AHDB Recommended Lists

for cereals and oilseeds 2026/27

Produced in partnership with: bspb PROMOTING SEED INNOVATION, magb, UK FLOUR MILLERS

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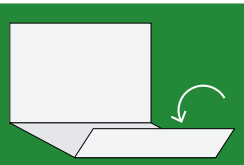
Use the fold-out flap at the back of the booklet to access the key for use with the tables.



Fungicide performance

The efficacy of fungicides against foliar diseases of wheat, barley and oilseed rape

Access the latest data
ahdb.org.uk/fungicide-performance

Produced for you by AHDB
ahdb.org.uk

About the RL

The first recommended list was published in 1944 by Niab. It featured a limited number of winter wheat varieties and had no yield data. Today, the Recommended Lists for cereals and oilseeds (RL) incorporates 11 crops and provides information on yield, quality, disease resistance and agronomic traits in recommended and descriptive lists.

RL purpose

The purpose of the RL is to provide an industry-wide perspective of the most appropriate varieties for different users in an impartial, timely and cost-effective way.

RL consortium

The RL is run in partnership with a consortium of the British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB), the Maltsters' Association of Great Britain (MAGB), UK Flour Millers (UKFM) and AHDB. Consortium members contribute cash and in kind to the project. The consortium is governed by a legal agreement.

RL project board

The RL project board ensures the proper management of the RL project. Consortium members nominate individuals to sit on the RL project board. The Agricultural Industries Confederation (AIC) also nominates an individual.

RL crop committees

The RL project board delegates technical decisions to three crop committees, which cover wheat, barley, oats and other cereals, and oilseeds. The committees represent the whole supply chain to ensure that listed varieties meet the needs of the varied users. Members include farmers, agronomists, processors (such as millers and maltsters), BSPB representatives, pathologists and grain traders. AHDB staff are not members.

Each committee is chaired by a farmer or an agronomist. Farmer and agronomist members, along with some technical experts, are appointed by AHDB after a competitive recruitment process. Other committee members are appointed by the organisations they represent.

Recommendation process

The RL crop committees meet three times a year: in spring (to agree changes to the recommendation and trial processes), in summer (to select varieties to be added to the RL trials) and in autumn (to select varieties to add to or remove from the lists). Decisions made by the crop committees must be ratified by the RL project board.

New recommended varieties

Figure 1 shows the criteria for recommendation and re-sowing.

Yield is compared against the highest-yielding listed varieties. 'Comparator' varieties are used to assess pest, disease and quality traits – these are recommended varieties with strong agronomic and/or quality characteristics.

New varieties must show a positive 'balance of features' (compared with varieties on the lists) to be added to the trials and be recommended. This could include advantages in yield, pest or disease resistance, agronomic characteristics or quality characteristics (or a combination).

Characteristics are assigned different levels of importance. For example, resistance to septoria tritici has a higher level of importance than resistance to mildew.

The characteristics and their importance are determined by the RL crop committees and defined in the RL crop committee handbook: **ahdb.org.uk/rl-protocols**

Reviewing and removing recommended varieties

Typically, recommended cereal varieties are removed from RL trials when their market share falls below 2% (based on certified seed production) and from the list the following year. However, varieties with low market share may remain on the list if they have an important market niche or are the sole representative of recommendation for a specific use.

Oilseed rape varieties have rapid turnover and are removed from trials and, subsequently, the list after two years, unless they are still widely grown.

Any variety can be called for review by the crop committees, if an issue is identified. Any variety withdrawn by the breeder is removed immediately.

Varieties removed from the latest RL are detailed in the table footnote (see 'Varieties no longer listed').

New described varieties

A new described variety is added to the lists if the breeder enters it into the RL trial system. There are no yield or agronomic targets for described varieties.

Removing described varieties

Described varieties are removed when seed is no longer available or the breeder or UK contact withdraws the variety.

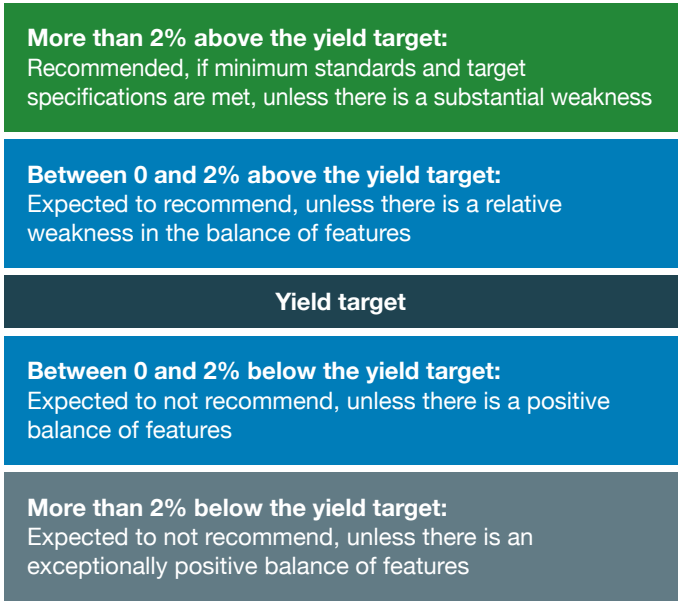


Figure 1. Criteria for recommendation and re-sowing

Using the RL

Reading the RL tables

For each crop (recommended and described), variety characteristic data is presented in a table.

Data is also available on RL interactive, the RL app, RL variety selection tools and the AHDB website (online PDF and Excel tables).

For more information on variety comments and varieties grown in trials but not added to the RL, visit ahdb.org.uk/rl

Type of list

Recommended lists

AHDB RECOMMENDED

Recommended lists present data from many trials. Recommended varieties are considered to have the potential to provide a consistent economic benefit to the UK industry.

Descriptive lists

AHDB DESCRIBED

Descriptive lists show trial data for spring oilseed rape, spring linseed, winter triticale and winter rye. The data is for varieties for which seed is likely to be available. Data on described varieties is more limited and care should be taken when interpreting differences between varieties. A place on the descriptive list does not constitute a recommendation.

A Described varieties for the major crops

These varieties are usually for niche markets. Although recommendation is not appropriate, there is demand for descriptive data within the RL system. These varieties are displayed to the right of the main RL tables (in a straw colour).

Candidate lists

AHDB CANDIDATE

Current candidate varieties are published, along with their UK contacts, after each main table in this booklet. Candidate varieties are usually in their first or second year of RL trials, having completed at least two years of GB and NI Variety Lists (VL) trials. If data is sufficient, they are considered for recommendation in the autumn.

Once candidate varieties have been added to the VL, yield and agronomic data is published in the candidate lists on the AHDB website and on the RL app.

B Variety scope and status

This information mainly features in the top rows of each table.

Most tables group varieties by market or variety type.

Scope of recommendation

This may refer to a UK or regional recommendation, or a specific recommendation for an end use or agronomic feature of interest to a limited number of growers. Specific recommendations are noted by 'Sp' in the tables, with an explanation in the footnote.

Variety status

NEW highlights new varieties to the current lists.

'*' indicates that the variety is no longer under test in trials (these varieties usually remain on the list for a further year).

'C' denotes control varieties – established varieties are selected as controls (control varieties that are no longer listed are cited in the table footnote).

C Status in the RL system

The bottom rows indicate the year first listed and show whether the variety is in the first (P1) or second (P2) year of listing.

Winter oilseed rape 2026/27

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Dorpleur	LG Adapt	Turing	Bachus	Powerhouse	Resort	Average LSD (5%)
	Hybrid			Conventional open-pollinated		Described	
B Variety type	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Conv	Conv	Hybrid	
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	E/W	UK	N	UK HEAR	
Variety status	NEW		*C	NEW			
Gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% treated control)							
United Kingdom (5.4 t/ha)	107	106	*103*	98	*96*	85	3.8
East/West region (5.3 t/ha)	107	106	103	97	*96*	85	4.2
North region (5.9 t/ha)	108	105	*102*	99	98	82	4.4
Untreated yield (% untreated control) – UK							
Gross output (5.3 t/ha)	-	[105]	100	-	[98]	84	5.6
Disease resistance							
Light leaf spot (1–9)	8	7	7	6	7	5	0.6
Agronomic features							
Resistance to lodging (1–9)	7.9	[7.9]	8.0	8.0	[8.0]	8.0	0.1
Seed quality (at 9% moisture)							
Oil content, fungicide-treated (%)	46.3	47.0	45.0	45.7	44.1	46.3	0.3
Breeder/UK contact							
Breeder	DSV	LimE	NPZ	CBI	Els	NPZ	
UK contact	DSV	Lim	NPZU	FA	Els	NPZU	
C Status in RL system							
Year first listed	26	25	23	26	25	20	
RL status	P1	P2	*	P1	P2	-	

Figure 2. Sample RL table

Variety data

The tables provide full details of yield, disease resistance, agronomic features, main market options and quality for each listed variety.

For some crops, supplementary data is available. For example, this may cover annual yield and yield on different soil types and rotational positions.

Yields

Yields are calculated as a percentage of the controls, with the average yield of the controls set to 100%.

For example, if the average yield of the control varieties is 10.2 t/ha, a variety that yields 10.4 t/ha will be shown as having a yield of 102%. The average yield of the control varieties is noted next to each yield character on the table.

Varieties are presented in UK fungicide-treated yield order within their market or variety group (highest on the left). For many crops, fungicide-untreated yield data is also available.

Ratings

Some characteristics are rated on a 1–9 scale, where a higher figure indicates that a variety shows the characteristic to a higher degree, such as higher resistance. Further explanation is given for some characteristics in the 'RL trialling and testing system' section of this booklet.

Data interrogation

Although some data is presented to 0 decimal places in the booklet, the data can be viewed to 1 decimal place in the online tables, but users should be cautious of overinterpreting small differences between varieties.

Not all fungicide-treated and fungicide-untreated trials are located together. This means a direct calculation from UK fungicide-treated yield to UK fungicide-untreated yield to get a treatment benefit value is not recommended.

The online variety selection tools and RL interactive can be used to further navigate RL data, make comparisons and identify the most promising varieties for your unique situation.

To access tools and personalise RL results, visit ahdb.org.uk/tools

(D) Statistical significance (LSD)

Natural variability within and between trials means that relatively small differences between varieties may be due to chance.

For most numerical characteristics, an average LSD (least significant difference) is published in the final table column.

Differences between variety means that are larger than the LSD are likely to reflect genuine differences, as they would only occur by chance fewer than 1 in 20 times (5%).

Differences smaller than the LSD are more likely to occur by chance and should be treated with caution.

Bracketed data

Data inside brackets [ ] or double brackets [[ ]] is from a limited and a very limited number of trials respectively. Treat such data with more caution than unbracketed figures.

Missing data

A dash (-) indicates missing data. Data may be missing because the variety was not tested for the trait or because there is insufficient data to produce a reliable rating or measure.

Additional information

The meaning of the symbols used to note crop- or variety-specific information is explained in the fold-out key at the back of this booklet.

Further information about the varieties can be obtained from the variety breeder and/or UK contact. Contact details are on page 51.

Variety comments

Variety comments provide a useful summary of information about yield, quality, agronomic features and main market options. Use the variety-specific comments (alongside the main RL tables) to identify promising varieties for your farm, visit **ahdb.org.uk/rl**

Parentage

Parentage information indicates the genetics that a variety may have inherited (not what it has inherited).

This information (where known) is in the RL app, variety selection tools and variety comments available at **ahdb.org.uk/rl**

For further information on the recommendation process, including the basis on which varieties are recommended and individual trial results, visit ahdb.org.uk/rl

RL trialling and testing system

Data sources

RL data is from several sources. Data on yields and agronomic characteristics is from trials conducted for GB and NI Variety Lists (VL) and RL purposes.

VL trials are managed by the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) and VL data is the property of the breeders of the varieties. VL data is provided to the RL project as an in-kind contribution.

Samples from VL and RL trials are used for malting, baking and distilling quality tests. The tests are done by laboratories and end users – MAGB, UKFM and the Scotch Whisky Research Institute (SWRI).

MAGB, UKFM and SWRI decide which varieties are suitable for their uses.

Data quality

VL and RL trials are replicated, randomised small-plot trials, conducted by third-party companies.

All VL and RL trials are inspected by AHDB trial inspectors to ensure they are fit for purpose. Raw data from trial operators is received by AHDB, checked for errors or anomalies and validated by our technical experts before being included in the RL data set.

Where a trial is damaged, by waterlogging, for instance, some plots may be excluded from the data set. A whole trial may be rejected when impacts are severe. A trial rejected for yield may still provide useful information and may be used in other AHDB analyses.

Trial locations

Most trials are hosted on commercial farms. Generally, the spread of the trials reflects the national distribution of commercial crops. However, the North region has extra trials to provide sufficient data to create recommendations for this region.

Within a region, trials may be sited on specific representative soil types, such as wold soils in East Yorkshire.

Further information on regions and trial locations is provided in this booklet and online: **ahdb.org.uk/harvest-results**

Disease trials

Specific trials are conducted to help calculate disease ratings. Located in areas with traditionally high disease pressure, these trials may be inoculated or rely on natural infection. Disease data is also taken from fungicide-untreated yield trials and disease observation plots.

Lodging trials

Dedicated trials are used to test the straw strength of cereal varieties. Located across the country, these trials receive no plant growth regulators (PGRs) and may have additional nitrogen applied to encourage lodging. They are not taken to yield. Lodging data from yield trials (when it occurs) can be included in the lodging rating calculations.

Trial management

Cultivations

Trial cultivations follow the practice of the host farm. Trials in the North and in Scotland tend to be ploughed, while trials towards the South are established after a range of reduced cultivations or plough. Some oilseed rape trials are direct drilled. Information on the tillage system used for each trial site is published on the RL harvest results page: **ahdb.org.uk/harvest-results**

Drilling

Trials are drilled as close to commercial timings as possible and within a couple of days of the host farm crop. Trials use commercial seed rates adjusted to hit specified spring plant populations (hybrid winter rye and hybrid winter barley varieties are drilled at 70% of conventional varieties). Target plant populations for cereals are higher in Scotland and may be adjusted locally based on conditions at drilling. To see the AHDB growth guides, visit **ahdb.org.uk/growth-guides**

Inputs

Crop nutrition

RB209 guidance (**ahdb.org.uk/rb209**) is followed, with the aim to ensure that yield is not limited by lack of nutrition. Rates for some trials are adjusted to meet specific quality targets, such as bread milling in wheat and malting quality in barley. Samples from these trials may be used for end-user quality testing.

Herbicides and insecticides

Herbicides and insecticides are applied as required to control weeds and pests. Commercially available products and rates are used following best local practice.

Fungicides

The RL fungicide programmes aim to minimise the impact of all diseases and ensure that no variety is disadvantaged.

Commercially available products are used at or below label rates at conventional timings. Where disease exceeds 10%, fungicide-treated yield trials may be excluded if the fungicide protocol has not been followed.

Plant growth regulators (PGRs)

PGRs are applied to some trials to reduce the chances of lodging. Commercially available products and rates are used at conventional timings.

Protocols

The protocols, including RL fungicide programmes, are developed by panels of industry experts for the RL and VL systems. This is so that, wherever possible, the systems are aligned. Find out why we use robust fungicide programmes in the RL: **ahdb.org.uk/rl-fungicides**

Actives and products that are being withdrawn or are in a use-up period are not used.

For more details on trial protocols, please see ahdb.org.uk/rl-protocols

Standing power

Lodging

Lodging is a permanent displacement of a stem or stems from vertical posture by more than 45 degrees. Lodged stems may initially lean (less than 45 degrees).

Lodging scores are calculated for varieties grown with or without PGR application. Lodging scores are relative to other varieties in trial, so scores with and without PGR are not directly comparable. For example, a rating of 6 with PGR is not the same as a rating of 6 without PGR.

Lodging ratings are also not comparable across crops. For example, a winter oat variety with a rating of 6 will lodge more than a wheat variety with a rating of 6. Lodging data is also given as a percentage. Percentage data should be treated with caution, as a low percentage lodging may result from several years without lodging conditions.

Lodging in winter oilseed rape is assessed at or around the time of flowering.

Stem stiffness (winter oilseed rape)

Stem stiffness is the assessment of lodging at maturity and close to harvest.

Brackling (barley)

Brackling is folding or breaking of the stem that occurs higher up the plant than in stem lodging (which occurs close to or below the ground).

Assessments are carried out on winter and spring barley at harvest. A high number on the 1–9 scale, or a low percentage, indicates high resistance to brackling.

Maturity

Ripening (cereals)

Ripening is a loose term to describe changes that occur in the grain between completion of growth and maturity. It is expressed as days earlier or later than a standard variety. Varieties with a negative number are earlier to mature than the standard variety. The numbers are from RL trial data. Differences can be far greater on farm.

Earliness of maturity (oilseeds)

Maturity is based on the degree of canopy senescence. Earliness of maturity is scored on a 1–9 scale, where 1 is late and 9 is early. It is recorded just prior to swathing or desiccation.

Earliness of flowering (oilseeds)

An oilseed rape crop is considered in full flower when 50% of the flowers on the main raceme are open. In spring linseed, this is when the earliest variety is in full flower. Earliness of flowering is scored on a relative scale of 1–9, where 1 represents the latest-flowering varieties and 9 represents the earliest-flowering varieties.

Sprouting (wheat)

Sprouting resistance is based on specially irrigated test plots, which are used to simulate wet harvest conditions. Sprouting is scored on a 1–9 scale, where 1 is low resistance and 9 is high resistance. Data is limited, so in the absence of a score, the Hagberg Falling Number (HFN) may provide some guidance – a variety with a low HFN may be prone to sprouting.

Pest and disease

Basis of resistance

Varietal resistance to pests and diseases forms the foundation of integrated pest management (IPM).

