

CTF – Challenges in the HRZ

- Maintenance of wheel tracks especially if rutted
- Residue management at harvest essential but difficult
- Setting up equipment widths and offsets. Actual working widths from the manufacturers!
- Damage to the headland, especially with raised beds
- Conservation tillage – is it sustainable using chemical control?
- Herbicide resistant in HRZ Vic worse levels for Ryegrass in 10 years!
- Discs v Tines



CTF - Challenges in the HRZ cont..

- Wide row spacing for inter row sowing – yield and crop competition implications
- Contractors equipment do they match your system? – Windrowers, Liming contractor
- Not enough harvesters on the correct spacing for CTF.
- Chaser bin management
- Drop out of GPS signal
- Cost of setting up RTK guidance



- Stubble chop length, spread of chaff and straw, stubble cut height



Spread of Chaff and Straw needs to be even across cutterbar width.

Stubble height less important if you're going to burn. Keep it short if retaining stubble or incorporating.

With wet harvest it may pay to cut higher and slash stubble as separate operation

Quality of chop affected by:

- Cutting height
- Straw moisture (time of day, how ripe)
- Forward Speed
- Crop being harvested
- Rotary or Conventional header



Effective stubble management starts during the harvesting of the previous crop!



Some Advantages of wider row spacing

- Improved residue flow through seeding equipment
- Inter row crop establishment with correct GPS setup
- Faster sowing speeds in relation to soil throw and use of herbicides applied IBS
- Lower draft of seeders allowing wider seeders for a given horsepower
- Very well suited to Canola and some Pulse crops



Some Disadvantages of wider row spacing

- Less weed competition with slower groundcover
- Problems relying on IBS with grass weeds intra row
- In seasons with large stubble loads still causes blockages
- Seedbed fertilizer toxicity
- Lower yields

