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# OILSEED RAPE 2007



# Recommended Varieties of Winter Oilseed Rape

## Introduction

Recommendations in this leaflet are based on data collected as part of the HGCA Recommended Lists' system. The full data collected and the HGCA Recommended Lists are available on the HGCA website ([www.hgca.com](http://www.hgca.com)). The fully recommended varieties in the table have been grown in at least 11 trials at Inverness, Aberdeen, Kinross, Edinburgh, The Borders and Newcastle. Varieties are listed in order of gross output. Varieties fully recommended for the North Region come first in the table followed by varieties in their second and first year of recommendation.

In the first year, entry onto the list is generally based on all UK data but for the second year, the decision is usually based on north UK data. Growers should be aware that varieties new to the list are not all suited to northern growing conditions.

The data on disease in Scotland are supplemented by data from England (and Wales).

## Classification of Varieties

With the exception of the HEAR and specialist oil varieties, all varieties listed in this leaflet are double low. Double low varieties are low in both erucic acid and glucosinolates. Glucosinolates are substances present in the meal. The meal is incorporated into animal feeds and high quantities of glucosinolate may affect animal performance adversely. Hybrid seed should not be home saved unless an agreement is made between the grower and breeder.

## Notes on Table Characters

### Yield

The yields are based on data from Scotland and the north of England. Some varieties have had fewer trials than others but statistical adjustment makes their means comparable. The relative yields of varieties both untreated and fungicide treated are given in the table. The programme of fungicides is a comprehensive one aimed at keeping all diseases at minimal levels throughout the crop's life thus allowing maximum yield potential to be achieved. Although yield is important, other characteristics should also be considered. A standard seed rate based on thousand seed weight is used for all varieties in trial to allow direct comparison of yield. At present, hybrids are sown at 70 seeds/sq metre and conventional varieties at 120 seed/sq metre. Growers should note that some varieties are often sold in hectare packs where the seed number may differ considerably from those used in the trials. Where commercial crops are sown at lower seed rates, then the stem stiffness rating will improve.

## **Oil content**

A high oil content is desirable as merchants pay a premium or make a deduction according to the level in the seed. The adjustment for oil content varies but is usually in the region of 1.5% value/tonne for each 1% above or below 40%. Oil contents are presented in the table.

## **Gross Output**

Gross output provides a measure of economic output performance by adjusting the value of the fungicide treated yield relative to the control varieties, according to the premium paid for oil content.

## **Glucosinolates**

Glucosinolate levels in seed have been assessed in all fungicide treated trials. As factors other than variety influence glucosinolate levels growers will not necessarily produce seed with levels identical to those in the table.

## **Earliness of maturity**

On average, the difference between the earliest and the latest maturing varieties is about 8 days. Under Scottish conditions, early maturing varieties should be given preference in order to avoid the deterioration in weather conditions which often occurs towards the end of the summer.

## **Height and stem stiffness**

Crop height figures are presented in centimetres taller (+) or shorter (-) than the mean of all varieties listed. Stem stiffness is presented on a 1-9 scale, the higher figure indicating stiffer stems. This assessment was conducted at the pod development stage. True lodging is undesirable at any stage of growth but can be particularly damaging at flowering. However, some degree of leaning may be beneficial at harvest, as this tends to minimise shedding losses particularly if the crop is desiccated.

## **Disease resistance**

Oilseed rape is susceptible to a number of diseases. Information on varietal resistance to light leaf spot and stem canker is presented in the table. The ratings are derived from assessment of natural infection in field trials and additional laboratory tests for canker and light leaf spot. For other diseases such as *Alternaria* and *Sclerotinia* there is little variation in resistance.

### **Light leaf spot (*Pyrenopeziza brassicae*)**

This disease is seen as pale green or bleached blotches on the leaves surrounded by a 'spray deposit' of white spores. Frost injury and nitrogen fertiliser scorch may produce similar lesions but never the spore droplets around the outside of the blotch. Light leaf spot infected areas are brittle and more easily cracked when the leaf is bent over. Light leaf spot infection occurs from November onwards and can also affect the stems, flowerbuds and pods. It is favoured by cool, wet conditions and is the most damaging disease of oilseed rape in Scotland. It can cause large yield reductions if not controlled.