There are two general types of resistance, based on minor and major genes. Individually, minor genes give a low level of resistance but can be combined to give moderate to high resistance. This type of resistance is usually durable. Alone, major genes can give a high level of resistance but may be overcome by specific pathogen strains relatively soon after a variety is released.

Important exceptions are the strong *mlo* resistance to mildew in spring barley and the moderate resistance to eyespot from *Pch1* in wheat, which have been durable for many years.

The durability of new sources of resistance can be difficult to predict. Therefore, in-season monitoring of all varieties is important. A new major gene may be more durable when it is combined with a background of minor genes.

As pathogen populations change, previously overcome genes may become effective again, so varietal disease ratings can go up as well as down.

Resistance vs tolerance

Varieties may be described as resistant or tolerant to a plant virus. A resistant variety will show few or no symptoms, with no significant yield loss and no, or very limited, viral replication. Although a tolerant variety may show substantial symptoms, it does not suffer significant yield loss as a result, but viral replication will occur.

Disease resistance ratings

Scores for disease resistance are based on a combination of natural infection and inoculated trials conducted over several years. Information is only used where relatively high levels of disease are present. This helps prevent low disease pressure being mistaken for resistance.

Varieties with ratings of 4 or less can be interpreted as susceptible, and varieties with ratings of 8 or 9 as having high levels of resistance. However, the ratings do not indicate the durability of the resistance.

The disease rating scales are not linear (except for eyespot). A difference of 1 on the scale reflects a larger difference in disease susceptibility at low ratings than at high ratings.

Disease resistance ratings should be used alongside the treated and untreated yield data (and local disease pressure information) to estimate the potential yield loss associated with reducing fungicide inputs.

For more information, see the crop-specific overview pages.

RL review

Nearly 1,000 people provided views during the most recent major review of the RL in 2022/23. The review confirmed that the project's core activities remain aligned with industry needs and identified areas of potential improvement.

The previous edition of the RL booklet (2025/26) outlined the initial steps taken in response to the review. Work to improve the RL further continued in 2025, which included commissioning two new projects that aim to deliver variety data for reduced input systems.

Winter wheat variety blends

Interest in cereal variety blends (mixtures) has increased in the UK. Blends can potentially deliver a range of benefits (compared with a single variety), such as:

- Increased yield and yield stability (across years and locations)
- Reduced disease severity
- Prolonged durability of disease resistance genes

In autumn 2025, AHDB commissioned a new three-year project to assess the performance of winter milling wheat varieties (UKFM Groups 1 and 2) in blends.

The project, which is led by Harper Adams University and Cope Seeds (UK) Limited, will run blend trials in Shropshire and Essex. There will be two trials in each region per year. One trial will follow a full fungicide programme (in line with RL protocols), the other will not receive fungicides (untreated).

The trials will test variety blends in two, three and four-way mixes, alongside the individual component varieties.

One blend will be selected by milling experts as a 'miller's choice' to reflect industry priorities. Blend composition will also be guided by the AHDB variety blend tool for winter wheat. The blends will consider parental diversity, along with more practical traits, such as crop ripening and height.

Disease control, yield and key growth stages will be assessed. Grain quality will be evaluated for milling and baking quality, with in-kind testing supplied by Whitworth Bros. Grain samples will also be analysed for fusarium mycotoxins and ergot contamination.

The work is supported by DSV (the company will provide access to a genomic model to help predict grain quality) and Wildfarmed (the company will host events and provide a consultancy service).

Findings will be shared throughout the project, including at dedicated trial demonstrations, which will show progress and promote discussion on the use of variety blends in the UK.

Varieties for weed suppression

The RL review also highlighted an appetite from levy payers for more information about the competitiveness of cereals against weeds. Such information is valuable because it can potentially be used to identify varieties for high grass-weed-pressure situations or facilitate the adoption of lower-input approaches.

There have been numerous projects related to this topic over the years, several funded by AHDB. Some crop species are now known to be more competitive than others (e.g. barley is more competitive than wheat against black-grass). Although research has started to identify traits that make varieties competitive against black-grass, results have not been conclusive.

In autumn 2025, AHDB joined forces with ADAS, Cope Seeds (UK) Limited, the Organic Research Centre (ORC) and UK Grain Lab on a new three-year project.

The work will provide information on crop physiological traits associated with weed suppression in winter wheat varieties grown in low-input and organic systems. The research will build on established on-farm trial networks to deliver the most commercially relevant data.

Winter wheat vigour

In addition to the weed suppression project, traits related to crop vigour are being measured in a small subset of RL winter wheat trials.

The results in the first year (2024/25 season) show small but consistent differences between varieties in RL sites in South Wales, England (Suffolk) and Scotland.

Measurements will continue for the 2025/26 season. If robust and reliable information on crop vigour can be generated in trials, then the RL project board will consider the potential to measure vigour traits routinely as part of the RL.

RL interactive

In 2025, we launched RL interactive. Based on the familiar RL tables, the online tool makes it even easier to identify the best varieties of cereals and oilseed rape for specific situations.

RL interactive allows users to:

- Select varieties for specific end-use markets
- Specify the minimum requirements for fungicide-treated yield
- Identify varieties with resistance to specific pests, diseases and lodging
- Find varieties based on ripening and quality data

The tool also allows a side-by-side comparison of varieties and the export of results, which can be analysed further in a spreadsheet and printed.

RL interactive joins an expanding line-up of digital tools in the RL portfolio, which also includes the RL variety selection tools and the RL app, to explore the data go to **ahdb.org.uk/rl-interactive**

For more information on AHDB variety research projects, visit ahdb.org.uk/variety-research

Understanding the RL

Levy payers asked for more information about the variety trials, including how they operate and how recommendation decisions are made.

During 2024/25, the winter wheat on trial initiative provided a behind-the-scenes look at a single winter wheat trial site (in Norfolk) to bring the RL procedures to life.

The initiative explored:

- How varieties are selected for drilling
- How trials are designed and established
- How agronomy, assessments and harvest are managed
- How trial data underpins recommendation decisions

You can catch up on the journey via the dedicated web page: **ahdb.org.uk/rl-trials**

A new series of major summer events also brought the RL closer to levy payers in 2025. In addition to working closely with key organisations to showcase varieties at established summer events and major shows, the RL team also opened the gates at some of our variety trial sites.

Further variety open days will take place during 2026.

Join us to:

- Participate in plot tours
- Learn about candidate and recommended varieties
- Discover how AHDB is working for your farm business
- Pick up practical information and resources

For more information on our variety trial open days, see **ahdb.org.uk/variety-open-days**

RL review: You said, we did

You asked us:

To provide information on lower inputs.

We delivered:

New research on winter wheat varietal blends and crop physiology traits for weed competitiveness. This is in addition to the two low-input variety scoping reviews in 2024, which are underpinning discussions across the variety-trialling pipeline.

You asked us:

For information on additional physiological attributes, with cereal vigour (autumn and spring) frequently cited.

We delivered:

We are investigating how to robustly measure vigour in a small subset of winter wheat trials, with promising results in the initial season (2024/25). Work will continue during the 2025/26 season.

You asked us:

To look beyond fungicide-treated yields and increase the importance of pest and disease resistance.

We delivered:

A new approach to variety recommendation, with tighter criteria for recommending varieties and increased importance of fungicide-untreated yield.

You asked us:

To provide more information about the variety trials, including how they operate and how we make recommendation decisions.

We delivered:

The winter wheat on trial initiative, which brought the RL procedures to life from one of our winter wheat harvest 2025 trial sites. We also invested in a new series of variety open days.

You asked us:

To improve the accessibility and personalisation of RL data.

We delivered:

A new RL interactive tool that allows you to select, personalise and download bespoke RL tables.

You asked us:

To provide relevant in-season information on disease resistance.

We delivered:

Following changes in yellow rust resistance in numerous varieties in 2025, we released timely updates throughout the season and published the RL 2026/27 yellow rust disease resistance ratings early (in late July) to aid variety selections (see page 12).

To find out more, go to ahdb.org.uk/rl-review

Join the Recommended Lists team

Industry views are vital to ensure that the RL delivers varieties that farmers want to grow.

AHDB appoints farmers and agronomists to the RL crop committees to be the voice of the farmer.

We need people who are passionate about variety development and the future of cutting-edge crop variety trials.

Farmer and agronomist crop committee members, along with grain traders and pathologists, are appointed after interview and can serve up to two consecutive three-year terms.

What does it involve?

The RL crop committees:

- Agree on agronomic and quality definitions for varietal recommendation
- Select candidate varieties for trial
- Propose new varieties to add to the RL

Committee members meet three times a year – generally, May/June, August/September and November.

Successful candidates receive support and reasonable allowances to cover costs during their three-year term(s).

Vacancies are advertised in winter on the AHDB website:
ahdb.org.uk/rl-board-and-committees

Wheat overview

Yield

Fungicide-treated yields

Fungicide-treated yields are calculated from trials that receive the full RL fungicide and PGR programme. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Fungicide-untreated yields

Fungicide-untreated yields (referred to as 'untreated grain yield' in the tables) are calculated from trials that do not receive fungicides. They do receive PGRs. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Yield in early-sown trials (winter wheat)

Yields are calculated from a specific set of trials sown (with reduced seed rates) before 15 September, combined with main series trials sown before 25 September.

The early-sown series trials are mostly located in northern England and Scotland, where early sowing is still relatively common (due to lower black-grass pressure). The trials receive the full RL fungicide and PGR programme. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Data from the early-sown series can be viewed in the RL harvest results online and are included in the 'Early sown (before 25 Sep)' table row, but not the main yield data set.

Yield in late-sown trials (winter wheat)

Yields are calculated from a specific set of trials sown (with increased seed rates) after 1 November and before 1 February (usually after a root crop).

The trials receive the full RL fungicide and PGR programme. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Data is included in the main yield data set. Yields in early and late-sown trials should not be compared directly with the main data set (as trials are in different areas).

Yield on different soil types (winter wheat)

Trials are located on soil types that are representative of the region. Soils in RL trials are classified using the system in RB209 (**ahdb.org.uk/rb209**), with about half of the trials located on medium-textured soils.

Regional yields (winter wheat)

Regional yields are based on fewer trials and should be treated more cautiously. Using percentage of controls data to compare varieties across regions is not valid due to differences in the yield of the control varieties in different regions.

Regions are based on variety performance, which is why they do not follow national borders. Varieties in trials within the same region are likely to perform more similarly than in trials in different regions. However, divisions between regions are not absolute and growers are advised to consider which region is most appropriate for their conditions (Figure 3).

Spring wheat has a smaller growing area with fewer trials. They are considered as one UK region as there are insufficient trials to calculate reliable regional yields.

Agronomic traits

Breeder's claims

Some characteristics are presented as a 'breeder's claim'.

Accepted claims are associated with clear genetic markers that allow breeders to verify if a variety has inherited the trait.

For wheat, claims are:

- Orange wheat blossom midge resistance
- *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV) resistance
- *Pch1* eyespot resistance

Such claims are not verified in RL tests. For information on these claims, contact the breeder or UK contact.

For technical commentary on each recommended and described variety, visit ahdb.org.uk/rl

Latest safe-sowing date (winter wheat)

Wheat sown after the latest safe-sowing date may fail to vernalise, flower and produce grain. Heading information is obtained from sequential sowings in the spring in specialist vernalisation trials. If considering sowing after the latest safe-sowing date, contact the breeder or UK contact first.

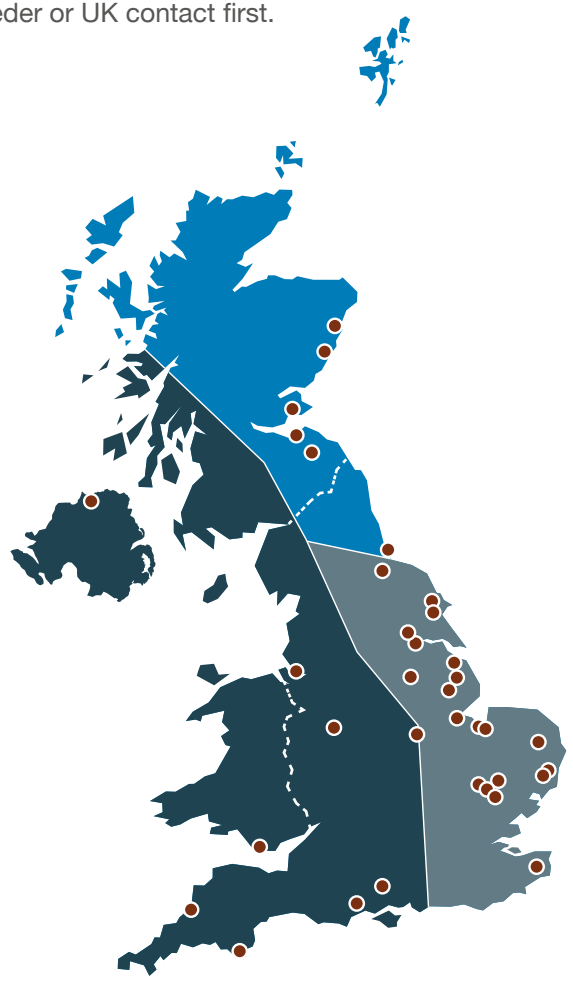


Figure 3. Regions used for calculation of winter wheat regional yields and the locations of harvest 2025 RL winter wheat fungicide-treated trials

Yellow rust disease data

Unusual disease levels in 2025

There were initial signs of a major change in the wheat yellow rust population in March 2025. Several varieties classified as resistant to yellow rust at the young plant stage developed significant symptoms at an RL trial site in north-east England.

Diseased leaf samples were sent to the UK Cereal Pathogen Virulence Survey (UKCPVS) for testing by Niab. This work, which included genetic testing funded by Niab, quickly confirmed that an important resistance gene, called *Yr15*, had been overcome by a new strain of yellow rust.

Further testing, by the Global Rust Reference Centre (GRRC) in Denmark and at the John Innes Centre (JIC) in Norwich, indicated that the new strain developed due to a genetic mutation within the current European yellow rust pathogen population.

The unusual symptoms quickly spread and were observed in trials across the east of England and up into Scotland. Unusual disease levels continued to be detected beyond stem extension, indicating that adult plant resistance had also been compromised in some varieties. This was unsurprising, as the *Yr15* resistance gene was associated with broad-spectrum resistance at both the young and adult plant stages.

Not all impacted varieties were affected to the same degree, because of the presence of other resistance genes, which vary from variety to variety.

Standard ratings approach

Adult plant resistance provides protection from around stem extension onwards (timing is variety specific). The RL yellow rust disease ratings (1–9 scale) are based on this type of resistance.

Usually, adult plant ratings for yellow rust (and brown rust) are produced from a combined three-year data set from both naturally infected and artificially inoculated trials. The inoculated trials use a mixture of yellow rust strains collected in previous seasons.

Initially, separate ratings are produced for naturally infected and inoculated trials. Both data sets are weighted by year to ensure that the current season has the greatest impact on the overall rating. This helps the ratings account for changes in rust populations, which are relatively dynamic compared with other cereal pathogens.

The weightings use a 1:2:3 approach, where the weightings of 1, 2 and 3 apply to data from two years ago, one year ago and the current season, respectively.

The separate natural and inoculated ratings are subsequently combined to produce the 1 to 9 ratings published in the RL. There is a greater weighting on the inoculated data set in the combined data (1:3 weighting for natural: inoculated data).

RL 2026/27 ratings approach

With the strong shift in the 2025 pathogen population, we prioritised the analysis of yellow rust disease data to release new resistance ratings in July 2025.

Due to the breakdown in varietal resistance, the RL 2026/27 rating calculations only use data collected in 2025, with natural and inoculated data weighted equally. This helps the ratings better reflect results seen in RL trials in 2025, while still incorporating results with older strains of yellow rust which continued to dominate in trials in the south of England and South Wales in 2025.

Young plant resistance

Unlike adult plant resistance, young plant resistance to yellow rust is effective at all growth stages. Some varieties are susceptible at the young plant stage but develop some level of adult plant resistance.

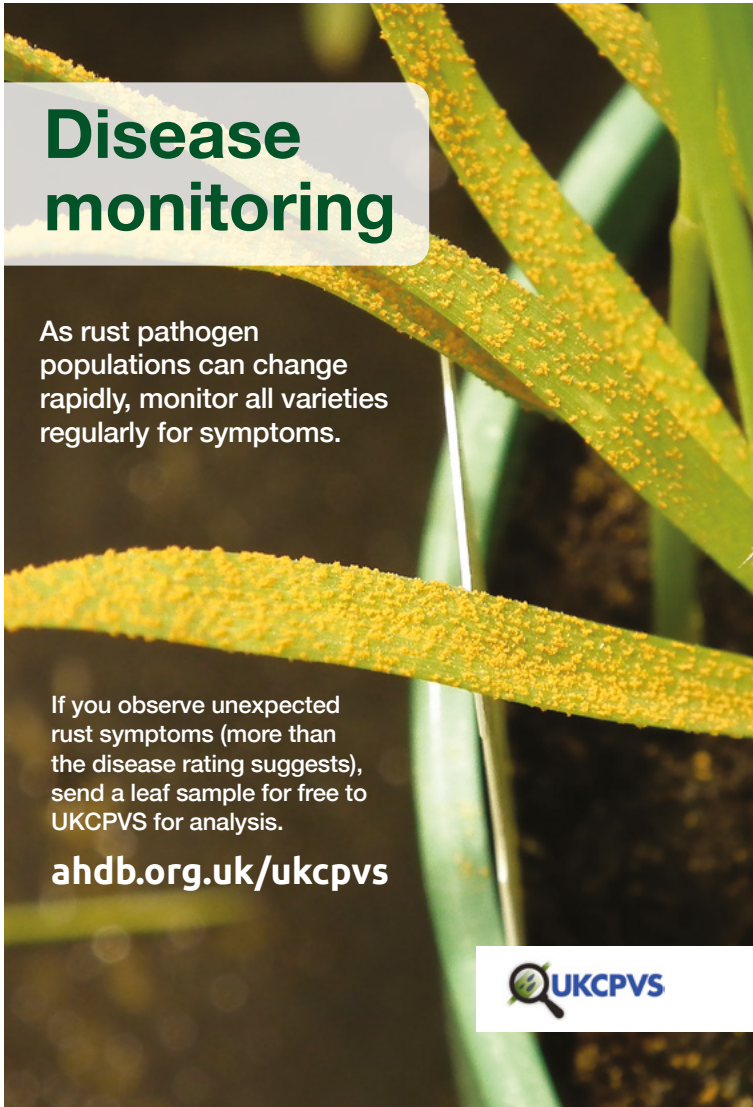
Varieties susceptible at the young plant stage may need yellow rust treatment during the T0–T2 fungicide period, even if they have a high level of adult plant resistance (ratings 8 or 9).

