



Winter Cereals Recommended Lists 2027

Winter Barley, Winter Wheat and Winter Oats



CROP POLICY, EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION DIVISION

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VARIETY EVALUATION PROGRAMME

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is the Competent Authority responsible for the Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) trials of new varieties of agricultural crops. VCU trials are underpinned by National and EU legislation and are legally required for the marketing of varieties in the EU.

VCU trials are carried out on the main agricultural crops grown in Ireland including cereals, maize, winter oilseed rape, spring beans, grass and clover. Varieties are assessed for yield, quality and agronomic traits. These trials ultimately identify varieties that are most suitable for growing under Irish conditions and are communicated to farmers via Recommended Lists that are published annually.

For winter barley and winter wheat, varieties are evaluated in National List trials initially. The most promising varieties are then entered into Recommended List trials after two years, or after one year if merited. For winter oats, new varieties are entered into combined Recommended/National List trials.

A cereal variety is only placed on a Recommended List if it has shown superior merit over a 3-year period. A minimum of 3 years in trials is required before a variety becomes provisionally recommended. After a further year, a variety may be deemed to merit full recommendation.

Cereal trials are conducted at the three main Department Centres at Backweston Farm, Co. Kildare, Kildalton College, Co. Kilkenny and Ballyderown Farm, Co. Cork along with an additional selection of commercial farms. This results in a large geographic and climatic spread of trials which gives confidence to growers who select a variety from a Recommended List on the performance of that variety when grown under Irish conditions.

Over the period 2024 – 2026 winter barley trials were carried out at an average of 6 sites annually, winter wheat trials were carried out at an average of 7 sites, while winter oat trials were carried out at an average of 3 sites. The average number of varieties evaluated each year was 36 winter barley varieties, 37 winter wheat varieties and 10 winter oat varieties. There were 4 replications of each variety at each trial site and trials were managed according to best agronomic practice.

Additional trials are carried out at the three Department centres which include trials that are untreated with fungicide to assess varieties for resistance to fungal diseases along with separate trials to assess resistance to lodging and brackling.

The choice of variety is a key Integrated Pest Management (IPM) measure. Farmers should take account of the unique challenges specific to their farms and select varieties that are best suited to deal with those challenges. The data included in these Recommended Lists allows informed variety decisions on traits that are of economic importance to cereal farmers in Ireland.



VARIETY RATINGS

Variety ratings are generally derived from the mean of data from the 2024 – 2026 trials, unless stated otherwise.

Relative yield of each variety is calculated as a percentage of control varieties. The average yield of the control varieties equals 100. Yield ratings are from trials carried out in accordance with good commercial husbandry practices.

Actual data are given for **hectolitre weight, hagberg falling number, kernel content, protein content, screenings, straw height** and **thousand grain weight**.

Assessment of other characteristics is based on a scale of 1 to 9; a high figure is desirable and indicates possession of the characteristic to a high degree. For earliness of ripening a difference of one point represents 2 days. Varieties with disease ratings of 8 or over are very resistant; 7 indicates good resistance and 6 moderate resistance; 5 indicates moderate susceptibility while 4 is rated susceptible; 1, 2 and 3 are very susceptible. Figures are bracketed where information is limited.

TYPES OF RECOMMENDATION

Winter wheat and winter barley varieties appearing on the list for the first time are **Provisionally Recommended (PR)** and have completed a minimum of three years in trial, with at least two of those years in a Recommended List trial. Winter oats appearing on the list for the first time are also Provisionally Recommended (PR) having spent a minimum of three years in combined National List/Recommended List (NL/RL) trials. The eventual status of these varieties is determined by the level of performance in ongoing NL/RL trials; fully **Recommended (R)** classification may be deemed to be merited after a further one, two or a maximum of three years, or alternatively they may be removed from the list at any stage.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) has taken all due care in evaluating the performance of the listed varieties for yield, quality, disease resistance and the important agronomic characters over a wide range of soils and environmental conditions, for a minimum period of 3 years. The Department cannot, however, accept responsibility for any loss or inconvenience arising from any future variation in absolute or relative varietal performance.