### **Phoma leaf spot and stem canker (*Leptosphaeria maculans*: asexual stage *Phoma lingam*)**

This disease may be seen from October onwards as light green to fawn leaf spots (up to 15 mm in diameter) bearing numerous black pin-head sized fruiting bodies (pycnidia). These infections do little damage but provide inoculum to infect the stems. From spring onwards the stem canker phase of the disease may be seen as lesions on the stem with prominent dark brown or black margins and fawn coloured centres containing tiny black dots - the pycnidia. The cankers may girdle the stems causing lodging and premature ripening of the crop with consequent severe loss of yield. Selection of varieties with a high resistance is the most satisfactory method of overcoming this disease.

## Notes on Winter Oilseed Rape Varieties\*

### Recommended for general use

- Lioness** (*DSV, Germany/DLF Trifolium*)  
A very high yielding variety with an exceptionally high oil content and low glucosinolate content. Late maturing with very good stem stiffness.
- NK Bravour** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
An extremely high yielding variety with a very high oil content and low glucosinolate content. Relatively short strawed with good stem stiffness.
- NK Victory** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
An extremely high yielding variety with high oil content, good stem stiffness and average height.
- Toccata** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
A very high yielding restored hybrid variety with high glucosinolate content. An extremely tall variety with good stem stiffness and moderate resistance to light leaf spot.
- Fortis** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
A high yielding variety of average height, good stem stiffness and early maturity with poor light leaf spot resistance.
- Elan** (*NPZ Lembke, Germany/CPB Twyford Ltd*)  
A moderate yielding restored hybrid variety, with a good untreated yield. A variety with very high oil content, good stem stiffness and exceptionally good resistance to light leaf spot.
- Royal** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
A very high yielding restored hybrid of taller than average height with poor light leaf spot resistance. The seed has a high glucosinolate content.
- Castille** (*Monsanto, France/ Monsanto UK Ltd*)  
A high yielding variety. Very short with average stem stiffness and with poor light leaf spot resistance.

\* See note on page 14

- Es Astrid** (*Euralis, France/Grainseed Ltd*)  
A moderate yielding variety. Very short, stiff strawed with average maturity.
- Winner** (*Raps, Germany/Saaten Union*)  
A moderate yielding variety of average height and maturity with moderate resistance to light leaf spot. Very early flowering. Growers should note that there may be potential for early flowers to be damaged in seasons where late frosts occur.
- Canberra** (*Monsanto, France/Monsanto UK Ltd*)  
A moderate yielding variety with short straw of moderate stem stiffness and good resistance to light leaf spot.
- Disco** (*Raps, Germany/Saaten Union*)  
A moderate yielding restored hybrid variety with high oil content and moderate maturity and stem stiffness.
- Mendel** (*NPZ Lembke, Germany/CPB Twyford Ltd*)  
A variety specifically recommended for use where there is a risk of clubroot. A low yielding hybrid with high oil content and early maturity but poor light leaf spot resistance.
- Recital** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
A relatively low yielding variety with moderate stem stiffness, short straw and average maturity.

## Newly recommended

It should be noted that less data are available for newly recommended varieties, with least data being available for the most recently listed P1 varieties.

### P2 varieties

- NK Grace** (*Syngenta Seeds, Germany/NK-Syngenta Seeds Ltd*)  
An extremely high yielding variety with a very high oil content. Stiff strawed with good light leaf spot resistance.
- Excalibur** (*Monsanto, France/ Monsanto UK Ltd*)  
An extremely high yielding restored hybrid variety with a high glucosinolate content, early maturity and moderate resistance to light leaf spot. Very early flowering. Growers should note that there may be potential for early flowers to be damaged in seasons when late frost occurs.
- Es Betty** (*Euralis, France/Grainseed Ltd*)  
A very high yielding restored hybrid. Moderate maturity with stiff straw and moderate resistance to light leaf spot.
- Barrel** (*DSV, Germany/DLF Trifolium*)  
A high yielding variety with an extremely high oil content. Late to mature with moderate stem stiffness and good light leaf spot resistance.