Since RL 2023/24, the young plant resistance (r) or susceptibility (s) status has been presented alongside the adult plant resistance ratings.

Young plant resistance is mainly determined by UKCPVS growth room infection tests. In RL 2026/27, the tests were based on 21 yellow rust strains (isolates) collected in the 2025 season. A variety is classified as susceptible if it is infected by any strain in the last three years. Additionally, RL yellow rust disease data from before stem extension and UKCPVS spring-sown winter wheat variety trial results are used to set the resistance status.

The *Yr15* resistance gene provided an important line of defence against yellow rust. Very few varieties in RL 2026/27 have been classified as resistant to the disease at the young plant stage.

If you observe unexpected rust symptoms (more than the disease rating suggests), send a leaf sample for free to UKCPVS for analysis: **ahdb.org.uk/ukcpvs**



Ergot management

Concerns about ergot have increased in recent years with increased incidences in crops. The AHDB contaminants monitoring project shows that ergot alkaloid levels in UK cereals are generally very low, but spikes are seen in some years and consequential rejections by millers and maltsters at intake are costly for growers. Presence of ergot is not measured in RL trials but higher risk is associated with varieties that are open-flowering, flower for longer or produce more late tillers, though varietal specific information is limited. There are, however, management actions that can be taken to reduce risk.

Ergot is a fungal pathogen (*Claviceps purpurea*) that can infect major UK cereals during flowering. It causes hard, dark ergots to develop in place of grain. Ergots produce mycotoxins that are highly toxic when ingested by humans and livestock.

GB has contractual limits for ergot by weight for feed grain and zero tolerance for all other grain. In 2022, the EU implemented stricter levels for specific cereals and cereal products traded in the EU (including Northern Ireland), which introduced maximum levels (MLs) for ergot alkaloids for the first time. Adoption into UK law is being considered. As alkaloids can be detected in grain with no visible ergot symptoms, they provide a tougher test for grain quality.

Chaired by UKFM, the Ergot Working Group brings together stakeholders from across the arable supply chain and researchers to develop research proposals and identify solutions to tackle ergot. In 2024, the group supported an AHDB-funded review that updated the ergot management guidance for farmers to help tackle ergot at source.

For more information about ergot, including all potential interventions and the full review (Research Review 102), visit ahdb.org.uk/ergot

The review identified four key management strategies that tackle specific points in the ergot life cycle, the higher-impact interventions are summarised below.

1. Reduce initial inoculum

Reduce the amount of ergot and its viability to limit the production of primary spores.

Use strategic cultivations to bury ergots to at least 5 cm for at least one year. Although ploughing is best for burial, any cultivation is more effective than direct drilling. Always drill high-quality, clean seed (whether certified or home-saved).

2. Reduce infection risk

Grow lower-risk crops to reduce infection events.

Adapt the rotation in higher-risk situations. Consider growing a non-cereal crop or a less-susceptible cereal crop (in order of decreasing susceptibility: rye, triticale, wheat, barley and oats).

3. Reduce secondary spread

Manage grass weeds to stop them becoming a spore source.

Ergot affects a wide range of grass species. As black-grass flowers earlier than cereals, it is a key target for management. It is also important to manage grass species in margins, buffer strips and beetle banks.

4. Reduce contamination

Know where ergot is and manage infected grain to keep clean crops clean.

Manage high-risk fields or areas (such as headlands, tramlines and grass margins) carefully. It is particularly important to harvest infected areas separately and segregate contaminated grain from other grain. Although it is possible to clean grain to some degree, it is not always completely effective, especially as some ergot fragments are extremely small.

Figure 4. Ergot in the field. Dark ergots growing in place of grain on secondary tillers in wheat

Figure 5. Ergot in store. The inside of an ergot is grey/white, which distinguishes it from rodent droppings

Markets for wheat

Wheat varieties are grouped by end use. The largest single market for quality wheat is for flour production. Other uses include cereals foods, distilling, starch production and biofuels. Different uses require specific quality traits and only certain varieties may be suitable. It is important to understand the variety and quality requirements of the market you are targeting. Farmers should speak to merchants before committing to varieties to ensure a suitable end market.

UKFM groups

UKFM commissions quality testing (using commercial laboratories) for bread and biscuit-making varieties to categorise varieties into three milling groups:

UKFM Group 1: bread-making varieties with consistent milling and baking performance.

UKFM Group 2: varieties with bread-making potential but not suitable to all grists.

UKFM Group 3: varieties used for biscuits and cakes.

Distilling quality

SWRI conducts distilling testing of wheat varieties. Based on the results, they give varieties a rating of good, medium or poor. This is represented in RL tables and variety comments as high (H), medium (M) and low (L). Generally, soft wheat varieties are preferred for distilling.

Grain quality

Protein content

Most RL trials are grown with the appropriate amount of nitrogen fertiliser for feed varieties. Some trials are grown to a milling specification, with additional nitrogen added to meet bread-making protein specification. The data from these trials is included in the 'Protein content (%) – milling spec' line in the winter wheat table.

Hagberg Falling Number (HFN)

The HFN test provides an indication of the level of alpha-amylase in the grain. At the onset of germination, the levels of this enzyme can elevate a thousand-fold and result in poor-quality loaves with a sticky interior. In the laboratory, a suspension of flour is heated in water for a fixed period to create a gel. The number of seconds taken for a plunger to fall through the gel is recorded as the 'Hagberg Falling Number'. A higher HFN indicates low levels of alpha-amylase present.

Specific weight

Specific weight is the weight of grain (corrected for variation in moisture content) when packed into a standard container. It is expressed in kilograms per hectolitre (100 litres) and is an important indicator of the physical quality of wheat.

Chopin Alveograph

The Chopin Alveograph test determines W and P/L values. W is a measure of the baking strength of a dough, with a higher number representing a stronger flour. P is the maximum pressure required to burst a dough bubble, whereas L measures the extensibility of a dough (time taken for a bubble to burst). A low P/L measure represents a dough that is very extensible with low strength.

Exports

There is a core market overseas for UK-grown quality wheat. Growers can capitalise on this opportunity when choosing varieties to grow. However, distance to a port needs to be considered.

Overseas buyers have different requirements to domestic buyers and may be unfamiliar with UK varieties. Some varieties considered unsuitable by UK millers and classed as group 4 feed varieties may be suitable for overseas milling uses. The AHDB **ukp** (hard bread wheat) and **uks** (soft biscuit wheat) classifications help these buyers understand grain quality by focusing on the typical specifications for these markets (Table 1). For example, Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) markets prefer a lower moisture content, often less than 14%, and overseas buyers often use Chopin Alveograph test results.

Table 1. Typical specifications for milling wheat

	UKFM Group 1	UKFM Group 2	UKFM Group 3	ukp	uks
Minimum specific weight (kg/hl)	76	76	74	76	75
Maximum moisture content (%)	15	15	15	14	14
Maximum admix (%)	2	2	2	2	2
Minimum Hagberg Falling Number (HFN; s)	250	250	220	250	220
Protein content (%)	13.0	12.5	11.5	11.0–13.0	10.5–11.5
Chopin Alveograph W	-	-	-	170 (min)	70–120
Chopin Alveograph P/L	-	-	-	0.9 (max)	0.55 (max)

ukp = meets the specification for **ukp** bread wheat for export uks = meets the specification for **uks** biscuit wheat for export

UK Flour Millers information

UK Flour Millers represents the UK milling industry, which uses approximately 4 million tonnes of home-grown wheat in an average year. Flour-based products are a cornerstone of the nation's diet, and demand for flour is stable. Given the consistency of demand, it is no surprise that the UK milling industry is committed to continuous investment, with two state-of-the-art mills opening in the past four years, offering farmers greater choice of destination for milling wheat.

The preference of local millers should always be a significant factor affecting choice of milling variety. Growing for a specific market should be at the forefront of a farmer's mind if incomes are to be maximised from milling wheat. The UK Flour Millers website features a tool that helps identify local mills and provides relevant contact details. This can be accessed at **ukflourmillers.org/millmap**

Group 1 bread-making varieties

UK bread-making wheats comprise the majority of millers' requirements, and Group 1s command the highest premium owing to their more consistent quality. SY Cheer and KWS Vibe are both welcome recent additions to the Group 1 winter wheat category. A new variety, Arlington, has shown good breadmaking quality and has been granted provisional Group 1 status, which the milling sector hopes to confirm in Q1 2026 following an assessment of a commercial quantity of this variety.

Despite our stable demand for home-grown milling wheat, the popularity of Group 1 varieties, on which the majority of our flour depends, has been in decline. Group 2 varieties continue to be an important part of millers' bread-making grists; however, they are not suited for all baking systems, and local market requirements should be understood when selecting these varieties.

Soft varieties

The area of Group 3 varieties has begun to rebound after a 20-year low, due to new varieties with good protein quality and agronomic performance. Demand for these varieties remains strong as their unique protein quality is needed to produce a range of flour types and products, for which domestic and export demand continues to expand.

Group 4 soft wheats may also have a specific use in some flours, and these varieties can find a milling home. However, not all mills will be interested in them, so it is important to speak to your buyers and understand what local markets are looking for.

Ergot control

Ergot continues to be a frustrating disease for arable farms across the country. Strict ergot alkaloid limits affecting flour sold in Northern Ireland and EU member states have led to many mills reducing their tolerances for ergot at intake.

Ergot is a food safety issue, and it is crucial that farmers manage the disease and reduce incidence in milling wheat. Following a comprehensive review of the latest research, AHDB has published a new set of guidelines to help farmers control ergot. These new guidelines can be accessed at **ahdb.org.uk/ergot**

Our views on individual varieties

Other information on milling wheat quality requirements and the structure and needs of the milling industry can be found on the UK Flour Millers website at **ukflourmillers.org/farmers**

A digital copy can be downloaded, or a free physical copy requested, at **ukflourmillers.org/wheat**

A strong market for UK milling wheat

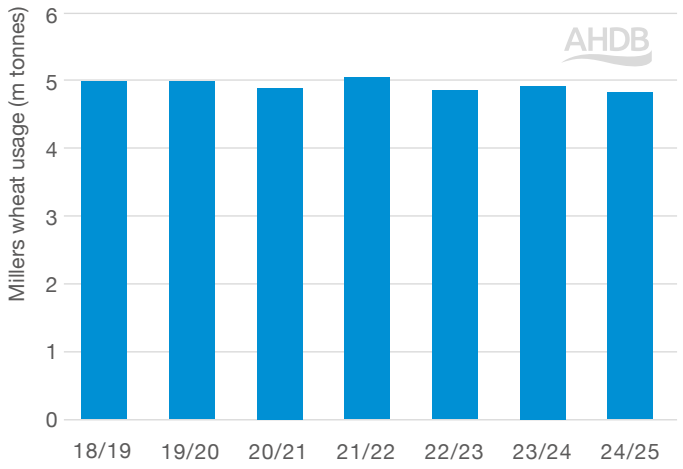


Figure 6. Milling industry wheat usage

Source: UK Flour Millers wheat usage survey

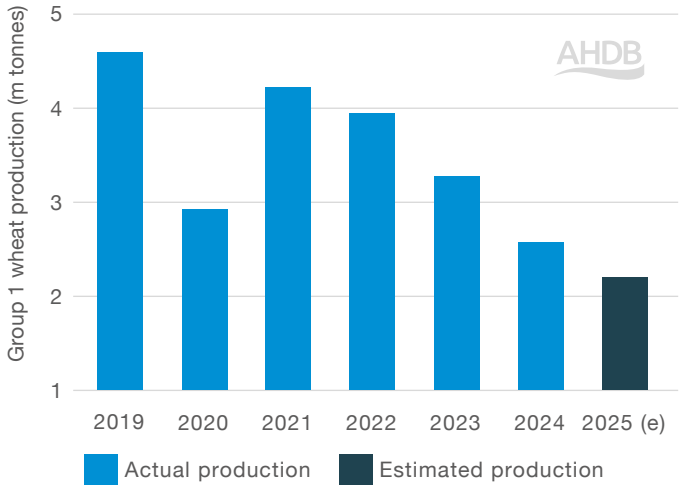


Figure 7. UKFM Group 1 wheat production

Source: UK cereal production statistics and AHDB variety survey

Winter wheat 2026/27

UKFM Group 1, 2 and 3

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	KWS Zyatt	Arlington	KWS Vibe	Skyfall	SY Cheer	Crusoe	RGT Illustrious	KWS Arnie	KWS Grebe	KWS Extase	LG Shergar	KWS Equipe	KWS Palladium	Mayflower	RGT Goldfinch	KWS Solitaire	Bamford	KWS Flute	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	UKFM Group 1							UKFM Group 2								UKFM Group 3			
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	E&W	UK	UK	Sp	UK	UK	N	
Variety status	*	NEW		C			*		NEW	C	*			*					
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)																			
United Kingdom (11.1 t/ha)	100	99	97	96	96	95	94	104	103	102	102	102	100	97	88	106	105	105	2.7
East region (10.9 t/ha)	99	100	96	96	96	94	94	104	103	102	101	101	100	97	88	105	104	104	3.0
West region (11.4 t/ha)	101	99	98	96	96	95	95	105	103	102	102	103	101	98	89	107	106	105	3.3
North region (10.9 t/ha)	100	[96]	99	96	99	94	95	103	[105]	102	104	99	101	98	89	106	107	108	4.0
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)																			
United Kingdom (11.1 t/ha)	70	94	88	64	81	72	81	87	87	90	86	90	87	87	83	87	89	81	7.3
Disease resistance																			
Mildew (1–9)	[8]	6	[7]	5	[7]	[6]	[7]	[6]	6	6	[7]	[7]	[7]	[7]	[8]	[5]	[6]	[4]	1.8
Yellow rust (1–9)	3	7	8	3	6	7	8	7	6	7	6	7	6	4	9	6	6	7	1.0
Yellow rust (young plant)	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	
Brown rust (1–9)	7	6	6	8	6	3	5	6	5	7	6	7	6	6	9	5	6	4	0.5
Septoria tritici (1–9)	6.3	7.0	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.5	6.2	6.8	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.7	7.0	8.5	7.0	6.4	6.4	6.3	0.8
Eyespot (1–9)	7@	[6]@	6@	6@	4	5	6@	5	[6]	4	5	4	5	5@	5	5	6@	5	1.3
Fusarium ear blight (1–9)	6	[6]	6	7	6	6	6	6	[5]	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	6	0.6
Orange wheat blossom midge	-	R	-	R	-	-	-	-	R	-	-	-	-	-	R	R	-	R	
Agronomic features																			
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	7	8	7	8	6	2	5	7	6	1.5
Resistance to lodging with PGR (1–9)	8	8	8	8	7	8	9	8	8	7	8	7	8	7	6	6	7	7	1.2
Lodging without PGR (%)	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	4	59	10	2	6	-
Lodging with PGR (%)	1	1	1	2	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	4	1	3	6	7	3	3	-
Straw length without PGR (cm)	86	82	89	86	91	84	91	89	84	93	82	96	85	90	89	91	90	84	1.7
Straw length with PGR (cm)	75	71	77	76	82	75	79	80	75	85	74	86	78	82	75	81	81	75	1.3
Ripening (days +/- Skyfall)	0	0	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	-1	-1	-1	+1	-1	-1	0	+2	0	0	+1	0.7
Resistance to sprouting (1–9)	6	[6]	[6]	5	[6]	7	6	[6]	[6]	7	[6]	[7]	6	7	[6]	[5]	[5]	[6]	0.7

