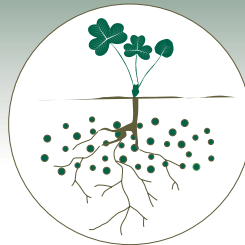


ALOSCA[®]

Technologies Pty Ltd



GRANULAR LEGUME INOCULANT SURVEY 2006

“WILL YOU CONTINUE TO USE ALOSCA[®] GRANULAR INOCULANT IN 2007?”
97% OF GROWERS RESPONDED YES.

Peter Nelson & Chris Poole

ALOSCA[®] Technologies Pty Ltd is now moving into its 3rd commercial season supplying a range of dry granular legume inoculants to agriculture which provide many new application options and freedoms not afforded by the traditional peat slurry method of legume inoculation. Much of the logistical freedom provided by ALOSCA[®] inoculants is underpinned by the nature of the product to protect the viability of the incorporated Nitrogen Fixing Bacteria from temperature and moisture stresses which leave other application systems prone to failure.

Following the 2006 season ALOSCA[®] Technologies Pty Ltd undertook a grower survey to find out first hand what farmers felt about ALOSCA[®] granular inoculant and seek comment on how and why they used it.

The survey was conducted throughout the agricultural areas of WA with respondents returning their experiences and thoughts as outlined below.

The objective of the survey was to ask the key question “Will you continue to use ALOSCA[®] granular inoculant in 2007? **97%** of growers responded **YES**.

The 2006 farming season was particularly difficult, especially in the northern agricultural areas. In response to the question “**In what soil conditions did you apply the product?**”

Sown dry	Sown to moisture	Sown dry & to moisture
83%	28%	11%

On land not previously sown to the legume, dry seeding with the peat based inoculants was prone to nodulation failure due to the death of the rhizobia bacteria but with ALOSCA[®] granular inoculants, which can withstand soil surface temperatures of 60°C and maintain viability, dry seeding became an option which many farmers used last year.

The average rate of application by growers was 8.9kg/ha.

When asked the question “Why did you use ALOSCA[®] granulated inoculant and not peat inoculant?” **the majority of growers responded that they could dry seed and it was easier to apply than the peat inoculant.**

Other responses were that:

“**They had Rovral[®] on the seed**”.

“**Ability to sow pastures without interfering with the cropping program**”.

“**It is difficult to treat small seeds with peat inoculant**”.

When asked about what machinery they used to sow the product 84% of growers responded – **BY AIRSEEDER**.

Of those using the airseeder 68% responded – **MIXED IT WITH THE FERTILIZER**, 32% responded – **MIXED WITH THE SEED**. In some cases the respondents commented that the small seed boxes on combines could not deliver the 10kg/ha of the product.

In response to the question “How did you find the overall ease of handling?” 94% responded positively.

The fact that 97% of those that used the product in 2006 will use it again in 2007 speaks for itself.



Improved early vigour and weed competition when sown early into dry or marginal moisture.