

Oilseed Rape

After harvesting, the moisture content of oilseed rape must be reduced to 8% for long-term storage in bulk. In-bin and floor storage driers are widely used for this purpose. Since resistance to airflow of oilseed rape is more than double that of wheat and barley, drying bed depths of 1.2 to 1.5 m are suitable for seed at 17% mc and shallower depths of 0.6 to 0.9 m at higher moistures.

| Relative humidity of ambient air % | Equivalent moisture content of rape seed % |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 40 | 5.2 |
| 50 | 6.0 |
| 60 | 6.9 |
| 70 | 8.0 |
| 80 | 9.3 |
| 90 | 12.1 |

Airflow rates of up to 0.1 m/s should be used with sufficient heat to reduce the humidity of the ventilating air to 70% during periods of high ambient humidity. The fan should be capable of delivering the required volume at a pressure up to 1.25 kN/m².

| Static Pressure per 300mm Depth of Seed | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Air velocity m/s | Pressure kN/m ² |
| 0.05 | 0.145 |
| 0.1 | 0.350 |
| 0.15 | 0.588 |
| 0.2 | 0.863 |
| 0.25 | 1.15 |
| 0.3 | 1.46 |

| Ambient temp °C | Ambient RH % | kg of water removed in 24 hours by 5m ³ /s (air) | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---|----------------|-----------------|
| | | Ambient | Ambient +2.8°C | Ambient + 5.6°C |
| 10 | 70 | 42.76 | 73.82 | 106.4 |
| 10 | 80 | 24.95 | 56.51 | 88.58 |
| 10 | 90 | 6.62 | 38.69 | 70.76 |
| 15.5 | 70 | 51.42 | 86.55 | 118.11 |
| 15.5 | 80 | 29.02 | 62.11 | 96.73 |
| 15.5 | 90 | 7.13 | 44.8 | 79.42 |

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