Main market options (The specific attributes of varieties are different, so, whenever possible, varieties should not be mixed in store)																			
UK bread-making	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	-	-	-	
UK biscuit, cake-making	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Y	Y	Y	
UK distilling quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	H	M	M	
ukp bread wheat for export	Y	-	-	-	-	Y	-	-	[Y]	Y	-	[Y]	-	Y	-	-	-	-	-	
uks soft wheat for export	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[Y]	Y	[Y]	
Grain quality																			
Endosperm texture	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Soft	Soft	Soft	
Protein content (%)	11.5	11.5	11.9	11.6	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.0	11.3	11.3	11.0	11.4	11.3	11.5	11.7	10.6	10.7	10.9	0.2
Protein content (%) – milling spec	12.5	12.5	13.4	12.8	12.8	13.3	12.7	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.7	12.9	11.6	11.6	12.1	0.4
Hagberg Falling Number	271	309	294	290	306	279	263	296	280	293	298	310	316	304	288	197	256	217	20.7
Specific weight (kg/hl)	78.5	78.9	78.6	79.1	79.7	78.4	78.2	78.8	77.0	79.1	80.0	79.3	77.3	79.1	77.5	76.8	78.5	78.0	0.7
Chopin Alveograph W	-	255	[310]	[264]	[289]	249	-	[232]	242	209	[298]	208	-	212	[310]	106	111	106	29.8
Chopin Alveograph P/L	-	1.0	[1.1]	[1.1]	[1.7]	0.6	-	[1.3]	0.7	0.7	[1.0]	0.7	-	0.8	[1.7]	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.2
Annual treated yield (% control)																			
2021 (11.1 t/ha)	100	-	-	96	97	95	93	-	-	101	-	-	98	95	-	-	104	-	-
2022 (11.6 t/ha)	100	-	97	95	97	93	95	104	-	102	102	101	100	96	89	106	106	106	-
2023 (11.2 t/ha)	99	99	97	97	96	95	96	105	103	102	103	102	100	97	88	105	106	105	-
2024 (10.8 t/ha)	103	98	100	96	95	94	95	106	106	103	103	102	105	103	90	108	107	108	-
2025 (10.8 t/ha)	99	97	97	96	99	96	94	103	102	101	103	99	100	98	89	105	105	105	-
Rotational position																			
First cereal (11.3 t/ha)	100	99	97	96	97	95	95	104	103	102	102	102	100	98	89	106	105	105	2.8
Second and more (9.7 t/ha)	99	99	96	97	95	93	92	104	102	101	100	100	100	98	87	105	105	106	3.3
Sowing date (most trials were sown in October)																			
Early sown (before 25 Sep) (11.2 t/ha)	[100]	[[102]]	[[97]]	95	[[97]]	[97]	[99]	-	-	102	[101]	-	[[98]]	101	-	[108]	106	[109]	6.6
Late sown (after 1 Nov) (9.9 t/ha)	97	[[99]]	[97]	97	97	94	93	[100]	[[101]]	101	[102]	[102]	99	94	[87]	[104]	102	[102]	4.2
Latest safe-sowing date	End Jan	-	[End Jan]	End Feb	End Jan	End Jan	End Jan	[End Jan]	[[End Jan]]	End Jan	[End Feb]	[End Jan]	End Jan	End Jan	[End Jan]	[End Jan]	End Jan	[End Jan]	
Soil type (about 50% of trials are on medium soils)																			
Light soils (10.2 t/ha)	99	[95]	97	96	97	94	95	103	[[102]]	102	102	100	100	99	90	104	106	105	4.0
Heavy soils (11.8 t/ha)	100	100	97	96	96	94	94	104	102	102	102	103	100	97	88	105	104	104	3.5
Breeder/UK contact																			
Breeder	KWS	DSV	KWS	RAGT	SCP	Lim	R2n	KWS	KWS	KWSM	LimE	KWSM	KWS	ElsW	RAGT	KWS	ElsW	KWS	
UK contact	KWS	DSV	KWS	RAGT	Syn	Lim	RAGT	KWS	KWS	KWS	Lim	KWS	KWS	Els	RAGT	KWS	Els	KWS	
Status in RL system																			
Year first listed	17	26	25	14	24	12	16	25	26	19	25	25	22	22	25	25	24	25	
RL status	*	P1	P2	-	-	-	*	P2	P1	-	*	P2	-	*	P2	P2	-	P2	

Varieties no longer listed: Almara, Costello, Gleam, KWS Cranium, KWS Newbie, KWS Ultimatum, LG Astronomer, LG Skyscraper, Oxford, RGT Bairstow and RGT Wolverine.
For this table, LG Astronomer and LG Skyscraper were also control varieties but are no longer listed.
RGT Goldfinch has a specific recommendation for resistance to *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV). Resistance to BYDV is a breeders' claim and has not been verified in RL tests.
Arlington is a provisional UKFM Group 1 variety. This rating will be confirmed in Spring 2026 once commercial assessments have been completed.

Winter wheat 2026/27

Soft Group 4 and Hard Group 4

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Sparkler	LG Redwald	RGT Hexton	KWS Zealum	Blackstone	KWS Aintree	LG Defiance	LG Challenger	KWS Fowlmere	KWS Scope	Champion	LG Beowulf	SY Insitor	RGT Guardsman	KWS Dawsum	Graham	LG Typhoon	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	Soft Group 4					Hard Group 4												
Scope of recommendation	UK	E&W	UK	N	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	N	Sp	UK	UK	UK	
Variety status	NEW					NEW	NEW	NEW	NEW		C			NEW				
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)																		
United Kingdom (11.1 t/ha)	106	106	103	102	101	110	109	107	106	106	106	104	104	103	102	102	100	2.7
East region (10.9 t/ha)	106	105	103	102	101	110	108	107	106	105	105	104	104	103	102	101	100	3.0
West region (11.4 t/ha)	107	107	102	101	99	111	110	107	106	107	107	103	103	103	101	103	98	3.3
North region (10.9 t/ha)	[108]	108	109	103	103	[109]	[109]	[109]	[108]	105	105	107	107	[104]	105	104	102	4.0
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)																		
United Kingdom (11.1 t/ha)	87	89	82	81	82	85	95	93	88	84	82	83	75	87	86	86	83	7.3
Disease resistance																		
Mildew (1–9)	5	[5]	[5]	[6]	[6]	5	7	7	5	[6]	[5]	[5]	[6]	5	[7]	[6]	[6]	1.8
Yellow rust (1–9)	7	6	8	8	5	3	8	7	5	4	4	4	4	7	5	8	5	1.0
Yellow rust (young plant)	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	r	s	s	s	
Brown rust (1–9)	4	7	4	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	7	5	6	0.5
Septoria tritici (1–9)	7.2	6.1	6.6	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.6	7.2	6.4	6.5	6.0	6.2	6.4	7.0	0.8
Eyespot (1–9)	[4]	4	5	5	5	[6]	[5]	[5]	[6]	4	4	6	4	[5]	5	4	4	1.3
Fusarium ear blight (1–9)	[6]	7	6	7	7	[5]	[7]	[7]	[7]	6	6	6	7	[5]	7	7	6	0.6
Orange wheat blossom midge	-	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	-	-	R	
Agronomic features																		
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	7	4	7	7	8	7	7	7	7	8	7	8	6	3	8	7	8	1.5
Resistance to lodging with PGR (1–9)	6	5	7	7	7	7	5	7	6	8	6	7	7	5	7	8	7	1.2
Lodging without PGR (%)	2	18	2	3	1	2	3	2	2	1	3	1	5	33	1	2	2	-
Lodging with PGR (%)	7	17	3	2	3	3	10	3	7	1	6	2	3	21	3	2	3	-
Straw length without PGR (cm)	92	95	89	90	93	93	97	94	91	90	89	90	95	91	85	90	87	1.7
Straw length with PGR (cm)	80	87	79	81	82	80	87	83	83	78	81	79	82	78	76	79	78	1.3
Ripening (days +/- Skyfall)	+1	+2	+2	+2	+2	0	+1	+1	-2	+1	0	+2	+1	+1	+1	-1	+2	0.7
Resistance to sprouting (1–9)	[6]	[5]	[6]	[6]	[7]	[6]	[7]	[5]	[7]	[6]	5	[6]	5	[5]	6	7	6	0.7

Main market options (The specific attributes of varieties are different, so, whenever possible, varieties should not be mixed in store)																		
UK bread-making	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
UK biscuit, cake-making	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
UK distilling quality	H	M	M	M	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ukp bread wheat for export	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[Y]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
uks soft wheat for export	[Y]	-	[Y]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Grain quality																		
Endosperm texture	Soft	Soft	Soft	Soft	Soft	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	
Protein content (%)	10.8	10.6	10.6	10.5	10.7	10.4	10.5	10.2	11.0	10.6	10.9	11.0	10.4	10.0	10.8	11.0	10.8	0.2
Protein content (%) – milling spec	11.7	11.6	11.9	11.8	11.6	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.9	11.8	12.1	12.3	11.4	10.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	0.4
Hagberg Falling Number	226	171	247	214	298	277	260	295	299	251	253	263	279	246	312	284	175	20.7
Specific weight (kg/hl)	76.7	75.5	76.4	76.5	78.5	78.7	77.0	78.6	79.8	78.6	75.3	78.3	78.6	75.8	79.6	77.6	77.3	0.7
Chopin Alveograph W	99	-	104	-	130	-	-	-	202	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.8
Chopin Alveograph P/L	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2
Annual treated yield (% control)																		
2021 (11.1 t/ha)	-	106	-	101	101	-	-	-	-	-	105	106	105	-	103	102	100	-
2022 (11.6 t/ha)	-	106	104	102	102	-	-	-	-	105	105	105	104	-	103	103	98	-
2023 (11.2 t/ha)	106	104	105	101	101	110	109	109	107	107	106	106	105	103	103	102	100	-
2024 (10.8 t/ha)	109	108	107	102	100	111	111	108	109	108	109	103	106	102	101	106	104	-
2025 (10.8 t/ha)	107	107	103	103	102	110	108	107	105	104	103	105	103	105	104	102	98	-
Rotational position																		
First cereal (11.3 t/ha)	106	106	103	102	101	110	109	107	107	106	105	105	104	102	102	103	100	2.8
Second and more (9.7 t/ha)	107	107	106	[103]	100	109	110	110	105	105	106	104	107	106	103	100	101	3.3
Sowing date (most trials were sown in October)																		
Early sown (before 25 Sep) (11.2 t/ha)	-	103	[106]	103	101	[[110]]	-	[[110]]	-	[[108]]	106	103	[106]	-	104	104	102	6.6
Late sown (after 1 Nov) (9.9 t/ha)	[[108]]	104	[101]	[[104]]	103	[[111]]	[[108]]	[[106]]	[[105]]	[103]	105	105	102	[[104]]	104	101	100	4.2
Latest safe-sowing date	[[End Jan]]	Mid Feb	[End Jan]	End Jan	Mid Feb	[[End Jan]]	[[End Jan]]	[[End Jan]]	[[End Jan]]	[End Jan]	Mid Feb	End Jan	End Jan	[[End Jan]]	End Jan	End Jan	End Jan	
Soil type (about 50% of trials are on medium soils)																		
Light soils (10.2 t/ha)	[106]	106	106	104	103	[109]	[108]	[108]	[108]	104	104	104	107	[[105]]	105	102	101	4.0
Heavy soils (11.8 t/ha)	105	104	103	101	100	110	109	106	106	105	106	104	102	101	102	101	99	3.5
Breeder/UK contact																		
Breeder	ElsW	LimE	RAGT	KWS	ElsW	KWS	-	-	KWS	KWS	DSV	LimE	SyP	RAGT	KWS	SyP	LimE	
UK contact	Els	Lim	RAGT	KWS	Els	KWS	Lim	Lim	KWS	KWS	DSV	Lim	Syn	RAGT	KWS	Syn	Lim	
Status in RL system																		
Year first listed	26	23	25	23	24	26	26	26	26	25	22	24	20	26	22	16	22	
RL status	P1	-	P2	-	-	P1	P1	P1	P1	P2	-	-	-	P1	-	-	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Almara, Costello, Gleam, KWS Cranium, KWS Newbie, KWS Ultimatum, LG Astronomer, LG Skyscraper, Oxford, RGT Bairstow and RGT Wolverine.
For this table, LG Astronomer and LG Skyscraper were also control varieties but are no longer listed.
RGT Guardsman has a specific recommendation for resistance to *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV). Resistance to BYDV is a breeders' claim and has not been verified in RL tests.

Spring wheat 2026

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	KWS Harsum	STR Pace	KWS Ladum	Nissaba	Mulika	Charland	KWS Alicium	KWS Bezique	WPB Mylo	Merkawa	WPB Clifden	Everlong	WPB Fraser	KWS Fixum	Ophelia	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	UKFM Group 1						UKFM Group 2			Hard Group 4						
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	Sp	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	
Variety status			C			NEW				NEW	NEW			*C		
UK yield as % control (spring sowing)																
Fungicide-treated (7.2 t/ha)	101	100	98	93	93	90	104	103	101	107	105	105	104	103	102	3.0
Disease resistance																
Mildew (1–9)	[7]	[8]	[7]	[5]	[7]	6	[8]	[7]	[8]	9	9	[6]	[8]	[7]	[8]	2.0
Yellow rust (1–9)	7	5	6	5	6	4	7	7	6	7	5	8	8	6	7	0.4
Brown rust (1–9)	5	7	5	8	6	7	6	6	8	7	6	7	5	6	6	0.9
Septoria tritici (1–9)	6	[6]	6	6	6	[6]	6	[6]	7	[5]	[5]	6	[6]	6	[6]	0.9
Orange wheat blossom midge	R	-	-	R	R	R	R	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Agronomic features (spring sowing)																
Lodging with PGR (%)	[1]	-	[0]	[1]	[4]	-	[3]	-	[1]	-	-	[17]	-	[1]	-	-
Straw length without PGR (cm)	79	80	73	75	78	73	84	76	74	78	82	79	80	79	77	2.2
Ripening (days +/- Mulika)	+1	-1	0	+2	0	-1	-2	+1	+1	-1	0	-1	0	+2	-1	1.4
Grain quality (spring sowing)																
Endosperm texture	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard	
Protein content (%)	12.8	13.0	13.3	13.5	14.0	13.8	13.1	12.8	12.9	12.2	12.3	12.9	12.6	12.9	12.0	0.3
Hagberg Falling Number	326	303	330	306	319	314	346	316	303	296	282	329	233	241	267	19.4
Specific weight (kg/hl)	78.7	80.6	78.1	76.9	77.0	79.2	80.1	78.7	77.2	77.3	78.0	80.5	75.4	77.5	79.7	0.6
Annual treated yield (% control, spring sowing)																
2021 (7.8 t/ha)	102	-	100	93	93	-	103	-	101	-	-	102	-	103	-	4.7
2022 (7.4 t/ha)	97	101	100	91	96	-	104	104	100	-	-	107	104	104	104	4.0
2023 (6.9 t/ha)	[100]	[106]	[99]	[97]	[95]	[95]	[107]	[103]	[105]	[109]	[107]	[107]	[108]	[101]	[105]	5.9
2024 (8.6 t/ha)	[103]	[98]	[97]	[94]	[90]	[90]	[104]	[105]	[102]	[108]	[104]	[102]	[102]	[103]	[102]	5.4
2025 (5.2 t/ha)	[101]	[99]	[96]	[90]	[90]	[84]	[100]	[100]	[98]	[104]	[106]	[107]	[106]	[103]	[97]	5.2
Breeder/UK contact																
Breeder	KWS	Str	KWS	BA	BA	BA	KWSL	KWS	WPB	HRS	WPB	SE	WPB	KWS	-	
UK contact	KWS	AgV	KWS	BA	Sen	BA	KWS	KWS	NPZU	Sen	Lim	COPE	Lim	KWS	Els	
Status in RL system																
Year first listed	23	25	22	22	11	26	23	25	24	26	26	24	25	22	25	
RL status	-	P2	-	-	-	P1	-	P2	-	P1	P1	-	P2	*	P2	

Varieties no longer listed: KWS Cochise.
For this table, KWS Cochise was also control variety but is no longer listed.
Charland has a specific recommendation for white grain wheat.

Candidate varieties – wheat trials harvest 2026

Winter wheat

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Selected as potential bread-making varieties			
KWS Voyage	KWS W486	3446	KWS UK
KWS Melesie	KWS W490	3450	KWS UK
LG Windmill	LGWU215	3455	Limagrain UK
Gibson	SEWC157	3484	Senova
Selected as potential biscuit-making varieties			
EW21740	Lucifer	3426	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
EW21777	Sunspire	3427	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
LG Spear	LGWU217	3457	Limagrain UK
Selected as potential feed varieties			
Bastion	NOS 516187.10	3403	Agrovista UK Ltd
Girton	BA W95	3414	Senova
EW21349	Dreadnought	3423	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
EW22076	Bluebird	3430	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
Percy	KWS W481	3441	KWS UK
KWS Checkmate	KWS W488	3448	KWS UK
LG Chieftain	LGWU214	3454	Limagrain UK
LG Wraith	LGWU222	3462	Limagrain UK
LG Stonehaven	LGWU223	3463	Limagrain UK
RW42319	RGT Dragon	3469	RAGT Seeds
RW42347	RGT Gorgon	3475	RAGT Seeds
RW42378	RGT Hydra	3476	RAGT Seeds
RW42386	RGT Kraken	3477	RAGT Seeds
RW42396	RGT Griffin	3479	RAGT Seeds
NOS Beast	NOS516231.10	3483	Senova
SY Mirage	SY123737	3488	Syngenta UK Ltd

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027/28.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

Spring wheat

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Selected as potential feed varieties			
KWS Bugle	KWS W494	3502	KWS UK
WPB Hayden	WPB16SW892-01	3503	KWS UK

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

After a candidate variety has been added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL), the data is published online (ahdb.org.uk/rl) and on the RL app (ahdb.org.uk/rlapp).

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Barley, oats and other cereal crops overview

Yield

Fungicide-treated yields

Fungicide-treated yields are calculated from trials that receive the full RL fungicide programme. All trials receive PGRs, except for spring barley, where PGRs are only applied if there is a high lodging risk. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Fungicide-untreated yields

Fungicide-untreated yields are calculated from trials that do not receive fungicides (referred to as 'untreated grain yield' in the tables). Winter barley and winter oats fungicide-untreated trials receive a standard PGR programme. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Regional yields

Regional yields are calculated for winter and spring barley. As these are based on fewer trials, they should be treated more cautiously.

Regions are based on variety performance, which is why they do not follow national borders. Varieties in trials within the same region are likely to perform more similarly than in trials in different regions. However, divisions between regions are not absolute and growers are advised to consider which region is most appropriate for their conditions (Figures 8 and 9).

As oats, triticale and rye have smaller growing areas, there are fewer RL trials, and results are presented for a single UK region (there are insufficient trials to calculate robust regional yields).

Yield on different soil types (winter barley)

Trials are located on soil types that are representative of the region. Soils in RL trials are classified using the system in the Nutrient management guide (RB209) (**ahdb.org.uk/rb209**), with about half of the trials located on medium-textured soils.