WINTER BARLEY RECOMMENDED LIST 2027

AGRONOMIC & QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS	RECOMMENDED							PROVISIONALLY RECOMMENDED		
	INTEGRAL*	KWS CASSIA	KWS JOYAU *	KWS TARDIS	MOLLY *	ORCADE*	SY CANYON	LITTORAL*	ORGANA*	SY KESTREL**
Relative Yield ♠	103	92	101	99	98	99	105	101	102	103
Varietal Type	6R	2R	6R	2R	2R	2R	6R(H)	6R	2R	6R(H)
Straw Height (cm)	88	84	89	80	84	88	96	91	89	94
Resistance to Lodging	7	6	7	7	5	6	5	(6)	(7)	(5)
Straw Breakdown	6	5	7	6	5	6	5	(6)	(5)	(6)
Earliness of Ripening	8	6	8	6	7	6	7	(7)	(6)	(7)
Resistance to:										
Mildew	5	5	5	6	8	7	8	(5)	(8)	(7)
<i>Rhynchosporium</i>	5	4	6	7	7	7	6	(8)	(8)	(8)
Brown Rust	7	7	7	6	7	8	7	(6)	(8)	(6)
Net Blotch	6	7	7	7	7	7	6	(8)	(8)	(8)
Grain quality:										
Screenings % (<2.2mm)	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	0.9	1.5	1.2	1.4	0.9
1000 grain weight (g)	52.9	55.7	51.4	57.2	60.6	63.3	52.6	50.9	60.3	49.8
Hectolitre weight (kg/hl)	67.0	68.8	67.4	68.7	65.9	68.5	68.1	66.2	68.0	66.6
Year First Listed	2025	2011	2022	2022	2024	2025	2025	2027	2027	2027

Data in this table is based on trial results from 2024, 2025 and 2026.

* Breeder claim of BYDV tolerance.

** Breeder claim of BYDV resistance.

() Limited Data

♠ Yields are expressed as a percentage of the mean of **KWS Joyau** and **KWS Tardis** (100 = 9.85t/ha @ 15% moisture content).



NOTES ON VARIETIES

RECOMMENDED

INTEGRAL:

A very early maturing six-row variety with high yield potential. Moderately short straw with good resistance to lodging and moderate resistance to straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew and *Rhynchosporium*. Moderately resistant to net blotch. It has good resistance to brown rust. Good grain quality. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: Amistar x Pixel
- Breeder/Agent: Secobra (FR), Goldcrop Ltd

KWS CASSIA:

A moderately early maturing two-row variety. Short straw with moderate resistance to lodging and moderately susceptible to straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew and susceptible to *Rhynchosporium*. Good resistance to brown rust and net blotch. Very good grain quality.

- Cross: (Eden X Carat) X Saffron
- Breeder/Agent: KWS (UK), Goldcrop Ltd.

KWS JOYAU:

A very early maturing conventional six-row variety with good yield potential. Moderately short straw with good resistance to lodging and straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew. Moderately resistant to *Rhynchosporium*. Good resistance to brown rust and net blotch. Good grain quality. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: Amistar x MH 06DP32
- Breeder/Agent: KWS Momont (FR), Seed Technology Ltd.

KWS TARDIS:

A moderately early maturing two-row variety with good yield potential. Short straw with good resistance to lodging and moderate resistance to straw breakdown. Moderately resistant to mildew and brown rust. Good resistance to *Rhynchosporium* and Net Blotch. Good grain quality.

- Cross: 11-12 x KWS Orwell
- Breeder/Agent: KWS (UK), Goldcrop Ltd.



MOLLY:

An early maturing two-row variety with good yield potential. It has moderately short straw with moderate susceptibility to lodging and straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. Good resistance to brown rust, *Rhynchosporium* and net blotch. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: NOS 9075-15 x KWS Infinity
- Breeder/Agent: Nordic (DK), Drummonds

ORCADE:

A moderately early maturing two-row variety with good yield potential. It has short straw and is moderately resistant to lodging and straw breakdown. It has good resistance to mildew, *Rhynchosporium* and net blotch. It has very good resistance to brown rust. Very large grain size with good grain quality. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: NOS 9077-15 x NOS 911.013-61
- Breeder/Agent: Nordic (DK), Seedtech

SY CANYON:

An early maturing six-row hybrid variety with high yield potential. Long straw and moderate susceptibility to lodging and straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. It has good resistance to brown rust. It has moderate resistance to *Rhynchosporium* and net blotch. Very good grain quality.

