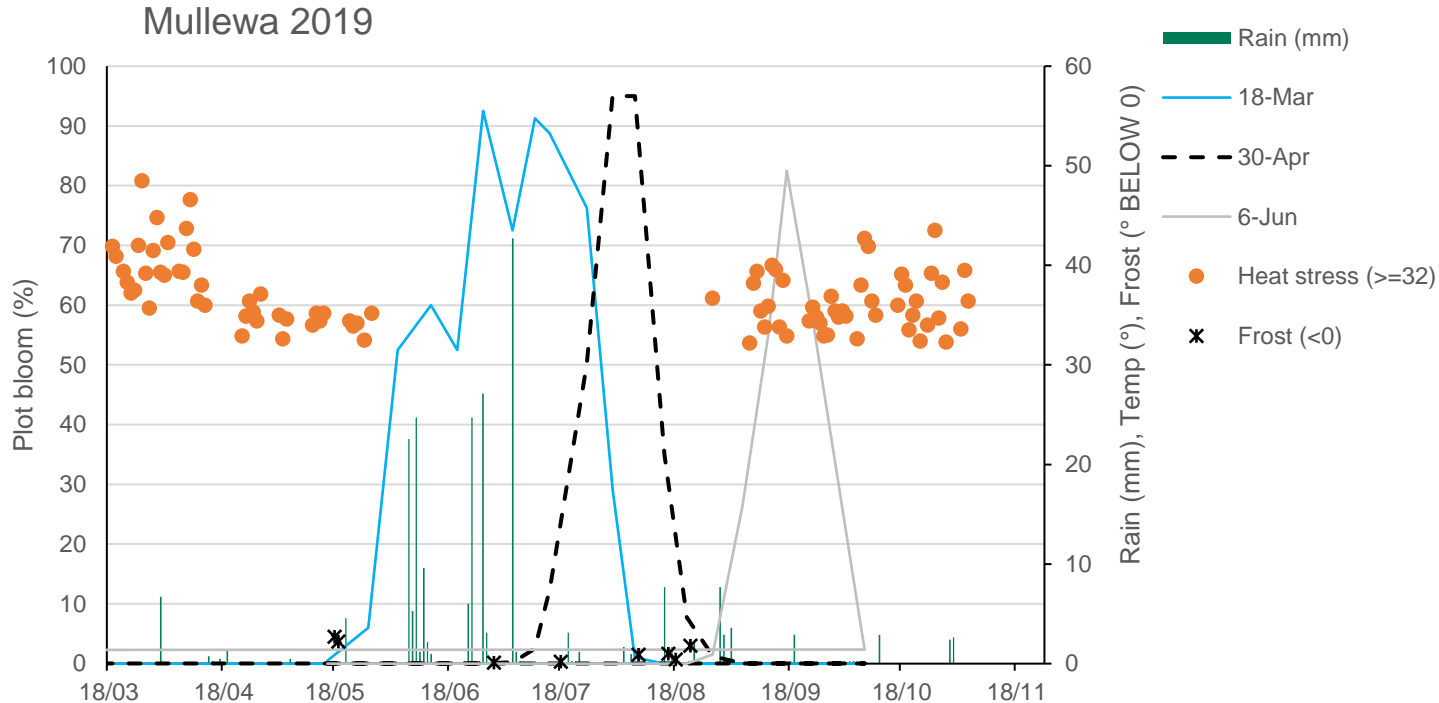
Irrigation before seeding and as required for crop survival

TOS1 18 Mar  
TOS2 8 Apr  
TOS3 29 Apr  
TOS4 20 May  
TOS5 6 Jun

## Early seeding ATR Bonito at Mullewa



# Early seeding ATR Bonito at Mullewa



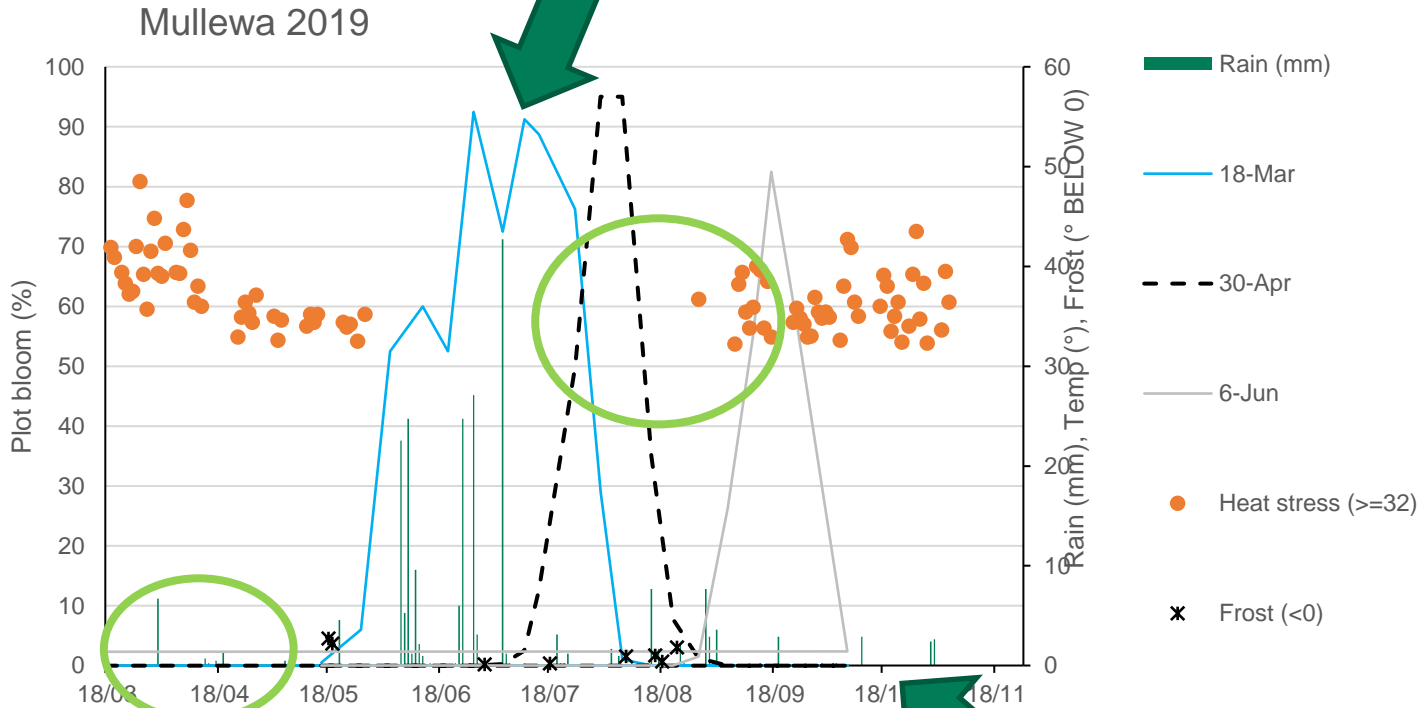
TOS1	18 Mar
TOS2	8 Apr
TOS3	29 Apr
TOS4	20 May
TOS5	6 Jun

