

Make a Profit from Spring Oilseed Rape

“SPRING IS THE TIME OF PLANS AND PROJECTS” – Tolstoy

Many farmers are planning to sow spring oilseed rape and take advantage of the good gross margins the crop offers and current bullish market prices.

Some agronomists are also advising their clients to sow spring rape in the place of the winter oilseed rape they may have lost.

It is important to remember that spring oilseed rape is not grazed by cabbage stem flea beetle, though it can face its own challenges.

High Gross Margins £394–£567 per hectare

Spring oilseed rape is a relatively inexpensive crop to grow and potentially offers growers a good profit margin. The crop value per tonne is the same as winter oilseed rape, whilst oil levels tend to be marginally lower.

Allowing for a variable cost of around £300/ha, and assuming a value of £347/tonne including quality bonuses, then spring oilseed rape's gross output can be between £694 – £867/ha.

This gives a gross margin of between £394 – £567/ha (at an output rate of 2.0 t/ha and 3.0 t/ha respectively).

Excellent Variety Choice

United Oilseed has a range of spring oilseed rape varieties available now and four in particular that offer growers excellent consistency and yields.

PERFORMER

Top of the AHDB 2020 Descriptive List

- Outstanding oil content 46.2%
- Medium Maturity
- Excellent Lodging Resistance
- High Gross output 113%
- Seed yield 111%

Richard Barz/Wikimedia



SUNDER

Has a high oil content of 45.9% and has proved a highly consistent variety over the last four years.

- Extremely vigorous growth
- Medium Maturity
- Exceptional oil content
- Available exclusively from United Oilseeds
- Gross Output 101%
- Seed yield 100%



LAGONDA

Lagonda joined the Descriptive List in December 2018. It has the highest seed yield on the list and the second highest gross output.

- The highest yielding variety on the AHDB Descriptive List
- Impressive spring vigour ensuring fast establishment
- High Gross output 112%
- Seed yield 113%

H. Zell/Wikimedia



CLICK CL (CLEARFIELD)

A new generation hybrid with Clearfield herbicide tolerance which can be used to help control brassica weeds in the spring. National Listed Status.

- Oil Yield: Very High
- Oil content: Very High
- Spring vigour: High
- Beginning of flowering: Medium
- Maturity: Medium
- Resistance to lodging: Good
- Plant Length: Medium-Tall

Brian Robert Marchall/Wikimedia



Data source: Performer/Sunder/Lagonda – AHDB Descriptive List 2020/21. Data source: Click CL – DSV Northern European Trials.

For information about spring oilseed rape varieties, please call your local United Oilseeds Area Manager or our friendly Seed Department.

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