



Try Before You Buy

Rob Tuck | 'Newhaven', Narromine, NSW

Key takeaway

- Sicala 320B3XF looks like a great option for the region
- Both varieties grew out of Thrips' damage
- Sicala 320B3XF needed a bit more season to mature over the Sicot 761B3XF

System

Irrigated
Solid 1m

Rainfall

79.3 mm with 23mm
effective
8 irrigations (7.5ML)

Top yield

15.48 ba/ha
Sicala 320B3XF

Trial snapshot

Planting date 10/10/2025

Picking date 25/05/2026

Varieties Sicala 320B3XF and
Sicot 761B3XF

Grower perspective

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We've been trying varieties with XtendFlex® for three years, but this was our second year full XtendFlex®. Love the technology and the options. Our channels are the cleanest they've been in years and we now have options to control fleabane. You know the best thing about it? Our neighbours love it, because it gives them options for fallow weed control and we're seeing a lot less 2,4-D drift.

We're liking the look of the new variety. It had a better fruit load into cut out, although was slightly behind the Sicot 761B3XF in terms of maturity. Looking forward to seeing what the gin reports, but I believe the Sicala 320B3XF will come out on top.



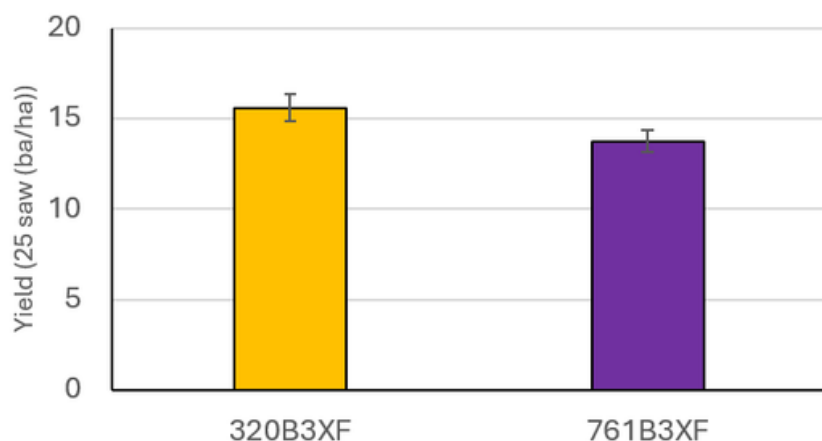
Rob Tuck and Sicot 619B3XF, under lateral at Newhaven

Season & field summary

The trial was planted under good conditions and then came under considerable thrips pressure. Both varieties grew out of it, into a season that delivered little effective in crop rain. Defoliation and picking happened under good conditions.

*Yields presented are from truck weights and 25 saw gin averages.

Trial results



TBYB yield results from 'Newhaven,' Narromine. Results are from picker weights, adjusted for gin weigh bridge and using turn out from CSD 25 saw gin.

Yield & fibre quality comparison

Variety	Yield	Staple length (imp)	Strength (g/tex)	Micronaire	Lint turnout (%)
Sicala 320B3XF	15.48	1.28	34.2	3.8	43.0
Sicot 761B3XF	13.84	1.27	33.9	4.3	42.3

Agronomy insights

The season had some challenges with early thrips pressure, a hot period late January during flowering and little effective in crop rain. Growth of both varieties was kept in check with 20ml of mepiquat at flowering and there were a couple of late season mirid sprays. Defoliation used three passes and the crop was picked under great conditions.

Fit & management considerations

Although waiting for commercial ginning information, the analysis of the picker weights and 25 saw ginning reflects what has been seen elsewhere in the Macquarie this season - Sicala 320B3XF delivers yield and quality in the region*.

The varieties containing XtendFlex® have given Newhaven opportunities to clean channels, control fleabane and opened up fallow control options for their neighbours.