

BESPOKE ROTATIONAL PLANNING LAUNCHED

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A new 'Rotational Planning Tool' based on 8 years of 4cast analysis and able to make cropping recommendations based on individual farm history, has now been developed by ProCam.

Following a difficult autumn there is now more spring land to be cropped and in such a volatile market it is important that growers get a better handle on what to grow, says ProCam agronomist Nick Myers.

"It's all very well looking at reference books and using their reference yields and prices to calculate gross margins. But it is much more powerful to be able to do so using your own crop performance, costings and prices.

"In this way you can predict more accurately the likely profitability of any particular spring crop on your farm and see how these crops integrate into your rotation. Ultimately growers will be in a better position to make more informed decisions about what to grow on their land."

Based on eight years of the company's extensive 4cast agronomy database, the Rotational Planner allows entry of all the key data from the individual farms performance, including yields, seed rates, fertiliser inputs, crop protection inputs as well as predicted commodity prices. It includes virtually all crops including wheat, barley, rape, beans, peas, linseed and grain maize.

The system allows growers to build in sensitivities, based on different costs and costs of production per tonne, explains Nick Myers.

"You can look at different cropping scenarios and different cropping options to see in detail how the farm's profitability is affected. By entering in different cropping or management scenarios, you can build up the best cropping rotation for your farm."

"The Rotational Planner is a highly sophisticated and detailed management tool that surpasses any other such system by combining personalised farm information and the wealth of background data from the National 4cast Database," concludes Nick Myers.

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