

Chelmsford Monitor Farm Meeting Report

Meeting 6: Summer Open Day

Date: 22 June 2018

Location: Parklands Farm, Galleywood

For more information, visit: cereals.ahdb.org.uk/chelmsford



Meeting Summary – Key Messages

- Maximise rooting and light capture in order to achieve the highest potential yield for the crop. Use the benchmarks in the [Wheat Growth Guide](#) to follow potential through the season.
- Using a try-out on-farm can help to inform key decisions – the drill try-out has provided interesting comparisons by monitoring through the year, as well as through the final yield results.
- To chop or to bale your straw is a key consideration this year, given the season and high prices. Use the [decision tree](#) (p.4) to aid field-by-field decisions and calculate the pros and cons of nutrient removal using [this leaflet](#).

Chelmsford YEN (Brook Field)

The group visited the YEN ([Yield Enhancement Network](#)) field, which was chosen by the group along with a suggested programme for agronomy and nutrition. The key facts for the field are:

- **Variety:** Crusoe
- **Drilled:** 08.10.17 @ av. 496 seeds/m² variable
- **N applied:** 194kg N +50kg N as foliar urea
- **Herbicides:**
 - Pre-em Liberator 0.6l/ha + Twister 500 0.13l/ha
 - 12 metre headland with Broadway Star @ 265g/ha
 - Spitfire @ 0.75l/ha
- **Additional nutrition ideas** on different areas:
 - Poly N Plus (BFS); Multi-N (Frontier);
 - Cereal Plus (trace elements following tissue analysis); late S application.

• Fungicide programme:

- T0:** Chlorothalonil @ 1l/ha
Tebuconazole @ 0.4l/ha
CCC 750 @ 1l/ha
- T1:** Chlorothalonil @ 1l/ha
Epoconazole @ 0.75l/ha
Manganese @ 2l/ha
CCC 750 @ 1l/ha
Moddus @ 0.2l/ha
- T2:** Elatus Plus @ 0.6l/ha
Epoconazole @ 0.5l/ha
Cerone @ 0.3l/ha
- T3:** Tebuconazole @ 1l/ha

The soil pit and discussions with Daniel Kindred showed that the crop had got good rooting, down to at least 1m in depth but may the gaps between rows may be limiting potential. The group estimated the yield of the crop and results varied from 4.07t/ha to 13.13t/ha – the winner of the closest yield will be announced at the first winter meeting.

Drill try-out

The drill try-out plots were showcased at the Summer Open Day for an update on the try-out of the seven drills that were used in seven days to establish this winter wheat field.

Christy had carried out some ear counts on the plots, for which the results can be found below. There are some visible differences between the plots, but we are now waiting for the harvest results to see the final yield effects between the different drills.

For a summary update on Christy's current thoughts between the drills and the current differences, please read her update blog here: <http://cereals-blog.ahdb.org.uk/7-drills-in-7-days-an-update/>.

	Sky	Cayena	Weaving	Simtech	CrossSlot	JD 750A	Mzuri
Seed rate	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Average plants per quarter square metre	146.5	129	116	117	114.5	114	136.5
Std Dev	10.5	3	2	2	3.5	3	1.5
Ears per metre sq.	586	516	464	468	458	456	546
Plants per metre sq.	344	314	310	289	250	212	187
Ears per plant	1.70	1.64	1.50	1.62	1.83	2.15	2.92

Find out more – Links to AHDB information sheets or research

[Yield enhancement network \(YEN\)](#)

[Wheat Growth Guide](#)

[Fungicide performance](#)

[AHDB Recommended List for cereals and oilseeds](#)

[Get more for your straw](#)

[Assessing the nutrient content of straw](#)

For information on soils, visit ahdb.org.uk/greatsoils



Next meeting

All meetings will start at 9am with a bacon roll at Galleywood Heritage Centre, The Common, Galleywood, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8TR.

Winter Meeting Dates 2018 to 2019

- Friday 9 November 2018
- Friday 14 December 2018
- Friday 11 January 2019
- Friday 8 February 2018

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 [@CerealsEA](https://twitter.com/CerealsEA)

To find out more about Farmbench, AHDB's benchmarking tool, contact: Holly Howsam
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