

**Irwin Hunter & Co.**

Western Australia's Leading Seed Distributor

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## “Santorini yellow Serradella, the case for pure seed”

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Enhanced pod being a by product of the de hulling operation is made up of approximately 40% seed and 60% pod by weight.

To cost this comparison out see the example below.



*Enhanced pod:*

At a sowing rate of 8 kgs per ha and a seed cost of \$6.00 per kg, gives a seed cost of \$48.00 per ha.

*Pure Seed:*

At a sowing rate 4 kgs per ha and a seed cost of \$12.00 per kg, this gives a seed cost of \$48.00 per ha.

Whilst the above compares favourably in price it does not take into account the considerable difference in germination between the enhanced pod and pure seed.

For example the germination of seed in the enhanced pod is generally only 20%. If you calculate the germination of 20% of 40% being the weight of seed in pod, this gives you an effective germination of 8% plus hard seed 32%.

This compares with pure seed with an average germination of 70% plus hard seed of 25%, making the total germination 95%.

The key issue is dry matter production which means establishing a good plant population. If you purchased seed based on the above examples your established plant population would reflect the following situation.

Santorini serradella has approximately 450,000 seeds per kg.

<b>Product</b>	<b>Enhanced Pod</b>	<b>Pure Seed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Sowing rate per ha	8 Kgs	4 Kgs	
Seeds sown per ha at 450,000 seeds per kg	1,440,000 seeds (40% of total seeds)	1,800,000 seeds	Calculated by multiplying the seeds per kg by the sowing rate
Effective germination %	8	70	As per calculation shown above
Established plant population per m/sq	11.5	126	Calculated by taking seeds sown times % germination

Not only does pure seed give higher establishment rates for the same dollar spent but the total no of seeds sown increases by 25%.