

## Eligibility Guide

# Introducing Cargill SustainConnect™

Cargill SustainConnect™ is a new sustainable agriculture program that incentivises practices for improved soil health and positive environmental outcomes. The program connects farmers to the growing carbon marketplace and will help scale the voluntary adoption of sustainable agriculture practices. Growers have told us they are looking for sustainability programs that offer simplicity, transparency and flexibility to suit their specific operation. We've taken this feedback and designed SustainConnect™, to address these needs.








Cargill has partnered with leading carbon measurement business Regrow to make it easy for growers to Measure, Report and Verify (MRV) carbon outcomes using in-paddock data, remote sensing and crop and soil health modelling. The Regrow MRV platform ensures easy enrolment, secure data collection and provides farmers with transparent measurement and verification options.

Eligible canola growers who can implement one (or more) of the interventions described in the [Intervention Guide](#) can access a \$25/ha payment to support the transition to sustainable farming practices. We suggest getting advice from your agronomist when choosing the intervention(s) you intend to implement.

Please contact [sustainconnect@cargill.com](mailto:sustainconnect@cargill.com) if you have any questions about eligibility other aspects of the SustainConnect™ program.

### Key program milestones

October 2023 – March 2024	Before 1 April 2024	1 April 2024 – 31 Mar 2025	Before 31 March 2025	June 2025
 <p>Enrol for the program*</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Select paddocks and an <i>Intervention</i> for your 2024 canola crop,</li> <li>- provide baseline data,</li> <li>- sign the Cargill SustainConnect™ contract</li> </ul>	 <p>Grow your 2024 Canola Crop using the agreed <i>Intervention</i></p>	 <p>Provide final data for your 2024 canola crop</p>	 <p>Regrow will quantify outcomes You receive payment for 2024 crop data.</p>

\*To be eligible to the program the enrolled paddock(s) must have been farmed before Dec 2007; canola must have been grown in the enrolled paddock(s) in the last 5 years (and be growing a canola crop in 2024); and one of the 'Interventions' outlined below must be new to the way canola is grown in the enrolled paddock(s). This guide describes the eligibility criteria and data requirements in more detail to ensure that the new intervention(s) meet 'Causality', 'Additionality', and 'Accuracy' principles of Greenhouse Gas Accounting to genuinely reduce greenhouse emissions.





## Land Use Change

The effects of land-use change (e.g. land clearing, converting from forestry to agriculture) can impact the carbon footprint of crops subsequently grown on that land because the effects of the conversion need to be accounted for in the years following the land-use change.

SustainConnect™ aligns with other sustainability protocols, for the enrolled paddocks to be eligible to participate in SustainConnect™ they must have been used for farming before December 2007.



## Availability of Data

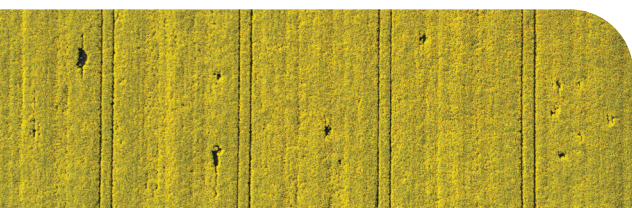
Cargill SustainConnect™ compares the emissions associated with the 2024 canola crop against a baseline canola crop in the same paddock (1-5 years prior) to measure the GHG emissions resulting from change in farming practice (termed an “Intervention”). The program uses actual farm data (at the paddock level) to model GHG emissions and Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) changes.

**Type of Data Required** – Basic paddock and crop data such as paddock boundaries, crop types & yield, planting and harvest dates, tillage dates and depth, and inputs such as fertiliser, water, electricity and fuel are required for each enrolled paddock. Several data points can be imported from AgWorld and John Deere’s Ops Centre’s for participants who use those Farm Management Systems (FMS). We continue working with these and other providers to improve data transfer capability. Regrow also provide a bulk data upload feature for participants with multiple paddocks or farms.



**Evidence** – To minimise the administrative burden, participants in the program are not required to attach supporting evidence but must be able to provide evidence to support the data they have entered. Some aspects of farming practices and the data provided will be verified remotely and an independent certification body will contact a sample of participants to verify the data provided to Certify the Cargill SustainConnect™ program.

**How many years data?** For accurate comparison and modelling, canola must have been grown in the enrolled paddock(s) in the past 5 years. Participating growers will need to have access to a minimum of 3 years’ data for the enrolled paddock(s), or up to 5 consecutive years if canola was not grown in the paddock in the last 3 years.







**Reporting Year** – The reporting year for the Cargill SustainConnect™ program is from 1 April – 31 March annually. 1st April was selected as a start date because it enables growers to enter data during a relatively ‘quieter’ time of the year and is close enough to planting to have reasonable confidence in the paddocks that will be planted in canola for the coming season.

**Data Ownership and Security** – Participating growers continue to own all the data they provide through the Regrow MRV and/or directly to Cargill. The data provided is stored and used in accordance with the Cargill SustainConnect™ 2024 Agreement which is consistent with the [Australian Farm Data Code](#) developed by the National Farmer’s Federation. Specifically:

- The data provided will only be used by the SustainConnect program to verify the resulting environmental improvements and may be used to prove environmental improvement to customers and independent auditors of the program.
- Data will only ever be shared at an aggregated level so that it is not possible to identify individual growers.
- Both Cargill and Regrow have data privacy and security provisions in place to protect grower’s privacy and the security of all data provided.
- More information on data privacy and security can be found in the Cargill SustainConnect™ 2024 Agreement.



## 2024 Canola Crop

**2024 Canola Crop** – Paddocks enrolled for the SustainConnect™ program can be planted with either commodity or Cargill’s VICTORY® branded high oleic canola (HOCAN) varieties.

**Selling Canola** – Participants in the SustainConnect™ program will still be able to sell oilseed to any buyer as they have in previous years. Greenhouse gas accounting protocols enable Cargill to adopt a catchment mass balance approach so the resulting environmental improvements can still be attributed to the SustainConnect™ program even if Cargill does not buy the resulting canola - enabling growers to get the best price available to them at the time they choose to sell. If you grow canola as part of the VICTORY® Canola program the conditions of that contract will still apply.

**Ability to implement a new intervention** – Growers must be able to implement one (or more) of the interventions listed below to be eligible to participate in the SustainConnect™ program. The selected intervention(s) must not have been implemented in the canola crops grown in the enrolled paddock(s) during the baseline period. This will ensure that the new intervention(s) meet ‘Causality’ and ‘Additionality’ requirements and genuinely reduce greenhouse emissions. Once the baseline practices are established, growers are not required to implement new interventions in future years. The [Intervention Guide](#) describes the specific requirement of each intervention in detail.



**No Till**



**Reduced Till**



**Cover Crops**



**Incorporate Legumes**



**Stubble Retention**



**Organic N Substitution**



**Variable/Reduced Rate**



**Split Application**