Figure 8. Regions used for calculation of winter barley regional yields and the locations of harvest 2025 RL winter barley fungicide-treated trials

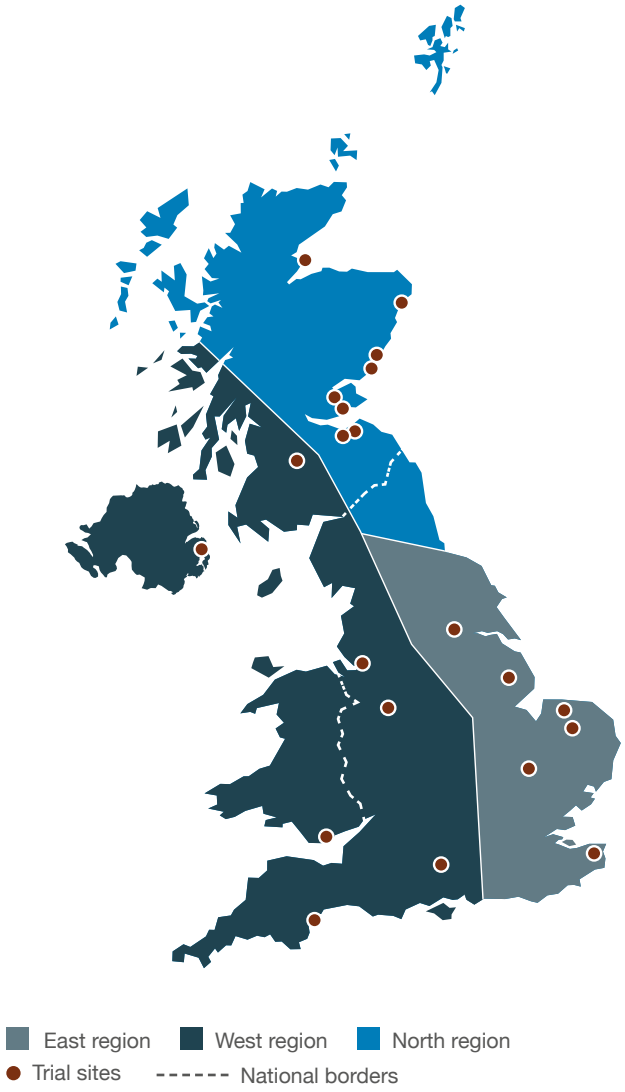

Figure 9. Regions used for calculation of spring barley regional yields and the locations of harvest 2025 RL spring barley fungicide-treated trials

Ripening in barley

Ripening is expressed as days earlier or later than a standard variety. Values are based on a whole UK data set. Analysis of spring barley ripening data shows that varieties take about nine days longer to ripen on average in the North region compared with the UK, but the relative ranking of the varieties remains stable.

Winter barley data shows that, on average, varieties take about 16 days longer to ripen in the North region and 10 days less in the East region compared with the UK.

Oat candidates

Oat candidates are trialled for an additional year of candidacy to provide sufficient data, before being considered for inclusion on the lists.

Breeder's claims

Some characteristics are presented as a 'breeder's claim'. Accepted claims are associated with clear genetic markers that allow breeders to verify if a variety has inherited the trait.

For barley, claims are:

- *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV) tolerance or resistance
- *Barley yellow mosaic virus* strain 1 (BaYMV1) and strain 2 (BaYMV2) resistance
- *Barley mild mosaic virus* (BaMMV) resistance
- *mlo* resistance to powdery mildew in spring barley
- Wheat dwarf virus (WDV) tolerance or resistance in winter barley

Such claims are not verified in RL tests. For more information, contact the relevant breeder or UK contact.

For technical commentary on each recommended and described variety, visit **ahdb.org.uk/rl**

Disease updates

Winter barley

BaMMV and BaYMV are persistent soilborne diseases of winter barley.

Sowing resistant varieties and limiting spread, through avoiding moving soil and good machinery hygiene, can help manage these diseases. However, there are resistance-breaking strains, often in areas with a high proportion of winter barley in the rotation.

All winter barley varieties on RL 2026/27 have BaYMV1 and BaMMV resistance. Resistance to BaYMV2 is also present in some varieties and is indicated in the table.

For more information, visit **ahdb.org.uk/cereal-mosaic-viruses**

Spring barley

The *mlo* resistance gene in spring barley confers almost complete resistance to barley powdery mildew. All spring barley varieties on RL 2026/27 carry this gene, except for described variety CB Score.

Quality testing

Specific weight

Specific weight is the weight of grain (corrected for variation in moisture content) when packed into a standard container. It is expressed in kilograms per hectolitre (100 litres) and is an important indicator of the physical quality of barley.

Screenings

Screenings are undersized/broken grains and crop debris that pass through sieves (see tables for specified sizes). For oats, the smaller sieve size (1.8 mm) is used to screen huskless (naked) oat varieties. Genetic and environmental factors affect screening percentages.

Commercial contracts for oats differ in their tolerance for screenings and growers should refer to their individual contracts.

Oat quality

Kernel content

Kernel content is the proportion of harvested oats made up of dehulled oats (kernels). High kernel content, high specific weight and low per cent screenings are preferred for milling.

Hullability

AHDB has consulted with oat millers and end users and confirmed that hullability is an important quality characteristic in oats, but different dehulling methods are used by different mills. As there is no industry standard test, hullability is not reported in the RL.

Barley quality

The tables feature several characteristics that are tested within the Malting Barley Committee (MBC) process.

Hot water extract

This measures the amount of material extracted from the malt which contributes to fermentation. Maltsters and brewers look for high values (≥315 l deg/kg).

Predicted spirit yield

This measures the predicted amount of alcohol produced per tonne of malt in a malt whisky distillery. Maltsters and distillers look for high values (>410 laa/tonne).

Nitrogen content

Grain nitrogen content (determined by the Dumas method) is an indirect measurement of protein content. The required levels of grain nitrogen vary between malt distilling, brewing and grain distilling.

A conversion factor of x 6.25 is applied to the nitrogen value to give the protein content. For UK brewing, 1.60–1.75% nitrogen is normally required in malting barley to achieve the malt specification for most brewers' needs. Malting barley for export brewing usually requires nitrogen in the range 1.70–1.85%. For malt distilling, a high starch content is needed (hence lower protein). Nitrogen content of 1.40–1.50% is considered ideal, but distillers will use up to 1.65% nitrogen content, if necessary.

Skinning

Skinning is the detachment or loss of the grain husk, resulting in uneven germination and malting.

Skinning is measured as part of the MBC assessment of variety suitability for malting but is not reported in the RL tables. Different commercial contracts will have different tolerances of skinning.

Not all years will see skinning affect crops. Delayed harvests, especially with repeated wetting and drying, favour skinning.

Combine settings have a significant effect on skinning, with high drum speeds and tightening the concave both significantly increasing skinning.

MBC in-season updates

MAGB and AHDB facilitate quality testing of winter and spring barley varieties to assess their suitability for brewing and distilling.

Results from commercial labs (over multiple years) help create the MBC approved lists.

The MBC meets twice a year to make decisions on the approval status of varieties.

Decisions in May can affect the approval status of RL varieties. The MBC publishes changes on the MAGB website. Online RL tables, the RL app and variety selection tools capture the latest changes.

MBC special use category

The MBC special use varieties may be included as a described variety type in the RL, such as grain distilling variety Fairing.

MAGB information

The Malting Barley Committee (MBC), which is administered by the Maltsters' Association of Great Britain (MAGB), tests and approves barley varieties for brewing, malting and distilling.

There is a considerable UK market for approved varieties, with approximately 1.4 million tonnes of UK malting barley likely to be purchased from the 2026 harvest.

The local market varies considerably across the UK and should guide variety choice and crop management, particularly the management of nitrogen.

The testing of varieties for suitability in different end markets takes several years and varieties are added to the RL while still undergoing MBC testing.

The MBC has revised the Approved List categories to include a 'Special Use' category. This currently includes the spring malting barley Fairing for grain distilling use and the winter malting barley SY Vessel for malt distilling use.

The special use category represents varieties that are unlikely to command a large market share but are of importance to certain sectors and uses within the malting, brewing and distilling supply chain and will be expanded as varieties with unique traits are selected through the MBC evaluation process.

Farmers should speak to merchants before committing to varieties that are still under test to ensure that an end market is available.

The MAGB website (**ukmalt.com/home**) offers further information on the market for malting barley. It also includes an up-to-date list of MBC approved varieties and information on growing malting barley.

MBC Approved List – harvest 2026

Approved status	Winter barley brewing use	Spring barley brewing use	Spring barley malt distilling use	Special use
Full approval	Flagon Craft Buccaneer	Laureate RGT Planet LG Diablo Skyway SY Tennyson Belter	Laureate KWS Sassy LG Diablo Firefoxx SY Tennyson	Fairing (spring) – grain distilling SY Vessel (winter) – malt distilling
Provisional approval		LG Aquarius Bounty Olsen Firecracker Ptarmigan KWS Enduris SY Arrow Nolan	Belter Olsen Firecracker Ptarmigan KWS Enduris SY Arrow Nolan	

SY Vessel is a non-GN winter barley with MBC special use full approval for malt distilling. SY Vessel was withdrawn from the RL process by the breeder before it was considered for inclusion, owing to there being no separate special end-use category at that time.
Flagon is a winter malting barley that was removed from the RL in 2015 due to low certified seed area, but it has since increased its market share and is approved by the MBC for brewing.

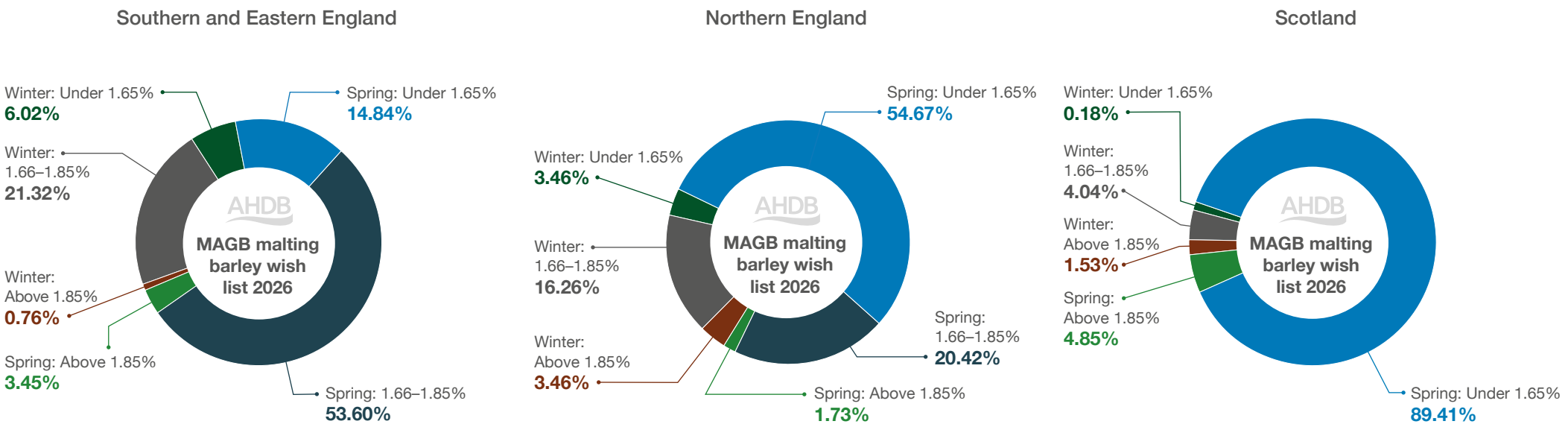

Figure 10. The chart above shows MAGB members' wish list for grain nitrogen levels in 2026 barley crop purchases from England and Scotland

Source: MAGB

Winter barley 2026/27

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Buccaneer	Craft	LG Capitol	KWS Valencis	LG Caravelle	Russo	NOS Olena	LG Catapult	Darcie	SU Arion	Kitty	KWS Tardis	LG Carpenter	Organa	Bolton	Valerie	SY Barnabus#	Inys#	SY Quantock#	SY Kingsbarn#	SY Canyon#	Integral	SY Kestrel#	KWS Feeris	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	Two-row malting		Two-row feed														Six-row feed								
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	E	UK	UK Sp	E	E&N	UK	UK	E&W Sp	UK Sp	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK Sp	UK Sp	UK Sp	
Variety status		C						NEW	NEW			C			*	*	NEW			C				*C	
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)																									
United Kingdom (9.8 t/ha)	98	93	106	106	105	104	104	104	104	103	103	103	103	102	101	99	108	107	107	107	106	105	103	102	2.4
East region (9.5 t/ha)	99	92	106	106	107	106	105	106	106	106	103	103	104	104	103	99	108	108	106	106	106	105	102	102	3.2
West region (9.6 t/ha)	98	93	105	[105]	105	[104]	[103]	[104]	[101]	[99]	[101]	101	[102]	[102]	100	97	[109]	[105]	[108]	107	105	[106]	[104]	103	4.6
North region (10.8 t/ha)	96	93	105	105	103	101	106	[101]	[104]	103	106	103	98	[100]	100	101	[106]	107	107	107	107	102	104	102	3.6
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)																									
United Kingdom (9.8 t/ha)	88	80	89	89	90	88	86	90	80	85	80	84	91	90	86	70	93	86	91	80	90	89	84	83	4.0
Disease resistance																									
Mildew (1–9)	6	6	7	6	7	5	6	6	6	8	6	5	6	7	6	8	7	7	7	7	8	4	7	5	0.9
Brown rust (1–9)	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	7	5	6	5	6	7	8	7	4	7	6	7	5	6	6	6	6	0.9
Rhynchosporium (1–9)	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	[6]	7	6	7	6	7	7	5	6	7	6	7	6	6	6	7	6	1.2
Net blotch (1–9)	5	5	5	6	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	5	6	4	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	1.0
BaYMV2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R	-	R	-	-	-	-	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BYDV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	-	-	-	-	To	To	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	R	To	
WDV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	-	
Agronomic features																									
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	7	8	7	[7]	7	[7]	[7]	-	-	[7]	[8]	8	[6]	[6]	8	8	-	[8]	[7]	6	6	[8]	[8]	8	1.8
Resistance to lodging with PGR (1–9)	7	8	7	8	8	7	8	6	7	6	8	8	6	7	8	8	6	7	7	6	6	8	7	7	1.4
Lodging without PGR (%)	10	2	4	[6]	4	[9]	[6]	-	-	[6]	[2]	3	[20]	[18]	3	3	-	[2]	[6]	14	14	[2]	[3]	2	-
Lodging with PGR (%)	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	5	4	4	1	1	5	2	1	1	6	2	3	7	7	1	3	2	-
Straw length without PGR (cm)	97	99	91	95	93	95	95	92	94	96	95	95	100	106	93	95	115	113	113	115	117	104	115	103	3.4
Straw length with PGR (cm)	92	91	85	89	86	89	87	84	88	90	87	86	94	99	85	88	111	106	106	106	109	96	106	98	1.9
Brackling (%)	5	14	12	8	9	17	7	13	10	28	4	7	18	19	11	10	20	9	16	21	16	5	11	16	-
Ripening (days +/- LG Caravelle)	+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+2	0	+1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0.7

Main market options																								
MBC malting approval for brewing use	F	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grain quality																								
Specific weight (kg/hl)	69.6	70.0	70.4	70.3	71.7	70.2	70.2	70.7	70.9	69.2	73.0	70.6	70.8	70.0	69.7	71.1	71.3	69.6	70.9	70.6	71.5	69.6	69.1	69.2	0.7
Screenings (% through 2.25 mm)	2.2	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.1	2.8	1.8	2.6	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.8	0.6
Screenings (% through 2.5 mm)	6.6	7.5	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.9	8.5	4.7	4.1	4.2	5.4	5.3	5.7	5.0	2.7	9.6	6.2	9.0	5.5	6.2	5.4	4.5	6.3	1.6
Nitrogen content (%)	1.64	1.66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[1.64]	0.09
Malting quality																								
Hot water extract (l deg/kg)	308.1	308.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[296.7]	2.2
Annual treated yield (% control)																								
2021 (9.9 t/ha)	97	94	105	-	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	-	-	101	98	-	-	-	106	106	-	-	102	-
2022 (9.9 t/ha)	98	92	106	106	105	104	105	-	-	103	104	102	102	103	102	100	-	107	108	107	107	104	104	103	-
2023 (10.0 t/ha)	98	92	105	106	105	104	104	103	104	103	105	103	101	101	101	100	107	108	108	108	106	105	104	100	-
2024 (9.9 t/ha)	98	93	105	106	105	104	105	104	103	102	103	103	100	102	101	98	108	106	107	105	105	104	104	103	-
2025 (10.0 t/ha)	98	93	106	105	105	103	103	103	103	102	102	102	102	102	101	100	107	106	106	106	105	104	103	103	-
Soil type (about 50% of trials are medium soils)																								
Light soils (10.2 t/ha)	97	93	104	105	104	102	106	102	103	104	103	103	99	100	102	99	108	108	108	107	107	101	104	102	4.2
Heavy soils (8.9 t/ha)	99	94	110	107	107	105	106	105	105	104	104	105	105	103	105	100	108	108	108	104	103	105	101	101	5.2
Breeder/UK contact																								
Breeder	Sej	SyP	Lim	KWS	LimE	NS	NS	LimE	Bre	Nord	Bre	KWS	LimE	NS	Ack	Bre	SCP	SCP	SCP	SyP	SyP	Sec	SCP	KWS	
UK contact	SU	Syn	Lim	KWS	Lim	Agr	Sen	Lim	Sen	SU	Sen	KWS	Lim	Sen	EAB	Sen	Syn	KWS	Syn	Syn	Syn	SecU	Syn	KWS	
Status in RL system																								
Year first listed	23	16	24	25	23	25	25	26	26	25	25	21	25	25	21	19	26	25	25	19	22	25	25	22	
RL status	-	-	-	P2	-	P2	P2	P1	P1	P2	P2	-	P2	P2	*	*	P1	P2	P2	-	-	P2	P2	*	

Varieties no longer listed: Belfry, Bolivia, Electrum, KWS Heraclis, Rosemary, Sixy, SY Kingston and SY Nephin.
For this table, Electrum was also a control variety but is no longer listed.
Integral, KWS Feeris, LG Carpenter, LG Catapult, Organa and SY Kestrel have a specific recommendation for resistance or tolerance to *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV). Resistance and tolerance to BYDV has not been verified in RL tests.
Growers are strongly advised to check with their buyer before committing to a malting variety without full MBC approval.
All winter barley varieties in RL 2026/27 are believed to be resistant to *Barley yellow mosaic virus* strain 1 (BaYMV1) and *Barley mild mosaic virus* (BaMMV).

