

## BSN SEED TREATMENT FOR BROADACRE WHEAT GROWERS

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This insight examines the comparison between untreated broadacre wheat crops with those treated with **BSN Superstrike** (BSN SS) in one evolving experiment.



The photographic results, as can be seen, show significantly improved establishing plant growth.

The 440-ha crop (using cultivar cv.Mace) was sown at 45kg/ha in May 2014 after long chemical fallow in the south-west of New South Wales, over slightly alkaline sandy loam soil types typical of the region. It is part of a commercial grower's field, with half the seed treated with **BSN SS** on the day prior to sowing. The field has 35ppm Colwell P, which is typical in an area of average yield of between 2.0 – 2.5-t/ha potentially. Average annual rainfall is the major limiting factor for these crops with an average growing season rainfall (May – October) of 250mm.

The method used – that produced the sample image comparisons – was to draw a single random plant from six different locations across both sides of the experimental treatments. The results being:

1. The six wheat seedlings treated with 5 l/t **BSN Superstrike** on 45kg/ha MAP showed a total of 22 tillers.
2. The six wheat seedlings that were untreated showed a total of 18 tillers.

This experimental crop will be followed up with plant head counts, grain weights and yield data from both the treated and the untreated crops and watched with interest.

The growers who are participating in this evaluation grow 8-10,000-ha of wheat per annum and have an irrigated sub-clover pasture production system for 'turning-off' Merino-cross lambs and fine wool in a self-replacing flock. The growers cite 'soil moisture' (i.e. rainfall reliability) as their most limiting factor for grain production at their three major properties.

But, by enhancing root growth, obtaining greater root turnover, and in turn promoting more nutrient efficiency, **BSN SS** will be their highest returning single piece of agricultural input this year. The growers are feeling confident that they will see increased yield and financial return.

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