- Cross: F1 Hybrid
- Breeder/Agent: Syngenta (UK), Seedtech

PROVISIONALLY RECOMMENDED

LITTORAL:

An early maturing six-row variety with good yield potential. Moderately short straw with moderate resistance to lodging and straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew. Very good resistance to *Rhynchosporium* and net blotch. Moderate resistance to brown rust. Small grain size with a good hectolitre weight. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: 10000UH x Dementiel
- Breeder/Agent: Secobra (FR), Goldcrop Ltd.



ORGANA:

A moderately early maturing two-row variety with good yield potential. It has short straw with good resistance to lodging and is moderately susceptible to straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew, *Rhynchosporium*, brown rust and net blotch. Very large grain size with a high hectolitre weight. The breeder has a claim that this variety is tolerant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: NOS 9042-16 X Normandy
- Breeder/Agent: Nordic (DK), Drummonds.

SY KESTREL:

An early maturing hybrid six-row variety with high yield potential. It has long straw and is moderately susceptible to lodging with moderate resistance to straw breakdown. Good resistance to mildew. Very good resistance to *Rhynchosporium* and net blotch. Moderate resistance to brown rust. Small grain size with a good hectolitre weight. The breeder has a claim that this variety is resistant to Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV).

- Cross: F1 Hybrid
- Breeder/Agent: Syngenta (UK), Seed Technology Ltd.



WINTER WHEAT RECOMMENDED LIST 2027

AGRONOMIC & QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS	RECOMMENDED							PROVISIONALLY RECOMMENDED	
	GRAHAM	KUBIK	KWS EQUIPE	LG REBELLION	NOS BULLSEYE	RGT HEXTON	SPEARHEAD	CHAMPION	KWS SCOPE
Relative Yield ♦	100	104	102	102	99	100	103	103	103
Straw Height (cm)	73	75	80	73	77	73	76	72	72
Resistance to lodging	6	6	5	7	8	7	5	5	7
Straw breakdown	5	6	5	7	7	7	6	6	7
Earliness of ripening	7	7	8	8	5	4	6	6	6
Resistance to:									
Mildew	7	7	8	7	8	8	8	7	8
Septoria spp.	5	6	6	5	7	5	5	5	5
Yellow rust	5	5	6	7	4	6	5	2	3
Fusarium ear blight	5	(6)	(7)	(6)	(6)	(5)	5	6	(6)
Sprouting	6	(6)	(6)	(6)	(5)	(6)	4	5	(5)
Quality:									
Grain Protein % (15%MC)	10.4	10.3	10.5	10.8	10.7	10.2	9.9	10.1	10.1
Hagberg Falling No. ♠	326	263	349	311	224	282	160	253	282
1000 grain weight (g)	50.4	45.0	50.9	50.4	54.7	49.0	50.5	49.0	49.8
Hectolitre weight (kg/hl)	77.2	77.5	78.4	78.2	76.8	75.6	75.8	75.3	78.0
Year First Listed	2020	2026	2026	2026	2026	2026	2022	2025	2026

Data in this table is based on trial results from **2024, 2025** and **2026**.

♦ Yields are expressed as a percentage of the mean of **Graham** (100 = 11.14t/ha @ 15% moisture content).

♠ Based on 2023, 2024 and 2025 data.

() Limited data.



NOTES ON VARIETIES

RECOMMENDED

- GRAHAM:** An early maturing variety with good yield potential. Moderate resistance to lodging and moderate susceptibility to straw breakdown. Good resistance to mildew. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici* and yellow rust. Moderately susceptible to fusarium ear blight and moderately resistant to sprouting. Good grain quality.
- Parentage: Premio x Expert
 - Breeder/Agent: Syngenta (UK), Seed Technology Ltd.
- KUBIK:** An early maturing variety with very good yield potential. Moderately resistant to lodging and straw breakdown. Good resistance to mildew. Moderately resistant to *Septoria tritici*, fusarium ear blight and sprouting. Moderately susceptible to yellow rust. Low thousand grain weight with good grain quality.
- Parentage: Kalmar x NOS 15098.28
 - Breeder/Agent: Nordic (DK), Drummonds Ltd.
- KWS EQUIPE:** A very early maturing variety with good yield potential. Moderately susceptible to lodging and straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. Moderately resistant to *Septoria tritici*, yellow rust and sprouting. Good resistance to fusarium ear blight. Very good grain quality.
- Parentage: Chevignon x KWS Extase
 - Breeder/Agent: KWS Momont (FR), Seed Technology Ltd.
- LG REBELLION:** A very early maturing variety with very good yield potential. Good resistance to lodging and straw breakdown. Good resistance to mildew and yellow rust. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici*. Moderately resistant to fusarium ear blight and sprouting. The breeder has a claim that this variety is resistant to eyespot as a result of having the Pch1 gene. Good grain quality.
- Parentage: KWS Extase x KWS Zyatt
 - Breeder/Agent: Limagrain (UK), Goldcrop Ltd.
- NOS BULLSEYE:** A moderately late maturing variety with good yield potential. Very good resistance to lodging and good resistance to straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew and good resistance to *Septoria tritici*. Susceptible to yellow rust. Moderately resistant to fusarium ear blight and moderately susceptible to sprouting. High thousand grain weight with moderate grain quality.
- Parentage: RGT Gradient x NOS 170.58-04
 - Breeder/Agent: Nordic (DK), Drummonds Ltd.