### P1 varieties

- Hornet** (*DSV, Germany/DLF Trifolium*)  
An extremely high yielding restored hybrid variety with high oil content. Long strawed with moderate stem stiffness and moderate maturity.
- Tuscan** (*NPZ Lembke, Germany/CPB Twyford Ltd*)  
A very high yielding, restored hybrid variety with very high oil content and good untreated yield. Tall with stiff straw, late maturity and good light leaf spot resistance.

## Description of Winter High Erucic Acid Rape (HEAR) Varieties\*

There are a number of contracts available for HEAR varieties. The oil of such varieties contains a high content of erucic acid (around 50-55%) which has several industrial uses. As HEAR varieties yield a non-food product, they may be grown on set-aside, providing a contract is obtained. The following varieties are available:

- Maplus** *(John K King and Sons)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety of moderate height and stiff straw but with later than average maturity.
- Zeruka** *(CPB Twyford, Cambridge/John K King and Sons)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety. A later maturing variety with average stem stiffness and moderate light leaf spot resistance.
- Hearty** *(Monsanto UK Ltd/Monsanto UK Ltd)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety. A stiff strawed variety of earlier than average maturity and poor light leaf spot resistance.
- Marcant** *(CPB Twyford, Cambridge/John K King and Sons)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate restored hybrid variety with a high oil content. It has stiff straw and moderate maturity.
- Palmedor** *(CPB Twyford, Cambridge/John K King and Sons)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety with a very high oil content. A fairly tall variety with moderate stem stiffness and maturity.
- Helico** *(Monsanto, France/Monsanto UK Ltd)*  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety. Similar to Hearty in agronomic terms with a yield advantage but no better resistance to light leaf spot.

### Other Winter Specialist Oil Types

- Splendor** *(Monsanto, France/Monsanto UK Ltd)*  
A high oleic/low linolenic variety. Relatively low yielding, but the oil has a high value. Good light leaf spot resistance.
- V1410L** *(Monsanto, France/Monsanto UK Ltd)*  
A high oleic/low linolenic variety. Taller and stiffer than Splendor with good light leaf spot resistance.

\* See note on page 14

## SAC Recommended Winter Oilseed Rape Varieties 2007

Year First Listed	Variety	Variety Type	Gross Output	Seed yield as a % of treated average		Fungicide treated	Oil content %	Glucosinolate content micromoles/gram	Maturity 1 - 9 late-early	Height (cm) + taller - shorter than mean (159)	Stem stiffness 1 - 9 poor-good	Disease resistance score	
				Untreated	Treated							Light leaf spot	Stem canker
2005	Lioness	C	109	(100)	104	46.7	7.1	5	-3	8	6	5	
2005	NK Bravour	C	108	(97)	107	44.6	8.3	6	-5	7	6	5	
2005	NK Victory	C	107	(97)	106	44.0	9.2	6	-3	7	6	5	
2003	Toccata	RH	105	(92)	104	43.9	16.8	6	+13	7	6	5	
2000	Fortis	C	102	(91)	102	43.5	10.8	7	-1	7	5	5	
2002	Elan <sup>0</sup>	RH	101	(96)	99	45.4	10.4	6	+2	7	8	4	
2001	Royal <sup>0</sup>	RH	101	(87)	103	42.6	17.7	7	+7	7	5	5	
2001	Castille	C	101	(87)	102	43.2	12.7	7	-16	7	5	6	
2005	Es-Astrid	C	99	(86)	101	42.4	12.9	6	-15	7	6	8	
2002	Winner	C	99	(93)	99	43.9	10.0	6	+1	6	6	4	
2001	Canberra <sup>0</sup>	C	98	(89)	98	43.9	10.2	7	-14	7	7	6	
2001	Disco <sup>0</sup>	RH	98	(88)	97	44.5	9.8	6	+7	7	6	5	
2002 S	Mendel	RH	93	(81)	92	43.9	10.8	7	+5	7	5	5	
2001	Recital <sup>0</sup>	C	92	(80)	93	43.4	12.7	7	-8	7	5	6	
2006 P2	NK Grace	C	108	(101)	107	44.7	11.2	6	-7	7	7	5	
2006 P2	Excalibur	RH	107	(97)	107	43.3	16.4	7	-2	6	6	5	
2006 P2	Es-Betty	RH	106	(92)	105	43.6	15.2	6	+4	7	6	4	
2006 P2	Barrel	C	103	(94)	100	46.0	9.9	5	+4	6	7	5	
2007 P1	Hornet	RH	108	(93)	107	44.5	11.2	6	+11	6	6	5	
2007 P1	Tuscan	RH	105	(99)	103	45.3	7.2	5	+11	8	7	5	

