

MAIZE GUIDE 2027

Agrii™

www.agrii.co.uk

Agri intelligence



Lunator Forage Rye established between Maize Crops
Drilled 15th Oct
Harvested 30th April

Contents

WELCOME 4

GROWING MAIZE

Favourable and Less Favourable Regions of the UK 4

Agrii: Taking a Nationwide Approach to Growing Maize 5

RHIZA 6

TRAMLINES PODCAST 7

GROWING MAIZE SUSTAINABLY 8-9

DRY MATTER YIELDS

Long Season 10-11

Short Season 16-17

STARCH YIELDS

Long Season 12-13

Short Season 18-19

ME YIELDS

Long Season 14-15

Short Season 20-21

VARIETIES 22-26

UNDERSOWING WITH GRASS 27

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION 28

MAIZE FOR GRAIN

Gamecover 29

Additives 29

NUTRITION

Agristart Magnum 30

Efficie-N28-t 30

Maize Kicka 31

Agrii-Start Release 31-32

MASTERLEYS 33

FORAGE AND LIVESTOCK 35

NOTES 35

CONTACTS BACKCOVER



Welcome to your 2027 edition of the Agrii Maize Guide



Ben Lowe National Forage Product Manager

Within this extensive guide you should be able to find all you need to know for the 2027 maize season.

Whether it's the data required to choose a new variety for your system, material suitable for where you're farming within the UK, or practical advice and post-cropping options, this guide is here to help!

It's becoming more important than ever that maize crops grown in the UK are reliable, consistent, high performing and sustainable, due to the ever changing seasons and legislation that the industry faces on an annual basis.

With its nationwide coverage of agronomists and crop input specialists, Agrii is in an unrivalled position to offer the best possible advice and varieties required to meet the ever increasing demands of maize grown on UK soils.

For further information on how to get the very best from your maize crops, get in touch with your local Agrii contact on the back page.

Variety suitability key:



LIVESTOCK | GRAIN | AD

Favourable & Less Favourable regions of the UK

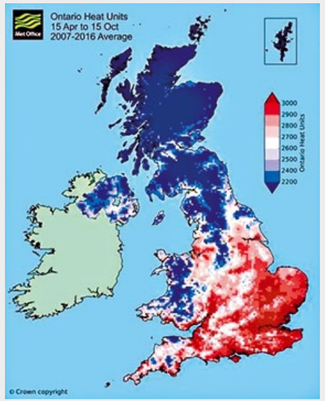
Throughout this Maize Guide, recommendations will be made using regional data designed to ensure the best performance is achieved from a variety grown within those areas of the UK.

In which region do you want to grow maize?

By using this colour coded heat map, you can clearly see the more favourable areas of the UK in red compared to the less favourable areas in the pale colours.

Maize is still a viable crop in the less favourable areas but variety choice is key and the use of degradable film may be needed in some instances.

Those areas in dark blue are generally not suitable for growing maize reliably.



Agrii: Taking a nationwide approach to growing maize

Whether you're growing maize under degradable film in the North West, for AD feedstock in the East, as silage for livestock in the South West or even maize for grain in the South East – Agrii can supply the market leading technical advice and varieties you need!

Working closely with international breeders, Agrii is constantly at the leading edge of developments for the UK maize market.

Agrii's nationwide agronomy team, crop input specialists and animal health advisors also have access to the most up to date R&D information, herbicide and crop nutrition as well as other associated inputs such as silage additives and degradable film.

R&D is at the heart of Agrii and regional maize trials play a very large part in how we are able to advise on the best variety for you and your system.

Trial site tours can be organised on a one-to-one basis at any point of the growing season to identify the key benefits of varieties chosen specifically to be part of the Agrii Portfolio.

Not only are we able to demonstrate our market leading maize varieties, but also the technical support we can offer to growers which ranges from weed control and seed treatments to foliar nutrition and harvest dates.

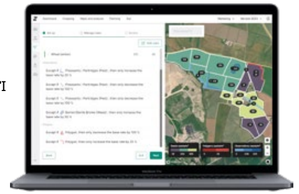
Furthermore, the Agrii team are always on hand to discuss post-maize cropping options to maximise the output of your land all year round or indeed ensure valuable nutrients are retained and soil erosion is avoided over the winter months.