Spring barley 2026

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	MBC malting varieties																
	Belter	Firefoxx	Laureate	Skyway	SY Tennyson	LG Diablo	RGT Planet	KWS Sassy	Bounty	SY Arrow	Firecracker	Ptarmigan	LG Aquarius	Nolan	KWS Enduris	Olsen	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	Approved								Provisional								
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	
Variety status		C	C	C		C	C							NEW			
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)																	
United Kingdom (7.8 t/ha)	104	102	102	102	101	98	96	94	105	104	103	103	103	103	102	102	2.2
East region (7.9 t/ha)	104	102	101	102	101	98	96	92	107	104	102	102	105	101	101	102	2.9
West region (7.4 t/ha)	105	103	104	102	100	97	95	93	105	[105]	[105]	[105]	103	[104]	[103]	101	3.6
North region (8.0 t/ha)	104	102	102	101	101	99	97	95	105	103	103	103	101	102	102	102	2.6
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)																	
United Kingdom (7.8 t/ha)	89	86	88	85	82	82	82	80	84	86	91	89	87	88	89	86	2.6
Disease resistance																	
Mildew (1–9)	8	8	9	8	8	8	9	8	8	9	9	9	8	9	8	8	0.4
Brown rust (1–9)	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	0.7
Rhynchosporium (1–9)	6	6	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	7	5	6	5	5	6	5	1.5
Net blotch (1–9)	7	7	8	6	5	7	5	[5]	7	[8]	[8]	[8]	6	[8]	[6]	6	1.7
Agronomic features																	
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	7	7	6	7	7	6	7	[6]	7	[7]	[7]	[7]	7	[6]	[7]	8	1.1
Straw length without PGR (cm)	68	69	69	74	70	71	72	78	69	72	70	71	70	69	74	70	1.4
Ripening (days +/- RGT Planet)	+2	0	+1	+1	+2	+2	0	+2	+2	+1	+1	0	+1	+1	+1	+2	1.0
Resistance to brackling (1–9)	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	0.4
Main market options																	
MBC malting approval for brewing use	F	-	F	F	F	F	F	Nt	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
MBC malting approval for malt distilling use	P	F	F	-	F	F	Nt	F	-	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	
Grain quality																	
Specific weight (kg/hl)	68.4	67.9	68.0	70.0	67.1	68.4	69.5	69.6	66.5	67.7	69.0	69.4	69.0	67.9	67.9	67.6	0.6
Screenings (% through 2.25 mm)	0.9	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.9	0.3
Screenings (% through 2.5 mm)	2.2	3.5	3.0	2.2	2.9	3.3	3.3	2.2	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.7	2.8	2.6	4.6	0.8
Nitrogen content (%)	1.48	-	1.45	[1.48]	1.40	1.44	1.48	-	1.44	1.38	1.43	1.46	1.42	1.46	1.45	1.43	0.05

Malting quality																	
Hot water extract (l deg/kg)	315.0	-	315.2	315.0	317.2	314.9	314.5	-	315.4	316.5	317.0	315.4	315.1	316.6	316.0	316.7	1.9
Predicted spirit yield (laa/t)	437.4	-	436.2	-	439.0	436.8	-	-	436.7	438.6	437.7	437.5	438.7	437.9	435.8	437.6	3.8
Annual treated yield (% control)																	
2021 (8.0 t/ha)	104	103	102	101	103	99	95	94	106	-	-	-	102	-	-	102	-
2022 (7.9 t/ha)	104	101	101	102	102	98	97	96	107	103	104	103	104	103	102	103	-
2023 (7.6 t/ha)	103	103	102	101	98	99	96	94	104	104	102	103	102	101	102	101	-
2024 (8.0 t/ha)	105	102	103	101	101	99	95	92	106	105	104	102	103	104	102	102	-
2025 (7.5 t/ha)	105	103	103	103	101	94	97	-	105	104	103	104	103	102	103	102	-
Breeder/UK contact																	
Breeder	Sec	Ack	SyP	NS	SyP	LimE	RAGT	KWS	NS	SyP	Sec	Sec	Lim	Sej	KWSL	Sej	
UK contact	Agr	EAB	Syn	Agr	Syn	Lim	RAGT	KWS	AgV	Syn	SecU	SecU	Lim	Sen	KWS	Lim	
Status in RL system																	
Year first listed	24	20	16	21	23	18	15	16	24	25	25	25	24	26	25	24	
RL status	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P2	P2	P2	-	P1	P2	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Diviner and SY Signet.
Growers are strongly advised to check with their buyer before committing to a malting variety without full MBC approval.

Spring barley 2026

Feed, described and varieites under test for malting

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Hurler	NOS Gambit	CB Score	Fairing	Trailblazer	Roulette	Shona	Average LSD (5%)
End-use group	Feed		Described		Under test for malting			
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	Null-Lox	Gr.Dis	UK	UK	E	
Variety status	*	*			NEW	NEW	NEW	
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)								
United Kingdom (7.8 t/ha)	104	104	100	92	106	105	104	2.2
East region (7.9 t/ha)	104	104	100	92	105	103	106	2.9
West region (7.4 t/ha)	105	105	100	94	[109]	[107]	[103]	3.6
North region (8.0 t/ha)	104	103	100	91	105	104	102	2.6
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)								
United Kingdom (7.8 t/ha)	86	89	85	78	88	92	86	2.6
Disease resistance								
Mildew (1–9)	8	8	9	7	9	9	8	0.4
Brown rust (1–9)	5	5	5	4	4	6	4	0.7
Rhynchosporium (1–9)	6	6	5	8	5	4	4	1.5
Net blotch (1–9)	7	8	8	7	[7]	[6]	[7]	1.7
Agronomic features								
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	8	7	7	7	[8]	[6]	[6]	1.1
Straw length without PGR (cm)	66	68	70	69	72	72	72	1.4
Ripening (days +/- RGT Planet)	+1	+1	+1	-2	+1	+2	+1	1.0
Resistance to brackling (1–9)	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	0.4
Main market options								
MBC malting approval for brewing use	-	Nt	-	-	T	T	T	
MBC malting approval for malt distilling use	-	-	-	-	T	T	T	
Grain quality								
Specific weight (kg/hl)	67.1	68.0	68.7	69.7	68.7	68.5	68.0	0.6
Screenings (% through 2.25 mm)	1.5	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.7	0.3
Screenings (% through 2.5 mm)	4.0	2.1	3.3	2.3	2.6	3.8	4.3	0.8
Nitrogen content (%)	[1.43]	1.47	-	-	1.43	1.42	1.43	0.05

Malting quality								
Hot water extract (l deg/kg)	313.6	314.5	-	-	315.8	317.1	316.5	1.9
Predicted spirit yield (laa/t)	[434.1]	-	-	-	439.4	436.8	437.6	3.8
Annual treated yield (% control)								
2021 (8.0 t/ha)	105	103	100	92	-	-	-	-
2022 (7.9 t/ha)	104	104	100	92	-	-	-	-
2023 (7.6 t/ha)	103	104	98	91	105	104	103	-
2024 (8.0 t/ha)	105	104	101	93	106	105	105	-
2025 (7.5 t/ha)	105	105	102	93	106	105	103	-
Breeder/UK contact								
Breeder	Sec	NS	Cal	SyP	Sec	Sec	Ack	
UK contact	Agr	Sen	ADM	Syn	SecU	SecU	EAB	
Status in RL system								
Year first listed	23	24	22	16	26	26	26	
RL status	*	*	-	-	P1	P1	P1	

Varieties no longer listed: Diviner and SY Signet.
Null-Lox and grain-distilling (Gr.Dis) spring barley varieties are described. Data is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.
Null-Lox varieties lack a gene for lipogenase production.
Growers are strongly advised to check with their buyer before committing to a malting variety without full MBC approval.
Roulette and Shona will be added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL) in January 2026, provided no representations are received.

Winter oats 2026/27

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	RGT Southwark	Rannoch	Dalguise	Cromwell	Mascani	Peloton	Average LSD (5%)
Variety type	Husked					Naked	
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	
Variety status		NEW	C	C	C		
UK yield (% treated control)							
Fungicide-treated (9.1 t/ha)	106	106	103	102	95	77	3.5
Untreated (% of treated control, 9.1 t/ha)	90	92	78	83	78	67	7.7
Disease resistance							
Mildew (1–9)	3	4	4	3	6	7	0.9
Crown rust (1–9)	6	7	3	4	5	6	0.9
Agronomic features							
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	[5]	-	[4]	[9]	[7]	[8]	2.6
Straw length without PGR (cm)	141	136	138	110	133	131	5.9
Ripening (days +/- Mascani)	0	0	-1	+1	0	0	1.2
Grain quality							
Kernel content (%)	73.1	74.5	72.9	74.9	74.8	-	0.6
Specific weight (kg/hl)	54.3	51.7	54.2	54.9	53.1	60.3	1.1
Screenings (% through 2.0 mm)	6.7	3.3	4.3	6.1	2.9	-	1.5
Screenings (% through 1.8 mm)	-	-	-	-	-	15.1	2.2
Annual treated yield (% control)							
2021 (8.9 t/ha)	108	-	103	-	97	77	5.3
2022 (9.5 t/ha)	107	[103]	105	100	95	79	6.2
2023 (9.2 t/ha)	104	[104]	101	105	94	78	8.3
2024 (9.3 t/ha)	107	104	103	103	93	76	7.4
2025 (8.7 t/ha)	106	110	105	101	95	76	5.7
Breeder/UK contact							
Breeder	R2n	IBERS	Sen	IBERS	IBERS	IBERS	
UK contact	RAGT	Sen	Sen	Sen	Sen	Sen	
Status in RL system							
Year first listed	18	26	03	23	04	17	
RL status	-	P1	-	-	-	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Fusion.

Spring oats 2026

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Caledon	Jacky	Merlin	Neptun	WPB Isabel	Asterion	Canyon	Conway	RGT Vaughan	Described: Oliver	Described: Ovation	Described: Lennon	Average LSD (5%)
Variety type	Husked									Naked			
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	
Variety status		NEW	C	NEW	C		C		*		*		
UK yield (% treated control)													
Fungicide-treated (7.7 t/ha)	104	102	101	101	100	99	99	95	93	71	69	69	3.2
Untreated (% of treated control, 7.7 t/ha)	97	96	94	93	86	93	92	84	87	58	63	62	3.5
Disease resistance													
Mildew (1–9)	8	8	7	8	5	8	8	6	8	3	7	6	0.8
Crown rust (1–9)	6	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	4	3	5	5	1.6
Agronomic features													
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)	[7]	[7]	7	[7]	7	[7]	7	7	[7]	7	[6]	[7]	0.9
Straw length without PGR (cm)	[114]	[119]	108	[117]	114	111	113	104	110	107	111	101	3.1
Ripening (days +/- WPB Isabel)	-1	-1	-2	-2	0	-1	-2	-1	-2	-1	-2	-2	1.1
Grain quality													
Kernel content (%)	72.4	72.9	71.4	74.0	72.5	72.6	71.3	71.0	72.3	-	-	-	1.1
Specific weight (kg/hl)	51.4	51.2	51.7	53.9	53.7	52.5	51.9	49.8	52.3	57.7	53.5	56.4	1.0
Screenings (% through 2.0 mm)	2.1	2.6	1.7	2.2	2.1	3.2	3.1	2.8	3.0	-	-	-	1.3
Screenings (% through 1.8 mm)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.0	14.6	14.4	1.4
Annual treated yield (% control)													
2021 (8.0 t/ha)	[103]	-	[101]	-	[100]	[101]	[100]	[97]	[93]	[71]	[71]	[65]	4.0
2022 (8.0 t/ha)	[108]	[104]	[102]	[102]	[98]	[100]	[100]	[94]	[96]	[72]	[72]	[69]	5.3
2023 (7.5 t/ha)	[103]	[103]	[101]	[100]	[102]	[102]	[97]	[93]	[92]	[72]	[73]	[73]	7.6
2024 (8.0 t/ha)	[101]	[100]	[100]	[100]	[100]	[94]	[100]	[94]	[91]	[68]	[64]	[69]	6.1
2025 (6.8 t/ha)	[105]	[104]	[104]	[102]	[99]	[103]	[97]	[93]	[92]	[73]	[69]	[71]	4.6
Breeder/UK contact													
Breeder	Nord	Nord	Selg	Nord	WPB	Nord	Nord	IBERS	R2n	Selg	IBERS	IBERS	
UK contact	SU	SU	COPE	SU	KWS	SU	SU	Sen	RAGT	COPE	Sen	Sen	
Status in RL system													
Year first listed	25	26	22	26	20	24	11	14	23	18	24	22	
RL status	P2	P1	-	P1	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	

Naked spring oat varieties are described. Data is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.

Winter triticale descriptive list 2026/27

	Lumaco	Bicross	RGT Eleac	RGT Rutenac	SU Askadus	KWS Fido	Average LSD (5%)
Variety status	C	NEW		NEW			
Grain yield (as % treated control)							
Fungicide-treated (10.4 t/ha)	104	99	98	97	97	96	5.4
Number of trials	18	8	16	8	16	20	
Disease resistance							
Yellow rust (1–9)	9	[9]	8	[8]	7	5	0.9
Agronomic features							
Lodging (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Straw length (cm)	119	123	112	122	108	114	3.4
Ripening (days +/- KWS Fido)	0	[-1]	+1	[+2]	+1	0	1.9
Grain quality							
Specific weight (kg/hl)	73.0	74.1	69.7	72.7	73.2	73.2	0.9
Protein content (%)	10.1	10.4	10.0	10.5	10.2	10.0	0.2
Breeder/UK contact							
Breeder	Lant	LD	R2n	R2n	Nord	Lant	
UK contact	Sen	Sen	RAGT	RAGT	SU	Sen	
Status in DL system							
Year first listed	23	26	24	26	24	14	
DL status	-	P1	P2	P1	-	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Kasyno.
For this table, Kasyno was also a control variety but is no longer listed.
Lodging % data is not presented due to lack of data.
The data in this table is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.

Winter rye descriptive list 2026/27

AHDB DESCRIBED

	SU Thor	KWS Emphor	SU Baresi	SU Erling	SU Karlsson	Astranos	SU Perspectiv	KWS Tayo	SU Performer	SU Bendix	KWS Serafino	Average LSD (5%)
Variety type	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	
Variety status				NEW					C			
Grain yield (% treated control)												
Fungicide-treated (10.3 t/ha)	105	104	103	103	102	102	101	101	100	97	96	5.7
Number of trials	9	9	19	6	14	14	14	19	19	18	19	-
Disease resistance												
Brown rust (1–9)	5	5	4	4	6	4	4	5	4	5	5	1.8
Agronomic features												
Lodging (%)	[52]	[27]	[9]	[5]	[3]	[4]	[6]	[7]	[13]	[7]	[5]	1.9
Straw length (cm)	135	133	136	134	141	134	137	136	138	139	138	4.3
Ripening (days +/- SU Performer)	0	+1	0	[0]	0	0	0	+1	0	-1	0	1.9
Grain quality												
Protein content (%)	7.9	7.8	8.0	8.7	8.5	9.0	8.4	8.2	8.3	8.8	8.2	0.3
Hagberg Falling Number	184	228	219	207	222	184	229	242	210	191	258	25.6
Specific weight (kg/hl)	76.0	76.3	77.0	77.0	77.4	76.6	77.0	76.0	76.8	76.5	76.2	0.9
Breeder/UK contact												
Breeder	Hybro	KWSL	Hybro	Hybro	Hybro	NS	Hybro	KWSL	Hybro	Hybro	KWSL	-
UK contact	SU	KWS	SU	SU	SU	Sen	SU	KWS	SU	SU	KWS	-
Status in DL system												
Year first listed	25	25	22	26	24	24	24	22	17	22	21	-
DL status	P2	P2	-	P1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Varieties no longer listed: KWS Baridor, KWS Curator, KWS Igor, Poseidon, and SU Arvid.
The data in this table is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.

Candidate varieties – barley trials harvest 2026

Winter barley

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Selected as potential feed varieties			
KWH1971	Idrys	3664	KWS UK
KWS B171	-	3666	KWS UK
KWS B173	-	3667	KWS UK
LG Caprice	LGBU21-6262-A	3673	Limagrain UK
FDN20WB4805	Paquita	3683	Senova
SY Fastnet	SY223338	3687	Syngenta UK Ltd
SY Fisher	SY223386	3692	Syngenta UK Ltd
Inferno	AC 17/135/16	3697	Elsoms Ackermann Barley

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027/28.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

Spring barley

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Selected as potential malting varieties			
LG Dynamo	LGBU22-3084-A	3715	Limagrain UK
RGT Spacewalk	RP23040	3719	RAGT Seeds
SY Pendant	SY423711	3746	Syngenta UK Ltd
Described candidate variety			
CB23-0287	-	3731	Secobra UK

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

After a candidate variety has been added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL), the data is published online (ahdb.org.uk/rl) and on the RL app (ahdb.org.uk/rlapp).

Candidate varieties – oat and other cereals trials harvest 2026

Winter oats

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	Candidate stage	UK contact
Husked varieties				
Maunsell	AUWO08	513	Year 4	Senova
RV23001	-	542	Year 3	RAGT Seeds
Naked variety				
Falcon	AUWO12	545	Year 3	Senova

Year 4 candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027/28.
Year 3 candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2028/29.