RGT HEXTON: A late maturing variety with good yield potential. Good resistance to lodging and straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici* and fusarium ear blight. Moderately resistant to yellow rust and sprouting. Moderate grain quality.

- Parentage: Graham x RGT Universe
- Breeder/Agent: RAGT (FR), Goldcrop Ltd.

SPEARHEAD: A moderately early maturing variety with very good yield potential. Moderately susceptible to lodging and moderately resistant to straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici*, yellow rust and fusarium ear blight. Susceptible to sprouting. Moderate grain quality.

- Parentage: Freiston x Dickens
- Breeder/Agent: Elsoms (UK), Drummonds Ltd.

PROVISIONALLY RECOMMENDED

CHAMPION: A moderately early maturing variety with very good yield potential. Moderately susceptible to lodging and moderately resistant to straw breakdown. Good resistance to mildew. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici* and sprouting. **Very susceptible to yellow rust.** Moderately resistant to Fusarium ear blight. Moderate grain quality.

- Parentage: DSV 20122 x Reflection
- Breeder/Agent: DSV (UK), Seed Technology Ltd.

KWS SCOPE: A moderately early maturing variety with very good yield potential. Good resistance to lodging and straw breakdown. Very good resistance to mildew. Moderately susceptible to *Septoria tritici* and sprouting. **Very susceptible to yellow rust.** Moderately resistant to Fusarium ear blight. Very good grain quality.

- Parentage: Kinetic x Informer
- Breeder/Agent: KWS (UK), Goldcrop Ltd.



WINTER OAT RECOMMENDED LIST 2027

AGRONOMIC & QUALITY CHARACTERISTICS	RECOMMENDED	
	HUSKY	WPB ENYA
Relative Yield ♦	100	99
Straw height (cm)	109	103
Resistance to lodging	6	5
Straw breakdown	5	6
Earliness of ripening	8	6
Winter hardiness**	5	-
Resistance to:		
Mildew	5	5
Crown rust	4	5
Grain quality:		
Kernel content (%)	70.3	70.5
1000 grain weight (g)	40.3	45.8
Hectolitre weight (kg/hl)	57.1	57.6
Year First Listed	2010	2025

Data in this table is based on trial results from **2024, 2025 and 2026**

♦ Yields are expressed as a percentage of the mean of **Husky** (100 = 9.32t/ha @ 15% moisture content).

- No data.

** Winter hardiness score for Husky is based on robust data from Spring 2011.

All oat varieties are spring type varieties sown in winter. Prolonged severe frost or harsh winds can seriously damage spring varieties sown in winter and may cause drastic reduction in yield or even crop failure.



NOTES ON VARIETIES

RECOMMENDED

HUSKY:

A very early maturing, spring type variety, with good yield potential. Moderately resistant to lodging and moderately susceptible to straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew and susceptible to crown rust. Good grain quality.

- Parentage: Firth x Freddy
- Breeder/Agent: Nordsaat (DE), Seed Technology Ltd.

WPB ENYA:

A moderately early maturing, spring type variety, with good yield potential. Short straw with moderate susceptibility to lodging and moderate resistance to straw breakdown. Moderately susceptible to mildew and crown rust. Good grain quality.

- Parentage: (LW 06W146-01 x Max) x WPB 08W043-02
- Breeder/Agent: Wiersum (NL), Goldcrop Ltd.