

NEWSLETTER

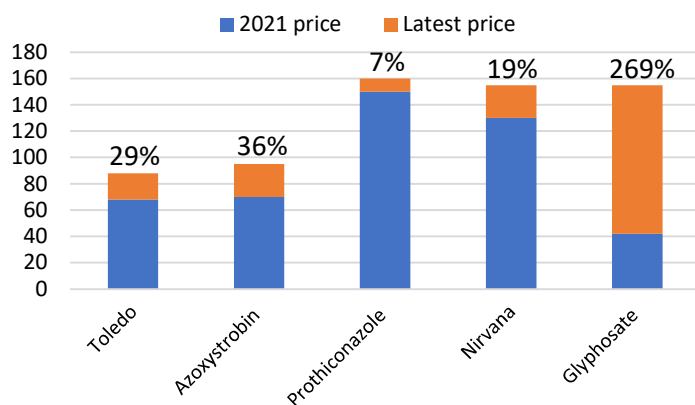


Winter 2022

Assured Agronomy

Chemical supply & pricing

Chemical supply continues to be an issue for the foreseeable. Reasons include factory breakdowns, sourcing of active ingredients, shipping logistics, forecasting issues and demand outstripping supply. We have been encouraging clients to get the products they know will be needed this spring in stock and to be open minded about ordering products out of season. For those who took the opportunity to buy products such as tebuconazole, azoxystrobin, prothioconazole, manganese and glyphosate out of season significant savings have been achieved.



Countryside Stewardship & Sustainable Farming Incentive

The application window for countryside stewardships agreements starting in January 2023 opened on 8th February. For the first time applications can be made online via the RPA portal. As well as this capital grant items can now be applied for in high and medium water priority areas.

More detail has been released regarding the Sustainable Farming incentive. There will be a 10-week application window from spring 2022 (date TBC). The Arable and Horticultural soils standard will have two payments rates available at this stage. Introductory (£22/ha) and intermediate (£40/ha), with payments being made on a quarterly basis. We believe that all growers should be able to achieve the introductory requirements for the scheme, which will include creating a soil management plan, testing soil organic matter, 70% winter cover and adding organic matter.

Cropping update

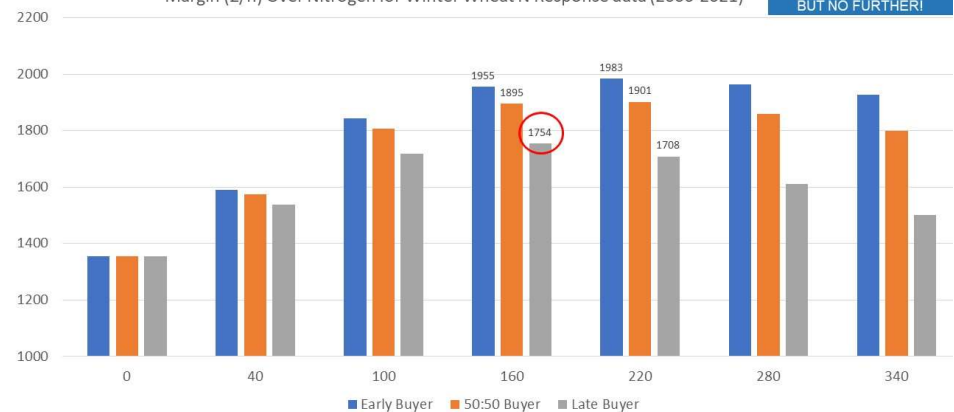
Crops generally went into good conditions. Add to this the mild autumn/winter and crops have not stopped growing. Cereal crops that were drilled in October or earlier have produced a good size biomass and disease can be readily found, in particular S.tritici. Growth and disease will need to be managed appropriately to protect yield.

When making decisions on fertiliser rates for w.wheat Yara have done work to show that because of better grain prices, if fertiliser was bought at £700/tonne the optimum amount of nitrogen to apply has come down from 220kg/ha to 160kg/ha. The optimum rate for s.barley remain unchanged at 150kg/ha (rates may need reducing for malting barley).

Calculating the Margin Over Nitrogen (£/ha)

(Wheat @ £208/t Early Buyer @ £280, Late Buyer @ £700)

Margin (£/h) Over Nitrogen for Winter Wheat N Response data (2006-2021)



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INDEPENDENT AGRONOMY

PRECISION FARMING

Sugar beet Cruiser SB

Having been a mild winter so far, it is looking likely that the Rothamsted virus yellows forecast model will predict a virus incidence level of over 19%, this would allow for the use of Cruiser SB on sugar beet seed.

If the emergency authorisation goes ahead there are some key points to remember.

- The dose rate under the emergency approval is 75% of what the original rate was, therefore, virus infection could still be possible, especially if aphids infest the crop once the seed treatment is losing persistency.
- **No flowering crops can be planted in the same field as treated sugar beet within 32 months.** Realistically this means treated fields must have a minimum of two cereals as following crops. Also, no further use of thiamethoxam seed treatments of the same field within 46 months.

Introducing: Harriet Beeby



Harriet joins us from Boxford Suffolk Farms in Suffolk where she was a pest and disease specialist after graduating from Harper Adams in 2020. She has grown up in the agricultural industry on her home farm and recently moved up to North Lincolnshire where she manages her herd of Loughorn cattle when not working.



Graham Chester



Ken Chappell



Ben Vaughan



Tom Clark



Harriet Beeby



Kathryn Vaughan

Two NRoSO points in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/01/2022 and 31/12/2022 reference NO470606f.

Two BASIS points (1CP/1PN) in total (not per bulletin) have been allocated between 01/06/2021 and 31/05/2022 reference cp/101008/2021/g.

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PRECISION FARMING