Spring oats

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	Candidate stage	UK contact
Husked varieties				
Clyde	AWC SO16	525	Year 4	Angus Wheat Consultants Ltd
Vision	AWC SO20	547	Year 3	Angus Wheat Consultants Ltd
RGT Hamilton	RV23505	554	Year 3	RAGT Seeds
SGK 22680	-	559	Year 3	Cope Seeds & Grain

Year 4 candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027.
Year 3 candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2028.

Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.
For oats, varieties will be grown in RL trials for two years (Year 3 and Year 4) before being considered for recommendation.

Other cereals

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Winter rye			
HYH-354	SU Torvi	82	Saaten Union UK
HYH-356	SU Ivar	83	Saaten Union UK

Candidate varieties will be considered for the DL 2027/28.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

After a candidate variety has been added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL), the data is published online (ahdb.org.uk/rl) and on the RL app (ahdb.org.uk/rlapp).

Oilseeds overview

Yields

For spring and winter oilseed rape, yields are presented in gross output order, rather than seed yield order. Gross output is calculated from the seed yield, with an adjustment to take account of the oil content. For spring linseed, seed yield is reported with no adjustment for oil content.

Fungicide-treated yield (winter oilseed rape)

Fungicide-treated gross output and seed yield are calculated from trials that receive the full RL fungicide programme, including applications to control sclerotinia at flowering. Other inputs are applied according to best local practice.

Fungicide-untreated yield

Fungicide-untreated gross output and seed yield for winter oilseed rape (referred to as 'untreated' yield in the tables) are calculated from trials that do not receive fungicides in the autumn or spring to control phoma and light leaf spot. However, they do receive fungicides to control sclerotinia at flowering. As fungicide-untreated trials are not conducted as part of VL testing, data on fungicide-untreated yields is only available from the second year of RL listing.

Spring oilseed rape gross output and spring linseed seed yield are calculated from trials that do not routinely receive fungicides.

Treatment benefit (winter oilseed rape)

Because oilseed rape yields are inherently more variable than cereal yields, it is particularly important not to compare fungicide-treated and fungicide-untreated yields from different sites. Treatment benefit reported in the RL only uses data from trials where there is a fungicide-treated and fungicide-untreated trial on the same (co-located) site. Data is presented as a percentage of the treated control varieties at these sites only.

Regional yields

Winter oilseed rape varieties are presented on a single UK list. Regional recommendations are also maintained. Varieties that are suitable for both the East/West and North regions have a UK recommendation.

Regional gross output yields are calculated. However, regional yields are based on fewer trials and should be treated more cautiously. Data for the region a variety is recommended for is indicated in bold in the tables.

For regions where the variety is not recommended, yield figures are provided for information only (indicated in italics). An additional table showing all varieties recommended for a region, including those with UK recommendation, ranked by yield can be found at **ahdb.org.uk/rl**

Regions are based on variety performance, which is why they do not follow national borders. Varieties in trials within the same region are likely to perform more similarly than in trials in different regions.

When choosing a variety, consider those recommended for the UK and your region. Divisions between regions are not absolute and growers are advised to consider which region is most appropriate for their conditions (Figure 11).

As spring oilseed rape and spring linseed have smaller growing areas with fewer trials, results are presented for a single UK region (there are insufficient trials to calculate robust regional yields).

Breeder's claims

Some characteristics are presented as a 'breeder's claim'. Accepted claims are associated with clear genetic markers that allow breeders to verify if a variety has inherited the trait.

For oilseed rape, claims are:

- *Turnip yellows virus* (TuYV) resistance
- Tolerance to specific imidazolinone herbicides (a Clearfield® variety)
- Pod shatter resistance
- Clubroot resistance

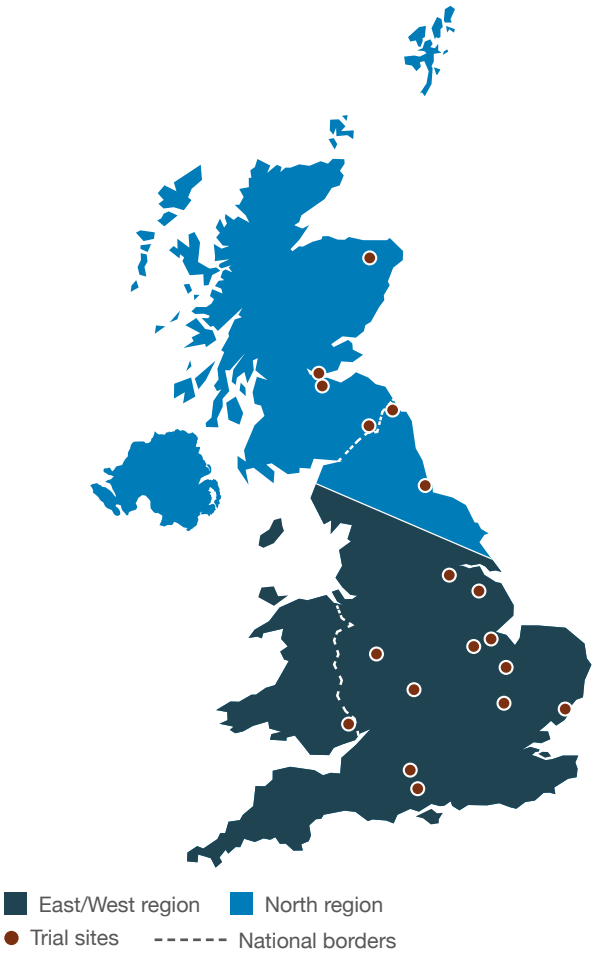

Figure 11. Regions used for calculation of winter oilseed rape regional yields and the locations of harvest 2025 RL winter oilseed rape fungicide-treated trials

Such claims are not verified in RL tests. For information on these claims, contact the relevant breeder or UK contact.

Pod shatter resistance (winter oilseed rape)

Unlike other claims, pod shatter resistance can be bred into a variety through more than one genetic pathway. This means that resistance to pod shatter may vary between varieties. Although AHDB research has developed a quantitative test for pod shatter resistance, it was not suitable for use in the RL.

Clubroot resistance (oilseed rape)

The pathogen that causes clubroot in oilseed rape has several strains. The relative proportion of these strains varies from location to location. Clubroot-resistant varieties are believed to be resistant to common clubroot strains and are recommended for growing on infected land. Some strains of clubroot may overcome the resistance in these varieties. Growing clubroot-resistant varieties repeatedly will select for these strains, potentially making the resistance genes ineffective.

To reduce the risk of resistance breakdown, these varieties should be used in line with AHDB clubroot management guidelines: **ahdb.org.uk/clubroot**

Quality testing

Glucosinolate (oilseed rape)

Glucosinolate contents are taken from the VL trials data for winter and spring oilseed rape. The maximum permitted level is 18 µmol/g.

ALA content (spring linseed)

The alpha-linolenic acid (ALA) content is reported for linseed. Premiums may be available for varieties with high ALA content.

Disease updates

Verticillium stem stripe

The verticillium ratings do not use the 1–9 disease resistance rating scale. This is due to insufficient differentiation between varieties in the data set for this disease. Instead, varieties are defined as: moderately resistant (MR), susceptible (S) or intermediate (I). The difference between varieties grouped within the MR and S categories is statistically significant.

More information on verticillium, including ratings, symptoms and management, can be found at **ahdb.org.uk/verticillium-stem-stripe**

Agronomic traits not included in the RL

Vigour

Good autumn and spring vigour is valued by farmers. AHDB has conducted trials and worked with breeders to develop ways to measure it in oilseed rape.

Although statistically significant differences in vigour are recorded between varieties in individual trials, when trials are combined, differences are no longer significant. This is because varieties that have high levels of vigour in one trial can show low levels of vigour in another.

The reason for this variability is unclear. It may be due to temperature, soil moisture, soil nutrient content, day length or other environmental factors that outweigh genetic differences in vigour.

Until we understand more about these factors, it will not be possible to produce reliable information on varietal vigour for oilseed rape.

For technical commentary on each recommended and described variety, visit ahdb.org.uk/rl

Cabbage stem flea beetle (CSFB) research

AHDB has invested in a major new collaborative research project that will take CSFB management in winter oilseed rape to the next level.

CSFB Research+, which started in 2025 and will run for nearly five years, builds on a long-term series of AHDB- and Defra-funded projects that have dramatically improved understanding of the pest's life cycle, crop risk factors and effective cultural control strategies that underpinned the release of a top 10 list of CSFB management strategies earlier this year.

CSFB Research+ will feature numerous field trials and assessments and will:

- Examine the field performance of novel CSFB control products, such as novel insecticides/seed treatments, botanical biopesticides, entomopathogenic nematodes and synergists
- Extend the understanding of cultural control methods, including the use of OSR stubble cultivation to disrupt soil-dwelling CSFB pupae and brassicas in cover crops to lure beetles away from OSR cash crops
- Improve understanding of CSFB traits to target cultural, biological and chemical control, including studying how environmental conditions influence CSFB development and migration
- Study the two main parasitoids of CSFB: *Microctonus brassicae* and *Tersilochus microgaster* (with a focus on the former), including how to encourage them on farm
- Co-design activities that target research and knowledge exchange, create spaces for innovation and maximise value to levy payers

The project represents AHDB's largest single investment in CSFB research, with a total project value close to £750,000. A third of this investment is from cash and in-kind contributions from an extensive network of project partners. A wide range of communication channels will be used to promote results to levy payers throughout the project.

For the latest project information, visit **ahdb.org.uk/csfb-research**

For information on all AHDB pest research projects, visit **ahdb.org.uk/pest-research**

Winter oilseed rape 2026/27

Hybrid

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Dompteur	Karat	LG Adapt	KWS Domingos	Maverick	LG Academic	LG Armada	Turing	Hinsta	LG Avenger	LG Adeline	Magelan	Murray	Dolphin	Average LSD (5%)
	Hybrid														
Variety type	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	UK	E/W	UK	UK	E/W	E/W	N	N	E/W	E/W	E/W	
Variety status	NEW	NEW		NEW			C	*C					*	*	
Gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% treated control)															
United Kingdom (5.4 t/ha)	**107**	**106**	**106**	**105**	*104*	**104**	**103**	*103*	*102*	*102*	*102*	*102*	*101*	*100*	3.8
East/West region (5.3 t/ha)	**107**	**107**	**106**	**105**	**105**	**104**	**103**	**103**	**103**	*102*	*102*	**102**	**101**	**101**	4.2
North region (5.9 t/ha)	**108**	**105**	**105**	**[105]**	*99*	**103**	**103**	*102*	*[100]*	**103**	**103**	*[100]*	*99*	*97*	4.4
Seed yield (% treated control)															
United Kingdom (5.0 t/ha)	**106**	**104**	**103**	**104**	*103*	**103**	**102**	*104*	*101*	*101*	*102*	*100*	*101*	*98*	3.6
East/West region (4.9 t/ha)	**106**	**105**	**103**	**104**	**104**	**103**	**102**	**104**	**101**	*101*	*101*	**101**	**102**	**98**	4.1
North region (5.5 t/ha)	**106**	**102**	**103**	**[104]**	*97*	**103**	**102**	*102*	*[99]*	**102**	**103**	*[98]*	*99*	*95*	4.2
Untreated yield (% untreated control) – UK															
Gross output (5.3 t/ha)	-	-	[105]	-	[105]	[105]	[106]	100	[100]	[102]	[103]	[101]	102	[102]	5.6
Seed yield (4.9 t/ha)	-	-	[104]	-	[105]	[105]	[105]	100	[99]	[101]	[103]	[100]	102	[100]	5.3
Disease resistance															
Light leaf spot (1–9)	8	8	7	7	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	7	6	0.6
Stem canker (1–9)	8	8	5	8	9	6	5	4	5	5	5	6	8	5	1.0
Verticillium	[I]	[MR]	[I]	[I]	[MR]	[I]	[S]	I	[MR]	[S]	[I]	[MR]	MR	MR	
TuYV	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	R	R	R	-	R	
Agronomic features															
Resistance to lodging (1–9)	7.9	8.0	[7.9]	[7.9]	[8.0]	7.9	8.0	8.0	[8.0]	[7.9]	7.9	[7.8]	[8.0]	[8.0]	0.1
Stem stiffness (1–9)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	0.4
Shortness of stem (1–9)	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	0.3
Plant height (cm)	161	163	162	165	160	160	161	152	160	166	159	160	160	152	3.0
Earliness of flowering (1–9)	8	6	6	6	7	7	5	8	6	6	7	7	7	7	0.4
Earliness of maturity (1–9)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	0.3
Pod shatter resistance	R	-	R	R	-	R	R	-	R	R	R	R	-	-	

Seed quality (at 9% moisture)															
Oil content, fungicide-treated (%)	46.3	46.8	47.0	46.1	46.5	45.8	46.1	45.0	46.6	46.5	45.5	46.7	45.2	46.9	0.3
Glucosinolate (µmol/g)	12.1	11.2	12.7	14.0	11.3	14.1	12.6	10.4	14.8	10.5	14.7	14.8	11.1	13.0	-
Annual treated gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% control) – UK															
2022 (6.0 t/ha)	-	-	105	-	102	103	103	102	101	102	102	100	100	99	-
2023 (5.4 t/ha)	[108]	[106]	106	[106]	102	104	103	102	102	103	103	102	101	100	-
2024 (5.2 t/ha)	108	106	105	105	101	104	103	102	102	102	102	100	100	97	-
2025 (5.9 t/ha)	107	105	105	105	102	104	103	103	101	102	102	100	100	99	-
Treatment benefit at co-located sites (% treated control, 5.5 t/ha) – UK															
Treated gross output	-	-	[110]	-	[104]	[106]	[104]	102	[102]	[105]	[105]	[101]	99	[101]	5.3
Untreated gross output	-	-	[101]	-	[101]	[101]	[102]	96	[96]	[98]	[99]	[98]	98	[98]	5.4
Breeder/UK contact															
Breeder	DSV	NPZ	LimE	KWSS	NPZ	LimE	LimE	NPZ	KWSM	LimE	LimE	LimE	NPZ	DSV	
UK contact	DSV	NPZU	Lim	KWS	NPZU	Lim	Lim	NPZU	KWS	Lim	Lim	Lim	NPZU	DSV	
Status in RL system															
Year first listed	26	26	25	26	25	24	24	23	25	25	24	25	23	24	
RL status	P1	P1	P2	P1	P2	-	-	*	P2	P2	-	P2	*	*	

Varieties no longer listed: Acacia, Amarone, Ambassador, Aspire, Attica, Aurelia, LG Auckland, LG Wagner, and Vegas.
For this table, Ambassador and Aurelia were also control varieties but are no longer listed.
Yield figures for regions where the variety is not recommended are provided for information only and are indicated in italics.

Winter oilseed rape 2026/27

Conventional open-pollinated, herbicide tolerant, clubroot resistant and described

