FAQ: Maximizing your Canola Harvest

Learn more about harvesting your Corteva canola with detailed answers on choosing the right method to optimize your harvest practices and maximize yield.

Q. What are the key benefits of growing Corteva canola hybrids?

When planting a Corteva canola hybrid, growers get:

- A high-yielding hybrid
- A choice of hybrids with harvesting options
- A high-performing hybrid that provides choice for protection against yield robbing diseases such as clubroot (various sources of resistance), sclerotinia and blackleg, plus standability and harvestability
- A total package, season-long solution for maximum yield and disease protection

Q. Why is it important for today's canola farmers to have harvesting options?

In any given season, growers are going to encounter many different challenges (insect pests, disease threats, unpredictable weather) that can impact their crop. To maximize the yield potential of their canola and maximize the efficiency of their operation, it's crucial that growers have a choice of harvest methods that suits their specific needs. With more harvest options, canola growers can optimize their practices to maximize their return on investment.

Q. What tips can we give growers on when it's best to normal swath, delay swath or straight cut?

The Canola Council of Canada provides important tips for harvest management that all canola growers can reference. When deciding on the best harvest method to maximize yield, it's important that growers assess their canola crop not at planting but as they near harvest, basing their decision on stand establishment, insect damage, weed control, uniformity and knitting of the stand, crop canopy, maturity, disease presence, frost and other environmental risks. Growers know their land better than anyone, so no one is better equipped to make the decision on how to harvest their fields than growers.

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Here are some factors to consider when deciding whether to:

NORMAL SWATH

- The optimum stage to swath for both yield and quality is 60% seed colour change (SCC)
- Adverse conditions during the growing season (early season frost, disease, a thin or uneven stand, weedy patches) leading to uneven crop staging could also necessitate doing a swath
- A crop that has an upright canopy, is NOT well knitted together, and doesn't move as one in the wind would also indicate swathing as the best maximum yield management choice

DELAY SWATH

- Waiting to swath until 80% seed colour change can help spread out workload
- Consider if adverse weather conditions are in the forecast
- If you grew a canola hybrid with reduced risk of pod shatter
- If the crop is well knitted and has experienced minimal disease/insect damage, and the risk of early fall frost is low

STRAIGHT CUT

- Consider when:
  - There is a slight lean in the plant structure to protect it from severe wind events
  - Plants are well knitted together, and crop moves as one in the wind
  - There is limited disease, hail, or insect damage that could impact plant and pod integrity
  - The crop is evenly matured.
- Straight cut a portion of your acres to balance crop conditions and maturity, and increase machine and manpower efficiency

Q. Is straight cutting the best harvest method when one is growing a Corteva canola hybrid?

Corteva Agriscience offers a portfolio of canola hybrids with different harvesting options through its premium seed brands Pioneer and Brevant® seeds. Growers can reach out to their local retailer, Corteva Territory Manager or Pioneer Sales Representative to find the hybrid that works best for their operation.

Q. What do Corteva canola hybrids offer over competitor hybrids with similar traits?

Each growing season, Western Canadian growers must contend with a wide range of challenges that can have a significant impact on yield. In addition to providing harvesting options, Corteva canola hybrids offer built-in resistance to yield-robbing diseases such as blackleg, clubroot and sclerotinia. Corteva canola offers high-yielding, consistent-performing hybrids that are known for industry-leading disease resistance, excellent standability, early season growth and an overall strong agronomic package. So, when choosing a Corteva canola hybrid, growers get that "total package" season-long solution that maximizes yield potential, disease protection and harvest timing options.

Q. What is being done to make Corteva canola traits even better?

Corteva canola traits are continuously improving. Our goal is to strike the right balance between minimizing pod shatter (and risk to growers), maintaining good harvestability and, as with all Corteva hybrids, delivering maximum yield potential.

- Corteva breeds canola hybrids at four Canadian research stations
- Hybrids are tested extensively prior to commercialization, using real grower practices
- Corteva researchers have identified a number of genetic regions within our canola development platform that provide increased pod integrity
  - Corteva continues to improve their canola traits by testing more locations for data capture each year
  - More than one thousand hybrids are screened annually at various testing stages

Ask your seed provider to learn more.

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