

## REVISION

Following feedback from growers and the wider industry on the wheat yield estimate in the previous version of this report (published on Friday, 8 August), we worked with our provider, The Andersons Centre, to investigate the data further. Upon review, The Andersons Centre identified an error in the background yield data and as a result the yield estimate for the week ending 6 August has been revised lower. Data for other crops remains as published on 8 August.

AHDB apologise for this error and remain committed to openness and transparency.

## OVERVIEW (Revised)

Harvest has continued to be stop-start over much of the UK, with progress hindered by short spells of often heavy rainfall. Good progress was made in the week ending 30 July, but rainfall slowed progress across the weekend of 02–03 August. For those in the North of England and Scotland, storm Floris also brought strong winds. While the impact on crops is thought to be minimal, it is difficult to state this as a fact for unharvested crops.

The previous report (data up to 23 July) captured that with an estimated 10% of the crop cut, wheat yields were 11% down on the five-year (2020-2024) average. With close to 50% of the crop now cut, yields for the farmers in this survey are averaging 7.46t/ha or 3.5% below the five-year average.

However, there remains a lot of variability within farms, regions and across the UK within this survey and wider. As this is a survey, the yields reported will not reflect all farm situations and could show significant variation in some cases.

It should also be noted that the five-year average includes two particularly bad years for yields, 2020 and 2024. When comparing the yield so far in 2025 to the 10-year average, the gap increases considerably. The 10-year average is 8.1t/ha, with 2025 estimated yields 7.2% below this average.

The significant variation in yield is driven by many factors including the availability of moisture, changes in cultivations and changes in grassweed pressures. In addition there are potential changes in the area being farmed, with some less productive land in England moved into the [Sustainable Farming Incentive](#).

The weight of grain relative to the volume is also an important consideration. Specific weights this year are very good so far, which is leading to smaller, heavier grain heaps in some cases.

Straw yields are also highly variable depending on the level of moisture available to the crop during stem extension.

Looking ahead, there is further unsettled weather forecast with harvest expected to continue in the same stop-start fashion. Rainfall looks as though it will be heaviest in the West and North over the coming week (7–13 August).

## WINTER BARLEY

### Harvest update

The winter barley harvest is now complete in the UK, with the final hectares cut this week. This is in line with progress last year, and just slightly ahead of the five-year average pace at this point in the season (96%).

### Yields

Yields of winter barley have been highly variable, ranging from 4.09 t/ha to 8.27 t/ha. Overall, the average UK yield is estimated 1% below the five-year average at 6.66 t/ha.

### Quality

Winter barley quality is said to be good overall.

**Specific weight** – Specific weights are coming in between 61 – 73 kg/hl, with an average across all regions of 65 kg/hl.

**Screenings** – Grain size is good, with screening retentions (on a 2.25 mm sieve) for winter barley averaging 99%.

**Grain nitrogen (for malting varieties)** – Nitrogen levels within winter barley have averaged 1.7% with a range of 1.4% to 2.0%. Given the hot and dry weather in the late spring and into early summer, it is not surprising that nitrogen levels are also reported as high. This may prove challenging for some end markets, with the majority of malting barley requirements in the 1.66% to 1.85% range.

**Moisture** – Moisture levels of winter barley crops averaged 14.6%, ranging from 12.2% in the South East to 19.0% for some crops in Scotland.

**Germination** – There are no reported problems with germination in the winter malting crop, with the crop averaging 99%.

## WINTER OILSEED RAPE

### Harvest update

The WOSR harvest is now complete, with the final 23% of the crop cut by Wednesday. This is slightly ahead of the same point last year, when 93% had been cut, and the five-year average of 82%.

While rainfall has slowed down the harvesting of some winter cereals, it has allowed timely cultivations for next harvests' oilseed rape crops.

### Yields

Yields of oilseed rape this season have been encouraging, averaging 3.98 t/ha across the UK, and ranging from 2.88 t/ha to 5.31 t/ha. The average for the UK is the highest since 2011 for the winter sown crop.

## Quality

**Oil content** – Quality of oilseed rape has been excellent this season, with oil content averaging around 44-45%, and ranging from 42-46%.

**Moisture** – Average moisture of oilseed rape is reported to be 9%, with a range of 7.5-10%.

## OATS

### Harvest update

As of the week ending 06 August, the UK oat harvest is reportedly 48% complete, with 29% of the crop cut in the last week. This is ahead of the same point last year, when 22% of the crop had been cut, and the five-year average of 16%. So far, focus has been on winter oats.

Of those farms surveyed, oat harvest was complete in the East of England, Wales, and the North West.

### Yields

Early oat yields are reported as 5% below the five-year average of 5.07 t/ha. However, this is not representative with the UK average yield including both spring and winter crops, rather than just winter.

For winter oats harvested so far, unadjusted yields have ranged from 6.0 t/ha to 8.5 t/ha.

### Quality

While limited spring oat samples have yet been analysed, more winter oat samples have been processed. Quality reports may change once more crops are analysed.