RHIZA

When it comes to soil sampling, the power of measurement is in effective management. Unlock your soil's potential with RHIZA:

- P, K, Mg, pH analysis
- Remain compliant with up-to-date soil data
- Trace element analysis
- Organic matter analysis for SFI
- Analysis can be used to make more efficient product choices
- Upload soil results to our online Contour platform – more information below



Base platform features:

- Hyper-local farm weather data
- Satellite imagery
- Soil data
- Yield mapping
- Contour Mobile scouting app
- Fertiliser requirement planning
- Store data, cropping, observations and imagery

Contact the RHIZA team:

info@rhizadigital.co.uk
www.rhizadigital.co.uk
03300 949150

To find your local RHIZA Crop Input Specialist, visit the Agrii website:
www.agrii.co.uk/contact/



LIME PLANNING TOOL

When planning to grow a maize crop, there are a number of factors to consider, such as variety choice, maturity date, use of starter fertilisers, addressing compaction issues and more. However, one important area which can often be overlooked, is soil pH. The preferred pH for maize is in the range of 6-7.2, as it has a poor tolerance for acidic soil, so getting the soil pH right should be the first priority.

In the early stages of maize development, phosphorous is an extremely important macronutrient, required particularly in the growing tips of the plant. A deficiency in the early stages of maize development, can limit nutrient uptake and root development. As phosphorus availability tails off quickly with increasing acidity, ensuring the soil pH is in the optimum range is crucial.

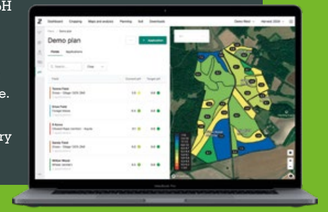
The liming tool utilises the easy-to-use workflows seen across other Contour planning modules, making it easy for new and existing customers to pick up and use themselves. Alternately there is a nationwide network of FACTs qualified advisors who are always willing to offer technical support when called upon.

Data from Lancrop Laboratories reveals that between 1994 and 2019, the average soil pH in the UK declined by 0.4 units, dropping from an optimal 6.7 to a suboptimal 6.3. This trend has likely worsened due to the unfavourable conditions of autumn and winter 2023, which hindered many planned lime applications aimed at correcting soil acidity.

Get ahead of the season and reach out to your local RHIZA contact to see how the new liming tool could help your farm prosper for harvest 2027.

The new liming tool within RHIZA's Contour software gives you the tools to identify and address any potential pH deficiencies. Using the platform, you will be able to:

- Easily assess in-field differences in pH
- Evaluate when soils were last tested to plan sampling regimes
- Quickly create new and edit existing lime plans, both flat and variable rate.
- Export job sheets and GPS files suitable for a wide range of machinery and contractors nationwide



Tramlines Podcast

Tramlines is the only farming podcast that delivers advice to growers on how to improve environmental performance and maximise farm profitability.

By tuning into Tramlines, you will benefit from listening to episodes that feature experts and experienced farmers, who share valuable information on best practices, new techniques, and the latest research in agriculture.

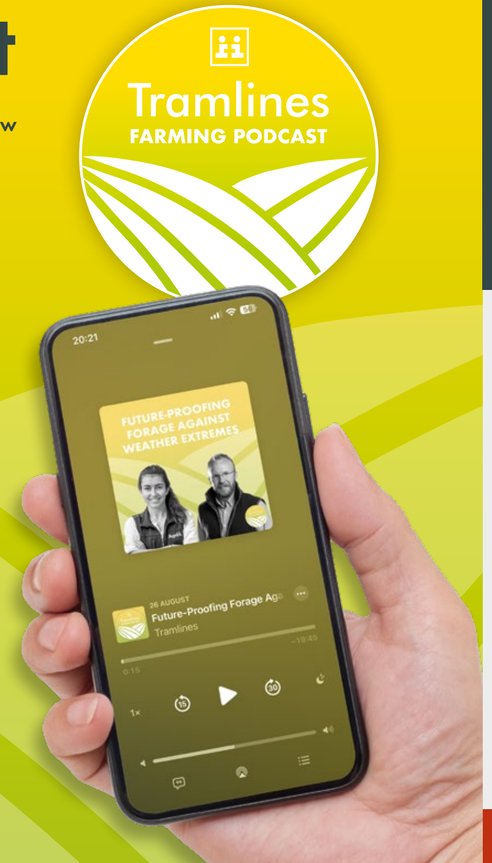
Join the experts every three weeks as they address common problems and solutions and stay up-to-date with the latest developments.

With CPD points up for grabs on certain episodes, topics range from digital innovations to soil health and the discussions are supported by Agrii's extensive trials programme and environmental work.

Top 3 Maize & Forage Episodes

1. Future-Proofing Forage Against Weather Extremes
2. Maize Under Pressure – Building Resilience into the System
3. Making the Most of Home Grown Forage Feedstock Choices this Season

Follow on your favourite podcast platform:
Or listen at: www.agrii.co.uk/tramlines-podcast



Reducing the environmental impact of maize

New techniques are being used to grow maize more sustainably, but which will fit best into your system?

Ben Lowe, Agrii's National Forage Product Manager, considers the options...

