



TAMARIN

SPRING OILSEED RAPE



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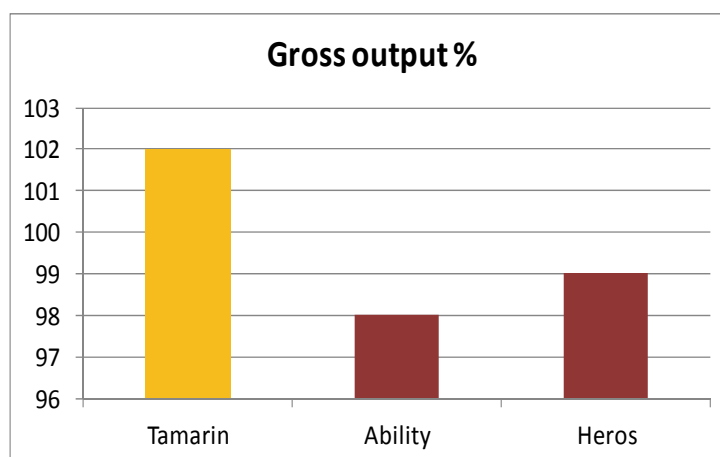
Tel: 01223 890777

Tamarin produces the highest gross output of any conventional spring oilseed rape variety on the HGCA Descriptive List, and is some 4% ahead of the most widely grown variety, Ability.

Tamarin is early to flower and importantly is early to mature, giving good pod fill and security of harvest in difficult seasons. It has excellent standing ability.

Top yields, combined with a high oil content and an excellent agronomic package make Tamarin the ideal choice for spring planting.

Performance



	Tamarin	Ability	Heros
Yield (%C, mean 2.6t/ha)	102	97	98
Oil content %	43.4	44.2	44.2
Standing Ability	8	7	8
Shortness of stem	6	6	6
Earliness of flowering	7	7	6
Earliness of maturity	7	6	5

Source: HGCA Descriptive List 2012 Full database at www.hgca.com

Seed availability

Seed is available for planting spring 2012 treated with Chinook plus Thiraflo. Cruiser will also be available. Contact our sales department for further details on 01223 890777.



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Agronomy

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Field Selection

Spring oilseed rape will fit into most rotations and has been found to be especially beneficial to following crops of wheat, due to the residual fertility and improved soil structure left by rape.

Spring oilseed rape will grow satisfactorily over a range of pH levels; it is perhaps best suited to soils with pH levels between 6.0 and 6.5. Tight rotations should be avoided so as to reduce the risk of club root.

Establishment

The key to growing successful spring rape crops is good establishment. Ploughing in the autumn is recommended. Spring oilseed rape requires a fine, firm seedbed, free from overwintered weeds. A seed depth of between 1.5 – 2.5cm is considered ideal.

Care should be taken not to over work the seedbed, as moist conditions are essential for rapid crop growth to take place.

Sowing Dates

The recommended sowing window for the south is early March through to late April. Crops may be sown after this date, but yield penalties can occur. In the north the recommended sowing date is early April.

Days to Harvest

Spring oilseed rape matures extremely quickly in comparison to other spring crops (around 140 days).

Seed Rates and Plant Populations

From extensive trials we believe that the optimum plant population for spring oilseed rape is 150 plants/m².

As a general guide a seed rate of between 6- 7kg/ha should be used for spring oilseed rape.

Fertiliser

The main requirement for nitrogen occurs in May and June. Nitrogen rates for a well established crop will normally lie between 100-125kg/ha for spring oilseed rape.

It is normal practice for applications of nitrogen to be split, with the first application at sowing and the remainder at crop emergence. This is especially important on light soils, which may be more prone to lodging or where there is slow establishment.

Weed Control

The cost of controlling established broadleaved weeds in spring oilseed rape crops is expensive, so it makes sense to start the season with a clean field.

When spring rape is properly established, it is very competitive and in many cases the need for weed control is minimal. Herbicides should be applied early on in the season before the crop is fully established.

Pests and Diseases

Spring oilseed rape crops can be vulnerable to pigeon damage at the early stages of their development, so every effort should be made to scare off the pest.

Insecticidal seed treatments should be used as a means of protecting the crop against flea beetle attack. Where significant shot holing appears in untreated crops a spray should be applied.

Cabbage Stem Weevils can reduce yields significantly by feeding off the seeds within the pods. Where 1 weevil is found per plant a spray should be used. Similarly protection may be needed against pollen beetle, which is a far greater risk in the spring crop since feeding coincides with peak flowering time. *Alternaria* can be a problem, but treatment might not be considered cost effective.

Harvesting

Spring oilseed rape crops tend to be more uniform and more resistant to pod shatter than winter rape crops.

Combining direct without the use of a desiccant is an attractive option in the south if settled conditions prevail. In the north crops are more often swathed or desiccated before harvest to even up maturity and hasten ripening.



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