**Specific weight** – Winter quality has reportedly been good, with specific weights averaging 53 kg/hl.

**Moisture** – Moisture content has been highly variable, ranging from 10.0% to 16.5%.

## WHEAT

### Harvest update

By 06 August, the UK wheat harvest had reached 48% completion, up from 11% in our last report a fortnight ago, and ahead of the same point last year (37%). This is also ahead of the five-year average of 31% completion.

Harvest is now complete for those reporting in Wales and is 82% complete in the South West. Meanwhile, the regions with the least progress are Northern Ireland, the North East, and the North West.

### Yields (Revised)

With close to 50% of the crop now cut, yields for the farmers in this survey are averaging 7.46t/ha or 3.5% below the five-year average. Yields remain highly variable from farm to farm within this survey. As this is a survey, the yields reported will not reflect all farm situations and could show significant variation in some cases.

It should also be noted that the five-year average includes two particularly bad years for yields, 2020 and 2024. When comparing the yield so far in 2025 to the 10-year average, the gap increases considerably. The 10-year average is 8.1t/ha, with 2025 estimated yields 7.2% below this average.

There is some significant variation in yield driven by many factors. These include the availability of moisture, changes in cultivations and changes in grassweed pressures. In addition, there are potential changes in the area being farmed with some less productive land in England moved into the [Sustainable Farming Incentive](#).

The weight of grain relative to the volume is also an important consideration. Specific weights this year are very good so far, which is leading to smaller, heavier grain heaps in some cases.

### Quality

Quality is reported to be good, though as harvest advances, we will gain a clearer picture.

**Specific weight** – specific weights so far are very good, with a high of 84 kg/hl reported in one case, and an average of 79 kg/hl.

**Hagberg Falling Number (HFN)** – Hagberg Falling Numbers are generally above 300 seconds, however with the recent rainfall in some Group 1 samples HFNs have dropped closer to 200 seconds.

**Protein** – Protein currently looks good, with protein levels in Group 1 samples averaging 13.5%.

**Moisture** – Winter wheat moisture levels are up on the previous report, owing to harvest taking place around showers. The average moisture level is reported as 15.0%, ranging from 12.2% to 17.0%.

## SPRING BARLEY

### Harvest update

Spring barley harvest is now underway across parts of the UK and was 19% complete as of 06 August. This is up from 2% in our previous report a fortnight ago, and well ahead of the same point last year (7%) and the five-year average (9%).

Most progress had been made in the East of England (93% complete), South East (50%) and Wales (41%). Spring barley harvest is also underway in the East Midlands but is yet to start in the other regions for the farms included in this survey.

### Yields

While initial yield reports for spring barley are promising, these are weighted to the East of England and greater variation is likely to emerge as harvest progresses. The data submitted through this survey to date suggests average yields of spring barley are up 21% on the five-year average. Some farmers are reporting yields as high as 20%-30% above average.

The average yield so far is 6.98t/ha and ranges from 5.08t/ha to 7.37 t/ha, though this can be expected to change over the coming weeks.

### Quality

More samples are being processed as harvest advances, though so far results are weighted to the South East and East of England. Further information on spring barley quality will be available in upcoming reports.

**Specific weight** – Specific weights are currently averaging 66 kg/hl.

**Screenings** – Very good levels are reported, with retentions on a 2.25 mm sieve averaging 98%.

**Grain nitrogen (for malting varieties)** – Given the high levels of sunshine throughout the growing season, it is not surprising that nitrogen levels are high. In the south of England levels have regularly been 1.8% and over, with most of the crop so far ranging between 1.5% and 2.0%.

**Moisture** – So far moisture levels are averaging 14.5%.

**Germination** – There are no issues reported so far with germination.

## PULSES

Harvesting of peas and beans across the UK was 13% complete by 06 August, up from 4% in our previous report.

The methodology for calculating an average yield for other crops is not replicable for pulses, due to a lack of regional data published by Defra. However, yields reported for winter beans have typically ranged from 3.5 t/ha – 4.5 t/ha, with outliers around this range.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

This is the third harvest report of the 2025/26 season and covers data up to the week ending 06 August 2025, which is the fifth week of the 'typical' harvest period. It is produced with data collected by The Andersons Centre and compiled by AHDB.

The information is based on a sample survey of farmers in the United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland). They provide information on harvest progress, yields, grain moisture levels and insights on straw production. The sample is chosen to represent the cropping mix (wheat, barley, oats and oilseed rape) by region/country, with more widely grown crops and higher producing regions having more coverage. Information on grain and oilseed quality is provided by a panel of merchants.

At this stage of harvest, progress is variable across the country. As such, yield and quality data will likely be skewed to those regions where more harvesting has taken place; they should not yet be considered representative of the whole country.

Please note that these harvest progress reports are separate from [AHDB's Recommended Lists harvest data](#), which includes results from their variety trials.

Grain and seed yields from early harvested crops are based on farmer reported yields. The percentage deviation between the farmers reported yield and the five-year average is applied to the regional five-year average quoted by Defra. Yields have been adjusted where moisture is above 14.5% for cereals and 8% for oilseed rape. Moisture levels below 14.5% and 8% have not been adjusted.