

Early bird savings are again available

SEASON 2006 was probably a very forgettable one for many farmers, but a great way to start the next season is by securing firm delivery of important inputs at a special price, all courtesy of the early order discounts available from 4Farmers.

Clients may opt for either or both of the offers; a fungicide package with various formulations of Triadimefon and Flutriafol suitable for treating fertiliser and Triadimenol or Tebuconazole for seed, plus a herbicide offer that includes

the knockdown Glyphosate, plus Atrazine, Simazine, Trifluralin and Triallate. Common to both orders is a late December closing date, nominated month of delivery up to end March and payment by 28th March.

A significant discount applies to the March payment or terms are available with payment in June. Both offers include a price guarantee, as any 4Farmers price variation during December to March will result in the lowest price applying.

Fungicide dressings for seed and fertiliser

WA farmers are well aware of the advantages of treating their fertiliser with a fungicide to obtain 14-18 weeks immunity from fungal diseases, but the benefits that can be obtained by treating seed with an approved fungicide are often overlooked.

The major research effort carried out by the WA Department of Agriculture in 1986 and 1987 to examine the effect on Stirling barley that different seed and fertiliser dressings had on leaf diseases and yield is still relevant as the products tested are still in regular use today.

Eleven treatments with three replications were carried out at Esperance and Mt Barker over two years, involving Triadimenol and Flutriafol as seed dressings, plus Triadimefon and Flutriafol applied in-furrow onto double superphosphate.

Three experiments in 1986 and two in 1987 were subject to natural infection, while one experiment at Mt Barker in 1987 applied *Rhynchosporium secalis* to ensure scald infection.

Because the pattern of disease for the naturally infected plots at Esperance and Mt Barker were similar, the results were combined for analysis.

The summary included the statement: "Fungicide treated fertilisers provided the most disease control for the longest duration, Triadimefon coated fertiliser increasing yield by up to 30%."

This WADA research was carried out by T.N. Khan and K.J. Young and, although this summary contains the pertinent information, the full report can be obtained from the Department or from 4Farmers.



4Farmers wants you!

4FARMERS is looking for new distributors to augment the existing team who are providing quality 4Farmers products throughout the state, be they farmers, spraying contractors or people who are currently, or would like to, operate a rural business.

Start up and continuing support is available from the 4Farmers team, so if you are interested, give Neil or Wayne a ring on 1800 038 445. All inquiries treated in strictest confidence.

Rebates are coming!

THE good news is that rebates based on the value of goods purchased during the last year will again be available for clients of 4Farmers and the better news is that it has been decided to increase the amount by one percent to 4%.

The Trading Rebate voucher will soon be sent to 4Farmers clients and it can be used to pay for future purchases, including the early bird specials currently available.

Table 1. Disease development at Esperance in 1986 and 1987

Treatment	1986		1987		1986 yield	
	% leaf area		% leaf area		kg/ha	%
	11 wks	18 wks	11 wks	18 wks		
Nil fungicide	31.7	19.6	5.9	54.7	2155	100
Seed dressing						
Triadimenol 150 mg/kg	10.1	9.0	2.6	31.7	2399	111
Triadimenol 225 mg/kg	6.7	1.8	1.9	53.2	2399	111
Triadimenol 375 mg/kg	4.3	0.6	1.1	50.4	2387	111
Flutriafol 130 mg/kg	8.6	2.6	2.0	45.3	2399	111
Fertiliser treatment						
Triadimefon 150 g/ha	1.9	0.0	1.4	0.3	2810	130
Flutriafol 100 g/ha	2.6	0.0	0.8	17.8	2440	113
Flutriafol 200 g/ha	4.1	0.0	1.3	15.1	2536	118

Table 2. Disease development at Mt Barker in 1986 and 1987

Treatment	1986		1987		1987	
	Naturally infected		artificial infection		kg/ha	%
	% leaf area		% leaf area			
	20 wks	18 wks	11 wks	18 wks		
Nil fungicide	42.4	35.8	11.1	83.7		
Seed dressing						
Triadimenol 150 mg/kg	38.7	17.4	5.2	81.4		
Triadimenol 225 mg/kg	24.4	18.8	2.9	66.7		
Triadimenol 375 mg/kg	26.1	19.4	0.8	71.6		
Flutriafol 130 mg/kg	30.4	18.2	5.3	76.2		
Fertiliser treatment						
Triadimefon 150 g/ha	0.8	26.2	1.6	34.4		
Flutriafol 100 g/ha	9.5	12.2	1.1	60.3		