Notes: Based on North UK region trials 2003 - 2006  
 Yields are expressed as a percentage of the mean treated varieties, Winner, Fortis, Castille and Disco.  
 100 = 4.56 t/ha (36.3 cwt/acre)  
 Data from the HGCA Recommended List, full database at <http://www.hgca.com>

RH = Restored hybrid  
 C = Conventional

( ) = Limited data  
 P1 = First year of recommendation  
 P2 = Second year of recommendation  
 S = Recommended for specific use  
<sup>0</sup> = Not selected for further trials. Recent data limited

## UK Descriptive List of Spring Swede Oilseed Rape 2007

Year first listed	Variety	Gross Output	Seed yield as % of control	Oil content %	Glucosinolate content micromoles/gram	Maturity 1-9 late - early	Shortness of stem 1-9 long-short	Stem stiffness 1-9 poor-good
2004	SW Oban	103	103	41.6	14.7	7	6	8
2003	SW Tambora	102	102	40.7	13.9	7	7	8
2003	SW Landmark <sup>0</sup>	102	102	41.0	16.3	7	8	9
2005	Orinoco	100	100	41.5	13.8	7	6	8
2002	Dorothy <sup>0</sup>	94	94	41.5	14.4	7	7	9
2004	Annie <sup>0</sup>	94	94	40.3	14.5	7	6	7
2002	Heros	101	101	42.7	14.6	6	5	8
2005	Hunter	100	100	41.9	14.3	6	6	7
2004	Gladiator	99	99	41.9	15.2	6	5	8
2001	Mozart	98	98	42.6	14.8	6	6	9
1997	Liaison <sup>0</sup>	98	98	42.1	13.9	5	5	7
2001	Haydn	96	96	42.2	14.3	5	6	9
2006 P2	Earlybird	91	91	40.7	13.3	8	6	7
2006 P2	Campino	99	99	41.9	12.8	7	8	8
2006 P2	Quebec	100	100	41.4	13.7	5	4	7
2006 P2	Seven	100	100	43.1	14.8	5	6	8
2007 P1	Palladium	(103)	(103)	(41.5)	(15.1)	7	(6)	(7)
2007 P1	Kumily	(105)	(105)	(40.7)	(13.8)	6	(8)	(8)
2007 P1	Ability	(103)	(103)	(42.6)	(12.5)	6	(6)	(6)
2007 P1	Rosie <sup>0</sup>	(101)	(101)	(41.1)	(12.8)	6	(4)	(7)

Notes: Based on data from UK trials 2001 - 2006

Yields are expressed as a percentage of the mean control varieties Haydn, Senator, Heros and SW )ban.

100 = 2.4 t/ha (19.1 cwt/acre)

Data from the HGCA Recommended List, full database at <http://www.hgca.com>

( ) = Limited data

P1 = First year of recommendation

P2 = Second year of recommendation

<sup>0</sup> = Not selected for further trials. Recent data limited.

## Spring Swede Rape

Insufficient data is available on spring rape to support a UK Recommended List for the crop. Data is presented as a Descriptive List utilising data from across the UK. Northern growers should be aware that later maturing varieties may present unacceptable harvest risks in late seasons. Varieties are listed according to maturity in the table (with the earliest noted first) in order to emphasise this important feature for North UK.

