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■ Holbrook grower Stephen Finlay shows well filled pods without any abortion in the genetically modified, top Canola crop.

Seeds of success

Holbrook farmer Stephen Finlay of 'Teripta' has won the prestigious Albury Show Society's crop competition with a genetically modified (GM) crop of Canola.

Mr Finlay used Nuseed's Roundup Ready variety NGO 157 which will possibly produce the base seed used for next season's GM canola crops.

District Agronomist Janet Walker said the standout feature of Stephen's crop is that it had very good weed control and he had got the nutrition right.

"Stephen's rotation is intensive so it was important to get the nutrition right in terms of sulphur. He put gypsum on before he sowed and applied sulphate of ammonia as a top dressing," she said.

"Stephen managed to put two appli-

cations of roundup to gain very good weed control."

Ms Walker said the crops entered into the competition were of very high standard. Second in the competition was Howlong grower Nick Ennis of Oak Bank with a Ventura wheat crop and Tom Trescowthick of 'Roachdale' Holbrook, was third.

Mr Finlay was delighted with the results as competition came from all around the region.

"In recent years Canola production has not been high yielding for a lot of growers due to the dry seasons however since the lifting of the GM moratorium, new germ plasm has been made available enabling growers to gain high crop yields," he said.