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## Finding the safe planting window for blackspot

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia

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# Finding the safe planting window for blackspot

DPIRD-78

The Blackspot Manager disease risk forecaster model is an effective tool to help identify the best balance between early sowing and potential yield loss from blackspot.

Blackspot can lead to significant crop losses. Field peas become infected when windborne spores are released from fruiting bodies on infected stubble. The timing of spore release is generally early in autumn, depending on summer and autumn rain events.

Blackspot Manager is a model that calculates a sowing date with a reduced risk of blackspot infection. Early in the sowing window (10 to 25 May) it is advised not to sow field pea until about 60% of spores have been released from the field pea stubble.

Blackspot Manager was developed and tested using field trials that assessed spore production at different locations in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, and southern New South Wales.

## Blackspot manager alerts

Blackspot Manager alerts are delivered weekly from mid-April to the end of June via our Blackspot in field peas disease forecast webpage, SMS, and direct email in the lead up to field pea sowing for a range of locations in Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, and southern New South Wales. To subscribe to the Blackspot Manager SMS service, text 'Blackspot', your name, and location to 0475 959 932.

Email Blackspot Manager ([Blackspot.Manager@dpiird.wa.gov.au](mailto:Blackspot.Manager@dpiird.wa.gov.au)) with your request to subscribe to the email service.

## Contact us

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## Related content

Refer to the department website at [dpiird.wa.gov.au](http://dpiird.wa.gov.au)

- Blackspot in field peas disease forecast
- Blackspot Manager – disease risk forecaster in field peas

Last updated July 2024

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