### Notes on Spring Swede Oilseed Rape Varieties\*

SW Oban	(Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd) A very high yielding variety with stiff straw and early maturity.
SW Tambora	(Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd) A very high yielding variety with moderate oil content. Stiff straw and early maturity.
SW Landmark	(Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd) A very high yielding variety with early maturity and very short and very stiff straw.
Orinoco	(Svalof-Weibull, Sweden/Senova Ltd) A high yielding variety with early maturity and good stem stiffness.
Dorothy	(Univ Guelph, Canada/John Turner Seed Developments) A relatively low yielding variety with early maturity and very good stem stiffness.
Annie	(Mike Pickford, UK/Mike Pickford) A low yielding variety with early maturity, moderate height and stem stiffness.
Heros	(Raps, Germany/Saaten Union) A high yielding variety with very high oil content and good stem stiffness, but moderate maturity and long straw.
Hunter	(Raps, Germany/Saaten Union) A high yielding variety with moderate maturity and height with good stem stiffness.
Gladiator	(DSV, Germany/Boston Seeds) A moderate yielding variety with high oil content. Long but stiff straw with moderate maturity.

\* See note on page 14

- Mozart** *(NPZ Lembke, Germany/DLF Tripolium)*  
A moderate yielding variety with very high oil content, moderate maturity and very good stem stiffness.
- Liaison** *(DSV, Germany/DLF Tripolium)*  
A moderate yielding variety, very tall with late maturity.
- Haydn** *(NPZ Lembke, Germany/DLF Tripolium)*  
A moderate yielding variety with very high oil content, very stiff straw but late maturity.

## New Varieties

It should be noted that less data are available for new varieties, with least data being available for the most recently listed P1 varieties.

### P2 varieties

- Earlybird** *(Mike Pickford, UK/Mike Pickford)*  
A low yielding variety with very early maturity, moderate height and moderate stem stiffness.
- Campino** *(NPZ Lembke, Germany/CPB Tuyford Ltd)*  
A moderate yielding variety with early maturity and short, stiff straw.
- Quebec** *(Roger Thomas, UK/Nigel Ford Seeds)*  
A high yielding variety with very long straw of moderate stiffness and late maturity.
- Seven** *(Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd)*  
A high yielding variety with exceptionally high oil content, good stem stiffness but late maturity.

## P1 varieties

- Palladium** (*Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd*)  
A very high yielding variety with very high oil content, early maturity and moderate stem thickness.
- Kumily** (*Svalof-Weibull AB, Sweden/Senova Ltd*)  
An extremely high yielding variety with moderate oil content and very short and very stiff straw.
- Ability** (*DSV, Germany/DLF Tripolium*)  
A very high yielding variety with very high oil content and moderate maturity, height and stem stiffness.
- Rosie** (*Raps, Germany/Saaten Union*)  
A high yielding variety with very high oil content, moderate maturity and very long straw.

## Spring Swede High Erucic Acid Rapeseed

The following spring sown HEAR varieties are available:

- Savery** (*NPZ Lembke, Germany/CPB Twyford Ltd*)  
A high erucic, low glucosinolate variety. Very short strawed with moderate maturity.

## Other Spring Swede Specialist Oil Types

- Nexera (Nex 160)** (*Dow Agro Sciences Canada/United Oilseeds*)  
A high oleic/low linolenic variety. Early maturing with average height and good stem stiffness.
- Nexera (Nex 170)** (*Dow Agro Sciences Canada/United Oilseeds*)  
A high oleic/low linolenic variety. Slightly shorter with earlier maturity than Nex 160.
- SW Holary** (*Svalof-Weibull, Sweden/Senova Ltd*)  
A high oleic variety with shorter than average straw and early maturity.

## Spring Turnip Rape

Spring turnip rape is a small seeded, vigorously growing spring sown rape, which matures at least two weeks earlier than most of the more widely grown spring swede rape types. This can be a major advantage in late seasons. Turnip rape is less sensitive to sowing date than swede rape. It is very resilient to adverse conditions at harvest and has been successfully combined direct without swathing or the application of a desiccant. It appears to be particularly susceptible to pollen beetle. Spring turnip rape varieties generally yield less than spring swede varieties but because of low growing costs the margin may be equivalent.

### Notes on Spring Turnip Rape Varieties\*

**Agat**                    (*Svalof-Weibull, Sweden/Senova Ltd*)  
A high yielding variety of average height with very high oil content and extremely good stem stiffness.

\* Agency of these varieties is taken from the Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette as at December 2005.

For further information consult your local  
SAC office or oilseed rape specialists at:  
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**SAC is grateful for the use of HGCA Recommended List Data**

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