

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2020



Assured Agronomy

So, a memorable autumn for everyone for all the wrong reasons. The most exceptional weather for most peoples' lives in our part of the country. The map on the second page is very interesting and shows how we are truly the worst affected area.

As we continue to sow wheat where possible and harvest beet and the remnants of potato crops, we are still adjusting to the reality of the autumn. There has never been a greater need to have a good spring to get the best from the poorer established autumn wheat and establish decent potential spring crops in some very difficult soil conditions.

Basic Payment Scheme

Payment mistakes can be made so please check your payment is correct. We have put a BPS calculator on our website which is free to use. If you would like to discuss your payment further, please contact Graham Chester.

www.assuredagronomy.co.uk/bpc-calculator

What is a winter/spring crop?

CRD definition – for pesticide approval

"In January 2015 an important change was made to the qualifiers used to define spring and winter crops. The qualifiers changed from being based on variety to being based on the time of year in which the crop is planted. This change better reflected the environmental risk assessment and allowed growers more flexibility to plant spring varieties in the autumn." (Source: HSE, 2015). Crops drilled before 31st January in the year of harvest are classed as winter crops, after this date they are classed as spring crops.

RPA definition – For basic payment

To see if a crop is a winter or spring variety, first check the:

- UK National List – details are published every month in the Plant Varieties and Seeds Gazette
- Processors and Growers Research Organisation's (PGRO) Recommended List If the varieties are not on either of these lists, check the EC Common Catalogue.

In this catalogue, winter varieties are called 'forma hibernalis'. Spring varieties are called 'forma aestiva'. If the variety is not listed as either spring or winter, classify the crop as a spring variety. (Source: BPS 2019)

1 Feb: Open period, organic manure with a high readily available nitrogen to grassland/tillage land on all soil types, **quantity restrictions apply.**

- You must spread no more than
 - 30 m³/ha Slurry
 - 8 Tonnes/ha Poultry Manure

28 Feb: End of the quantity restrictions for organic manures with a high readily available nitrogen content.

- Farm Limit and field limit still apply
 - Farm limit 170kg/ha
 - Field limit 250kg/ha

1 Mar: Don't cut hedges from today

- Tree coppicing and hedge laying okay until 30 April



Outstanding recommendations

Please check with your agronomist that all outstanding recommendations are still relevant for the crop drilled and current cropping situation. Amendments may need to be made!

EAMU - Extension of Authorisation for minor use in the UK (formerly known as 'SOLAs') helps UK growers to remain competitive by ensuring there is access to essential crop protection products. This is done by authorising the use of a product on a crop/situation that is not currently recorded on the product label.

The use of an EAMU is *solely at the grower's risk* and not supported by the manufacturer. All spray recommendations including an EAMU will record the fact the product is used at the grower's risk. Neither the efficacy or phytotoxicity of the product for which has been granted an EAMU has been assessed by the manufacturer, and therefore the user bears the risk.

WWW.ASSUREDAGRONOMY.CO.UK

INDEPENDENT AGRONOMY

PRECISION FARMING



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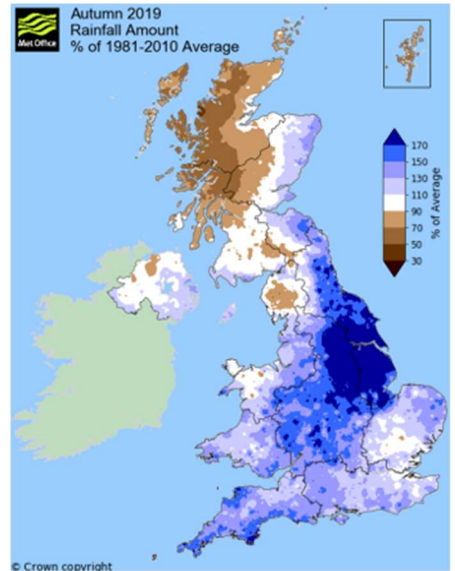


Ben Vaughan

Autumn Weather consequences.

As you can see from the map opposite the weather we have suffered this autumn is far worse than other parts of the country. As a result, we have less wheat drilled than other regions and will have more changes to cropping plans on farm. Grain prices have increased and the area of spring barley will be much greater in 2020. On top of this situation, nationally the area of OSR looks set to reduce to as little as 300 thousand hectares from over 700 thousand only two years ago. The onslaught of flea beetle being the main cause of this decline.

The results of these changes look set to bolster both wheat and OSR prices as imports are required to satisfy UK demand. So perhaps slightly better prospects when selling next years crops.



Vernalisation

What is vernalisation? Winter cereals require a period of low temperatures in order to trigger flowering. It is a characteristic that prevents development of a flowering meristem too early and consequential damage by cold weather.

What is required?

- The optimum when vernalisation is fully effective is usually between 3°C and 10°C with a peak of 4.9°C
- 15.7°C is the maximum beyond which vernalisation ceases to take place
- The minimum below which no vernalisation takes place usually between -1.3°C and -4°C
- True winter wheats are said to require exposure to the optimum vernalisation temperatures for 50 days. This is known as the effective days to saturate the response to vernalisation.

Variety	Latest safe sowing date	Variety	Latest safe sowing date
Dunston	Mid Feb	LG Spotlight	Mid Feb*
Evolution	Mid Feb	Myriad	Mid Feb
KWS Crispin	Mid Feb	RGT Illustrious	Mid Feb
KWS Firefly	Mid Feb*	Viscount	Mid Feb
KWS Lili	Mid Feb	Leeds	End Feb
KWS Trinity	Mid Feb	Skyfall	End Feb
KWS Zyatt	Mid Feb	Zulu	End Feb

*very limited data

(Source: AHDB)

Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/01/2020 and 31/12/2021 reference NO467809F.

Two BASIS points (1CP/1PN) in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2019 and 31/05/2020 reference cp/86640/1920/g.

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