

## 2005/06 Gwydir Valley plant population trial results

Data provided by Dr Mike Bange and Rose Roche.

A plant population trial was held in the Gwydir during the 2005/06 season at 'Glen Prairie'. Crop management can significantly impact on both crop yield and fibre quality. The following trial looked at the affect of different plant populations on yield and fibre quality characteristics.

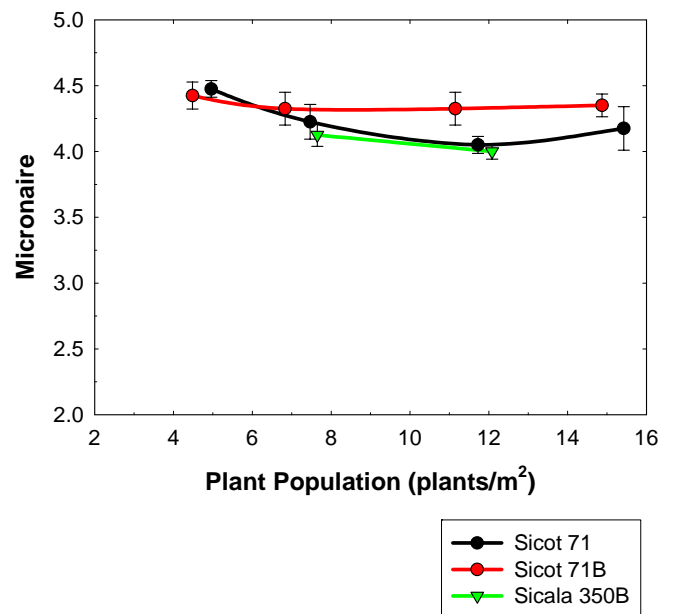
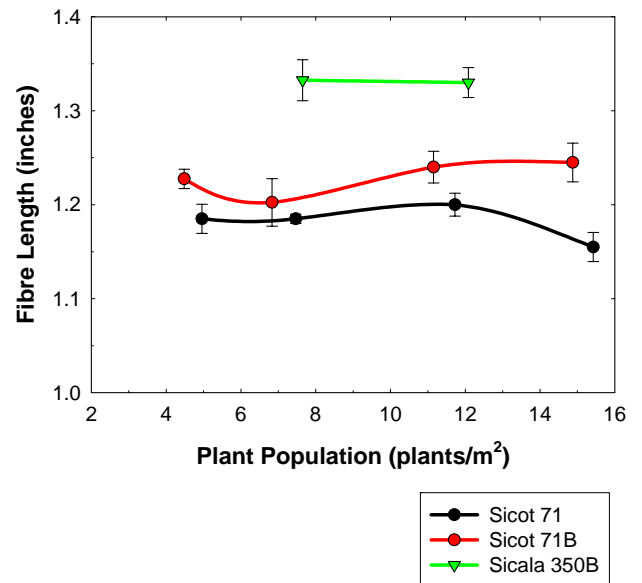
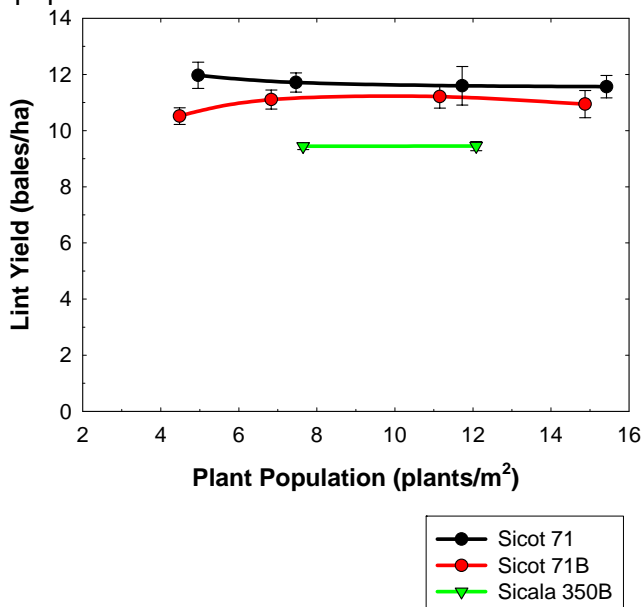
Specifically this trial compared:

- Bollgard II vs. conventional varieties (Sicot 71B and Sicot 71)
- Range of plant populations in 1m row spaced systems
- Premium fibre quality type variety (Sicala 350B) with current genotypes

Target Plant Population (1 m row spacing)

- 4 plants/m (seeding rate 5/m)
- 8 plants/m (seeding rate 10/m)
- 12 plants/m (seeding rate 15/m)
- 16 plants/m (seeding rate 20/m)

Established plant populations were not different between varieties and were +/- 1 plant of target population.



Variety	Final average retention (%)
Sicot 71	37.9
Sicot 71B	42.5
Sicala 350B	37.5

### Results summary

There were no differences in yield, fibre quality or fruit retention in the different plant populations for any of the varieties. Across all plant populations in this trial, Sicot 71 (11.7 bales/ha) had the highest average yield compared to Sicot 71B (10.9 Bales/ha) and Sicala 350B had the lowest average yield (9.4 bales/ha). Sicala 350B the highest fibre length and Sicot 71B had slightly better length than Sicot 71. There were no large differences in micronaire between varieties. Sicot 71B had the highest fruit retention compared to Sicot 71 and Sicala 350B.

Thankyou to Will Kirkby, 'Glen Prairie' for his cooperation with this trial.