AHDB RECOMMENDED

	Bachus	Pi Pinnacle	Tom	Powerhouse	Annika	LG Calvin CL	Beatrix CL	Matrix CL	Miraculix CL	Crusoe	Crios	Cromputer	Crocodile	Crome	Eriksen	Resort	Average LSD (5%)
	Conventional open-pollinated					Herbicide tolerant				Clubroot resistant					Described		
Variety type	Conv	Conv	Conv	Conv	Conv	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	
Scope of recommendation	UK	UK	UK	N	E/W	UK Sp	E/W Sp	UK Sp	N Sp	UK Sp	N Sp	UK Sp	E/W Sp	N Sp	UK HEAR	UK HEAR	
Variety status	NEW	C				NEW			*		NEW		*	*	NEW		
Gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% treated control)																	
United Kingdom (5.4 t/ha)	**98**	**97**	**97**	*96*	*94*	**94**	*93*	**92**	*92*	**99**	*97*	**97**	*95*	*91*	**95**	**85**	3.8
East/West region (5.3 t/ha)	**97**	**97**	**97**	*96*	**94**	**94**	**93**	**92**	*92*	**100**	*97*	**97**	**96**	*91*	**96**	**85**	4.2
North region (5.9 t/ha)	**99**	**98**	**98**	**98**	*93*	**93**	*89*	**92**	**91**	**98**	**96**	**95**	*[89]*	**92**	**90**	**82**	4.4
Seed yield (% treated control)																	
United Kingdom (5.0 t/ha)	**97**	**97**	**96**	*98*	*94*	**95**	*91*	**91**	*91*	**100**	*97*	**96**	*95*	*90*	**94**	**84**	3.6
East/West region (4.9 t/ha)	**97**	**97**	**96**	*97*	**94**	**95**	**92**	**91**	*91*	**101**	*98*	**96**	**96**	*90*	**94**	**84**	4.1
North region (5.5 t/ha)	**99**	**98**	**97**	**100**	*93*	**94**	*88*	**91**	**90**	**99**	**96**	**95**	*[89]*	**91**	**90**	**81**	4.2
Untreated yield (% untreated control) – UK																	
Gross output (5.3 t/ha)	-	[96]	98	[98]	92	-	92	94	[92]	[99]	-	[98]	98	90	[102]	84	5.6
Seed yield (4.9 t/ha)	-	[96]	98	[99]	92	-	91	93	[92]	[100]	-	[97]	98	89	[99]	83	5.3
Disease resistance																	
Light leaf spot (1–9)	6	6	6	7	7	6	5	5	5	6	7	6	6	5	5	5	0.6
Stem canker (1–9)	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	5	5	4	2	8	4	1.0
Verticillium	[I]	I	I	[S]	MR	[S]	I	S	I	[MR]	[I]	[MR]	I	MR	[MR]	I	
TuYV	-	-	-	-	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	R	-	
Agronomic features																	
Resistance to lodging (1–9)	8.0	8.0	[8.0]	[8.0]	[8.0]	7.9	[7.9]	7.8	[7.9]	[7.9]	7.9	[7.9]	[8.0]	8.0	[8.0]	8.0	0.1
Stem stiffness (1–9)	9	8	9	8	9	8	[8]	7	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	0.4
Shortness of stem (1–9)	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	5	7	6	6	6	6	6	0.3
Plant height (cm)	152	158	152	148	154	152	155	157	160	161	148	156	151	150	157	152	3.0
Earliness of flowering (1–9)	7	5	7	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	9	6	7	7	7	7	0.4
Earliness of maturity (1–9)	5	5	5	5	4	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	0.3
Pod shatter resistance	-	-	-	-	-	R	R	R	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Seed quality (at 9% moisture)																	
Oil content, fungicide-treated (%)	45.7	45.1	45.9	44.1	45.4	44.6	46.4	46.2	46.1	44.9	45.3	46.1	45.5	46.4	46.8	46.3	0.3
Glucosinolate (µmol/g)	12.8	13.0	11.6	14.5	11.6	14.1	15.3	14.2	15.2	12.6	14.5	13.4	12.8	10.8	11.4	14.0	-
Annual treated gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% control) – UK																	
2022 (6.0 t/ha)	-	98	97	97	95	-	92	92	92	99	-	96	94	92	94	84	-
2023 (5.4 t/ha)	[99]	98	98	97	93	[93]	91	92	91	100	[97]	96	91	92	92	83	-
2024 (5.2 t/ha)	98	98	96	97	[93]	93	89	90	90	98	95	95	90	90	91	82	-
2025 (5.9 t/ha)	98	97	97	97	93	94	92	92	92	98	97	97	93	92	94	85	-
Treatment benefit at co-located sites (% treated control, 5.5 t/ha) – UK																	
Treated gross output	-	[94]	96	[95]	93	-	96	93	[92]	[101]	-	[102]	94	90	[97]	84	5.3
Untreated gross output	-	[92]	94	[94]	88	-	88	91	[89]	[95]	-	[94]	94	87	[98]	81	5.4
Breeder/UK contact																	
Breeder	CBI	Pick	CBI	Els	LimE	LimE	DSV	DSV	DSV	NPZ	R2n	DSV	DSV	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ	
UK contact	FA	GSd	FA	Els	Lim	Lim	DSV	DSV	DSV	NPZU	RAGT	DSV	DSV	NPZU	NPZU	NPZU	
Status in RL system																	
Year first listed	26	24	23	25	22	26	23	22	24	25	26	25	20	19	26	20	
RL status	P1	-	-	P2	-	P1	-	-	*	P2	P1	P2	*	*	P1	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Acacia, Amarone, Ambassador, Aspire, Attica, Aurelia, LG Auckland, LG Wagner, and Vegas.
For this table, Ambassador and Aurelia were also control varieties but are no longer listed.
High erucic acid (HEAR) is a described variety. Data is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.
Yield figures for regions where the variety is not recommended are provided for information only and are indicated in italics.
Herbicide-tolerant varieties have a specific recommendation for tolerance to specific imidazolinone herbicides (a Clearfield® variety).
Clubroot-resistant varieties have a specific recommendation for growing on land infected with common strains of clubroot.

Spring oilseed rape descriptive list 2026

AHDB DESCRIBED

	Lakritz	Crazy CL[1, 2]	Lumen	Fergus	Contra CL[1]	Average LSD (5%)
Variety type	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Conv	Hybrid	
Variety status	C	NEW	C			
Gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% control)						
UK without fungicide (2.8 t/ha)	[103]	[103]	[98]	[95]	[92]	6.9
Number of trials	7	4	7	7	7	-
Seed yield (% control)						
UK without fungicide (2.6 t/ha)	[103]	[103]	[97]	[93]	[91]	6.7
Agronomic features						
Shortness of stem (1–9)	7	[7]	6	6	6	0.3
Earliness of flowering (1–9)	7	[7]	7	7	7	0.4
Earliness of maturity (1–9)	[5]	[5]	[5]	[5]	[5]	0.4
Seed quality (at 9% moisture)						
Oil content (%)	[42.8]	[43.5]	[43.7]	[44.4]	[43.2]	1.2
Glucosinolate content (µmol/g)	10.6	13.0	11.0	12.3	12.4	-
Annual gross output, yield adjusted for oil content (% control)						
2021 (2.4 t/ha)	[[107]]	-	[[93]]	[[100]]	[[94]]	-
2022 (4.7 t/ha)	[[101]]	-	[[98]]	[[88]]	[[90]]	-
2023 (2.9 t/ha)	[[107]]	[[106]]	[[103]]	[[93]]	[[93]]	-
2024 (2.5 t/ha)	[102]	[110]	[98]	[99]	[98]	8.8
2025 (1.6 t/ha)	[[96]]	[[92]]	[[104]]	[[96]]	[[72]]	-
Breeder/UK contact						
Breeder	NPZ	NPZ	NPZ	Lant	NPZ	
UK contact	DSV	DSV	DSV	Sen	DSV	
Status in DL system						
Year first listed	21	26	18	22	21	
DL status	-	P1	-	-	-	

Varieties no longer listed: Cocktail CL.
The data in this table is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.
[1] Contra CL and Crazy CL are herbicide-tolerant varieties. These varieties have a tolerance to specific imidazolinone herbicides (a Clearfield® variety).
[2] Crazy CL is a clubroot-resistant variety, believed to be resistant to common strains of clubroot; as this is a breeders' claim, this has not been verified in RL tests.

Spring linseed descriptive list 2026

AHDB DESCRIBED	Bingo	Balance	Juliet	Skylark	Bliss	Baroness	Daniel	CDC Rowland	Nimbus	Paddington	Richess	Abacus	Gilbert	Genie	Average LSD (5%)
Seed colour	B		B	B		B		B	B	Ye		B	Ye	Ye	
Variety status	C	NEW						NEW				C			
Seed yield (% control)															
UK without fungicide (1.8 t/ha)	109	108	106	104	100	100	99	98	95	94	94	91	91	80	7.6
Number of trials	16	10	16	16	16	12	16	10	12	12	16	16	16	12	-
Agronomic features															
Plant height (cm)	49	49	54	49	48	47	51	52	55	50	43	48	49	51	1.8
Earliness of flowering (1–9)	5	5	4	4	6	6	6	5	4	4	7	5	6	4	0.7
Earliness of maturity (1–9)	6	6	5	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	0.5
Seed quality (at 9% moisture)															
Oil content (%)	40.5	[41.5]	41.9	41.7	41.1	41.7	40.6	[41.1]	40.7	40.9	43.0	40.3	41.7	38.2	0.5
ALA content (%)	54.8	62.1	58.1	62.0	60.9	59.7	57.8	65.4	60.2	60.5	65.5	56.9	66.9	69.5	-
Annual seed yield (% control)															
2021 (2.1 t/ha)	[107]	-	[94]	[104]	[100]	-	[97]	-	-	-	[92]	[97]	[90]	-	6.8
2022 (2.0 t/ha)	[114]	-	[112]	[112]	[105]	[108]	[108]	-	[105]	[103]	[92]	[92]	[98]	[82]	16.7
2023 (1.7 t/ha)	[109]	[109]	[113]	[108]	[104]	[101]	[104]	[106]	[96]	[88]	[98]	[93]	[85]	[76]	14.2
2024 (2.1 t/ha)	[106]	[109]	[103]	[100]	[92]	[91]	[90]	[87]	[89]	[95]	[92]	[84]	[93]	[80]	14.5
2025 (1.3 t/ha)	[115]	[105]	[115]	[95]	[103]	[106]	[97]	[104]	[95]	[96]	[97]	[88]	[90]	[82]	22.4
Breeder/UK contact															
Breeder	Bilt	Bilt	GKI	JTSD	Bilt	Bilt	Med	CDC	JTSD	Bilt	LS	JTSD	CDC	JTSD	
UK contact	Els	Els	Agr	UOM	Els	Els	Agr	JTSD	JTSD	Els	PC	Sen	Rapp	JTSD	
Status in DL system															
Year first listed	17	26	01	24	20	25	18	26	25	25	24	06	23	25	
DL status	-	P1	-	-	-	P2	-	P1	P2	P2	-	-	-	P2	

Varieties no longer listed: Buffalo and Octal.
For this table, Buffalo was also a control variety but is no longer listed.
The data in this table is provided for information only and does not constitute a recommendation.

Candidate varieties – winter oilseed rape trials harvest 2026

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Hybrid varieties			
Valdez	LSF23363W	3585	NPZ UK
Montana	NPZ23341W	3589	NPZ UK
BNJ2107	-	3595	RAGT Seeds
HRK1686	-	3598	RAGT Seeds
LE23/478	-	3602	Limagrain UK
WRH694	-	3618	DSV UK Ltd
MH 20OQ1102	-	3627	KWS UK
Conventional open-pollinated varieties			
WRC32-005	-	3620	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
WRB05-028	-	3621	Elsoms Seeds Ltd
Clubroot-resistant varieties			
Crown	RAP22330W	3590	NPZ UK
HRJ1486	-	3597	RAGT Seeds
RAP689	-	3615	DSV UK Ltd
KWS Kremos	H9239935	3626	KWS UK
Herbicide-tolerant variety			
LE22/364C	-	3600	Limagrain UK
Described candidate variety			
MDS87	-	3584	Bayer CropScience

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027/28.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

After a candidate variety has been added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL), the data is published online (**ahdb.org.uk/rl**) and on the RL app (**ahdb.org.uk/rlapp**).

Key index

Top ten CSFB management strategies

AHDB

1. **Ditch the date:** do not stick to traditional calendar dates to avoid the peak migration period (which usually occurs during late-August to mid-September)
2. **Chase perfection at establishment:** always wait for adequate moisture (present or forecast) before sowing, use the best seed, promote good seed-to-soil contact, ensure adequate nutrition and select varieties with appropriate vigour for the sow date
3. **Keep your distance:** any distance (space and time) between previous and current crops will improve the chance of success
4. **Improve larval tolerance:** fewer, bigger plants will stand up better to larval attack
5. **Make use of muck:** apply organic materials, which can reduce beetle damage and support crop growth
6. **Park the pyrethroids:** resistance is real and they can harm beneficial insects
7. **Create companions:** companion cropping (e.g. with oats, buckwheat and berseem clover) and intercropping (e.g. with faba beans) can help shield crops from CSFB
8. **Build brassica buddies:** use sacrificial strips of brassica (e.g. turnip rape) or OSR volunteer trap crops to lure beetles away
9. **Stir it up post-harvest:** lightly cultivate OSR stubble soon after harvest to hit emerging CSFB
10. **Unlock hidden gems:** discover the many other tactics to layer in an integrated approach to suppress the pest

Use as many strategies as possible to deliver multiple blows and suppress CSFB populations.

Further information

These strategies were compiled by a unique industry partnership (as part of the OSR Reboot initiative).

For further information on the partnership and the application of the strategies, scan the QR code or visit **ahdb.org.uk/csfb-tips**

SCAN ME

Candidate varieties – spring oilseeds trials harvest 2026

Spring linseed

AHDB CANDIDATE	Previous/proposed name	Variety ID	UK contact
Spring linseed			
Rhino	1444-12/1A/4	286	JTSD Ltd

Candidate varieties will be considered for the RL 2027.
Varieties are ordered within a group by ascending variety ID.

After a candidate variety has been added to the GB and NI Variety Lists (VL), the data is published online (**ahdb.org.uk/rl**) and on the RL app (**ahdb.org.uk/rlapp**).

A world of knowledge awaits

Find all of AHDB's resources in one place at ahdb.org.uk

Quick links

RL tables and comments: **ahdb.org.uk/rl**

RL tools: **ahdb.org.uk/tools**

RL harvest results: **ahdb.org.uk/harvest-results**

Nutrients: **ahdb.org.uk/rb209**

Pests: **ahdb.org.uk/pests**

Weeds: **ahdb.org.uk/arable-weeds**

Diseases (cereals): **ahdb.org.uk/cereal-diseases**

Diseases (oilseeds): **ahdb.org.uk/osr-diseases**

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Post-harvest: **ahdb.org.uk/harvest-toolkit**

Markets: **ahdb.org.uk/markets**

Research: **ahdb.org.uk/arable-research**

General: **ahdb.org.uk/cereals**

Breeder and UK contact information

Abbreviation	Name	Web address
Ack	Ackermann Saatzucht GmbH	sz-ackermann.de
ADM	ADM Agriculture Ltd	adm-agri.co.uk
Agr	Agrii	agrii.co.uk
AgV	Agrovista UK Ltd	agrovista.co.uk
Ang	Angus Wheat Consultants Ltd	
BA	Blackman Agriculture	
Bay	Bayer CropScience	cropscience.bayer.co.uk
Bilt	van de Bilt, Netherlands	
Bre	Saatzucht Josef Breun, Germany	breun.de
Cal	Carlsberg Research Laboratory	
CDC	CDC Saskatchewan	agbio.usask.ca/cdcflax
CBI	Cluser Breeding International GmbH	
COPE	Cope Seeds & Grain	copeseeds.co.uk
DSV	DSV UK Ltd	dsv-uk.co.uk
EAB	Elsoms Ackermann Barley	elsoms.com
Els	Elsoms Seeds Ltd	elsoms.com
ElsW	Elsoms Wheat Ltd	elsoms.com
FA	Frontier Agriculture Ltd	frontierag.co.uk
GKI	GK Kht, Hungary	
GSd	Grainseed	grainseed.co.uk
HRS	HR Smolice	
Hybro	Hybro, Germany	saaten-union.co.uk
IBERS	IBERS, Aberystwyth University	aber.ac.uk/en/ibers
JTSD	JTSD Ltd	jtsd.co.uk
KWS	KWS UK	kws-uk.com
KWSL	KWS Lochow GmbH	kws-uk.com
KWSM	KWS Momont Recherche	kws-uk.com
KWSS	KWS SAAT SE	kws-uk.com

Abbreviation	Name	Web address
Lant	Lantmannen SW Seed BV	lantmannen.com
LD	Lemaire Deffontaines	
Lim	Limagrain UK	lgseeds.co.uk
LimE	Limagrain Europe SAS	lgseeds.co.uk
LS	Linéa Semences de lin	
Med	Medovarsky	
Pick	Mike Pickford	
NS	Nordic Seed, Denmark	nordicseed.com
Nord	Nordsaat, Germany	nordsaat.de
NPZ	NPZ-Lembke, Germany	npz.de
NPZU	NPZ UK	npz-uk.com
PC	Premium Crops	premiumcrops.com
R2n	RAGT, France	ragt.co.uk
RAGT	RAGT Seeds	ragt.co.uk
Rapp	Robin Appel	robin-appel.com
SU	Saaten Union UK	saaten-union.co.uk
SE	Saatzucht Edelhof, Austria	saatzucht-edelhof.at
Sec	Secobra, France	secobra.fr
SecU	Secobra UK	secobra.co.uk
Sej	Sejet, Denmark	sejet.com
Selg	Selgen, Czech Republic	selgen.eu
Sen	Senova	senova.uk.com
Str	Strube, Germany	
SCP	Syngenta Crop Protection	syngenta-crop.co.uk
SyP	Syngenta Participations AG	syngenta.co.uk
Syn	Syngenta UK Ltd	syngenta.co.uk
UOM	United Oilseeds Marketing	
WPB	Wiersum Plantbreeding BV	

Key index

*	Variety no longer under test in RL trials
[ ]	Limited data
[[ ]]	Very limited data
#	Hybrid variety
@	Believed to carry the *Pch1* Rendezvous resistance gene to eyespot
ALA	Alpha-linolenic acid
B	Brown seed
C	Yield control
Conv	Conventional open-pollinated variety
E	Recommended for the East region
E/W	Recommended for the East/West region
F	Full MBC approval in this segment
H	High
I	Intermediate
LSD	Least significant difference. Average LSD (5%): Varieties that are more than one LSD apart are significantly different at the 95% confidence level
M	Medium
MBC	Malting Barley Committee
MR	Moderately resistant
N	Recommended for the North region
Nt	Not approved by MBC in this segment
P	Provisional MBC approval in this segment
P1	First year of listing
P2	Second year of listing
PGR	Plant growth regulator
R	Believed to be resistant to the trait; as this is a breeders' claim, this has not been verified in RL tests
r	Young plant resistance to yellow rust as shown by UKCPVS tests and RL trial data
s	Young plant susceptibility to yellow rust as shown by UKCPVS tests and RL trial data
S	Susceptible
Sp	Specific recommendation. For more details, please see table footnote
T	Under test for MBC approval in this segment
To	Believed to be tolerant to the trait; as this is a breeders' claim, this has not been verified in RL tests
TuYV	*Turnip yellows virus*
UK	Recommended for the UK
UKFM	UK Flour Millers
W	Recommended for the West region
WDV	Wheat dwarf virus
Y	Suited to that market
[Y]	May be suited to that market
Ye	Yellow seed

The AHDB Recommended Lists (RL) is managed by a project consortium of AHDB, BSPB, MAGB and UKFM.

Funding for the RL trials and tests is provided by AHDB Cereals & Oilseeds but the production of the RL would be impossible without the contribution and support of the industry.

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Preliminary data
The selection of new varieties to promote into AHDB RL trials is made on the basis of preliminary data collected during GB and NI Variety Lists (VL) and other trials and tests. The data also makes a major contribution to the RL variety means. Acknowledgement is made to Defra, the devolved governments and BSPB for the use of this data.

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Committee members and growers
AHDB wishes to thank all those who give freely of their time to serve on our committees and to the numerous growers across the country who host RL trials.

AHDB is the independent, impartial public body that unlocks success in British agriculture. Funded by a levy from British farmers, growers and processors, we're behind the invaluable research and reports, domestic marketing campaigns and global export opportunities that help British farming thrive. Together, we deliver the insights, the influence and the impact that farmers need. For more information, visit **ahdb.org.uk**