Similar flowering patterns at Wongan Hills, Dale and Grass Patch



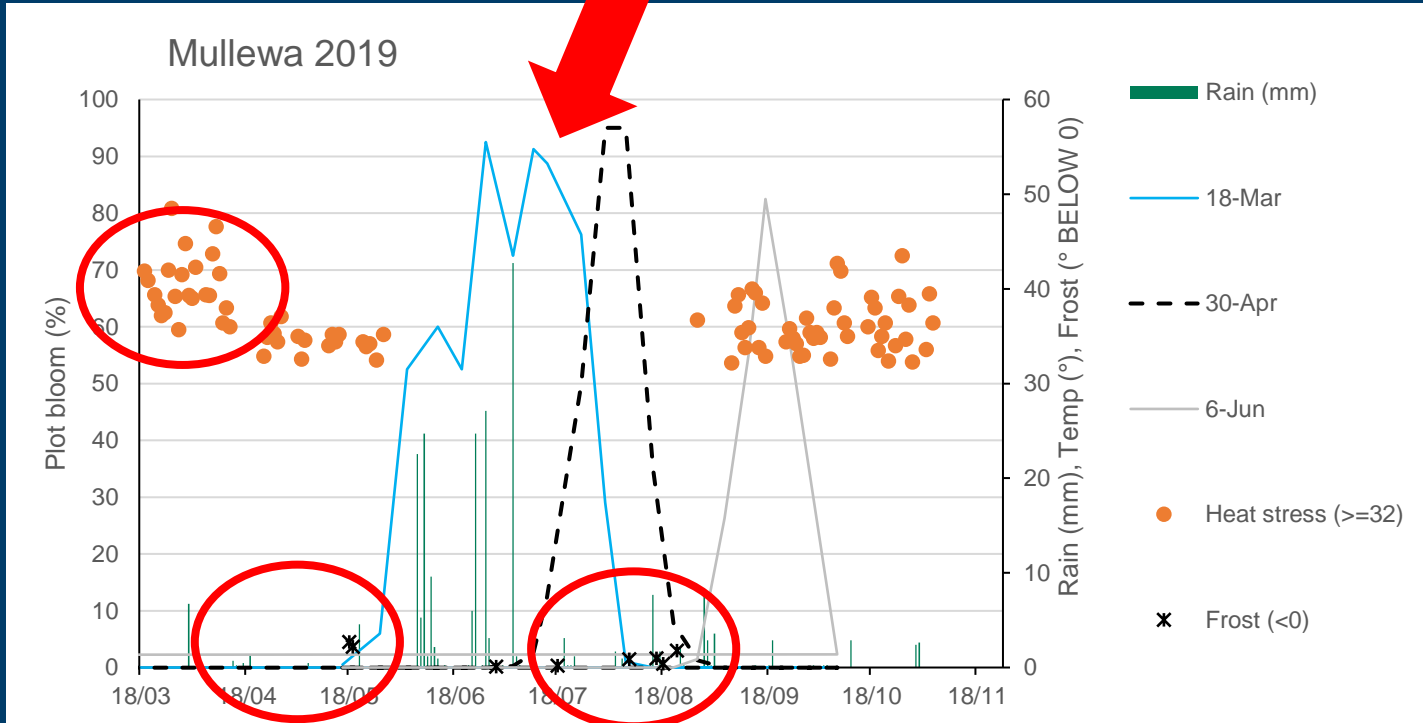
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

# Early seeding ATR Bonito at Mullewa





# Early seeding ATR Bonito at Mullewa to avoid climate change stresses



Similar flowering patterns at Wongan Hills, Dale and Grass Patch



# Early sowing

- March yields can be as high as early April seeding
- Declining yields after mid April

## Rewards

- ✓ Increased chance of capturing early break
- ✓ Reduced chance of high temperatures during critical flowering period
- ✓ High yield potential due to extended flowering
- ✓ Reduced pressure from terminal drought

Where you get very/early sowing opportunity,  
evaluate reward and risk for your system and paddock

## Higher risks

- Establishment
- Follow up rain
- Frost
- Predation and disease



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development

# How early?

Merredin

12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