Avoiding fields with bare soil over winter following maize harvest helps to reduce the environmental impact from growing the crop, and also improves the soil.

Later harvested maize with no following crop until the following spring, is not only likely to be harvested in poorer conditions thereby potentially damaging soils, but also risks erosion and nutrient loss from the field. With maize there are a number of ways to improve soil resilience, but each has its benefits and challenges.

Grow an early maturing maize variety and plant a following crop after harvest

A starting point for decision-making should be assessing how likely maize stubbles will be in a condition to establish a following crop, usually either short-term grass or forage rye, the day after harvest.

The development of early maturing, high yielding maize varieties makes it more possible than previously. There has been a switch into early maturing maize varieties, as growers realise systems need to change. Ideally, you want harvest to be completed by mid-October to maximise the chances of being able to travel.

Varieties such as KWS Leto and Harmony from Limagrain are changing the perception that the highest yielding varieties are also later maturing. These varieties are pushing the boundaries. Yields are higher and you can harvest two to three weeks earlier.

Most will likely follow with forage rye. It can be sown with minimum cultivations provided the field is in good condition, rapidly establishes and doesn't really stop growing through the winter, so provides either early grazing in spring or can be ensiled mid to late April. It not only provides winter cover, mopping up nutrients, reducing erosion and helping improve soils, but also provides a forage crop that can be utilised on farm or at home.

Please get in touch for more information on forage options in-between maize crops.

Undersown maize

The biggest risk from not undersowing maize is a delayed harvest or wet period following harvest that prevents the following crop being established.

For grain maize growers, undersowing maize is realistically the only option as harvest is not until November, while producers for livestock and anaerobic digestion should think carefully about whether establishing cover after harvest is likely.

If there is a risk of not being able to establish cover after harvest, then all aspects of maize production need to be assessed before starting. That includes whether the ground is suitable for maize at all, as well as variety choice.



Ensuring ground is not left bare after maize can reduce its environmental impact



Growing an early maturing variety such as Resolute (shown here) allows for a following crop – avoiding bare ground over winter and improving soil condition.

But undersowing maize, usually with grass, does provide a high level of assurance that you will have some winter cover following harvest. There are typically two options to establish the undersown crop – either plant it at the same time as the maize or around 4-6 weeks after maize drilling.

Planting at the same time as maize requires a specialist drill that can drill both maize and grass simultaneously. The advantage is a reliable one-pass method for establishing the grass early, plus precise seed placement between the rows minimising competition with the maize crop.

Competition can still be a problem if grass establishes quickly, but the biggest challenge is weed control post-drilling as herbicides are likely to remove the cover. The more common technique is to establish the grass once the maize reaches 6-8 leaf stage either by broadcasting with a fertiliser spreader or sowing with a pneumatic interrow disc coulter drill. Typically, interrow drilling costs £30-35/ha. Broadcasting is easiest, but establishment can be variable, while there can be the same issue about the availability of specialist drills. Usually, either festulolium, creeping red fescue or a perennial ryegrass is used.

You want something which is vigorous enough, but not over vigorous so it swamps the maize.

While a cut of silage could be taken in the following spring, these types of leys offer the opportunity for grazing by flying flocks of sheep. Grants from some water companies are available for undersowing grass to help cover the costs, which typically can be about £100/ha including drilling.

Other options?

New Agrii trials will be comparing a hybrid approach of undersowing the maize with companion crops, which potentially could also be established with forage rye following harvest. Outside of grass, we are interested in whether a legume companion crop could benefit the maize crop while growing by fixing some nitrogen, either reducing inputs or increasing yields.

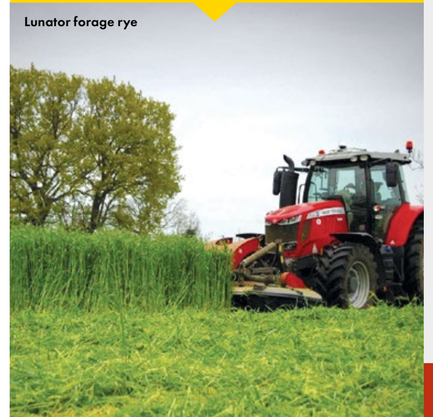
One example from 2020 showed a 5 t/ha yield increase from a maize crop when clover was present as a companion crop. There's also the possibility of intercropping maize with something like beans, which in addition to fixing nitrogen might also add an extra protein source.

GREEN HORIZONS

Green Horizons is Agrii's commitment to a sustainable future for food production. You can find out more and download our Green Horizons Insight Reports at www.agrii.co.uk/sustainable-farming/green-horizons

These trials will compare various companion crops, including beans, vetches and grass undersown with a interrow drill to investigate additional potential benefits.

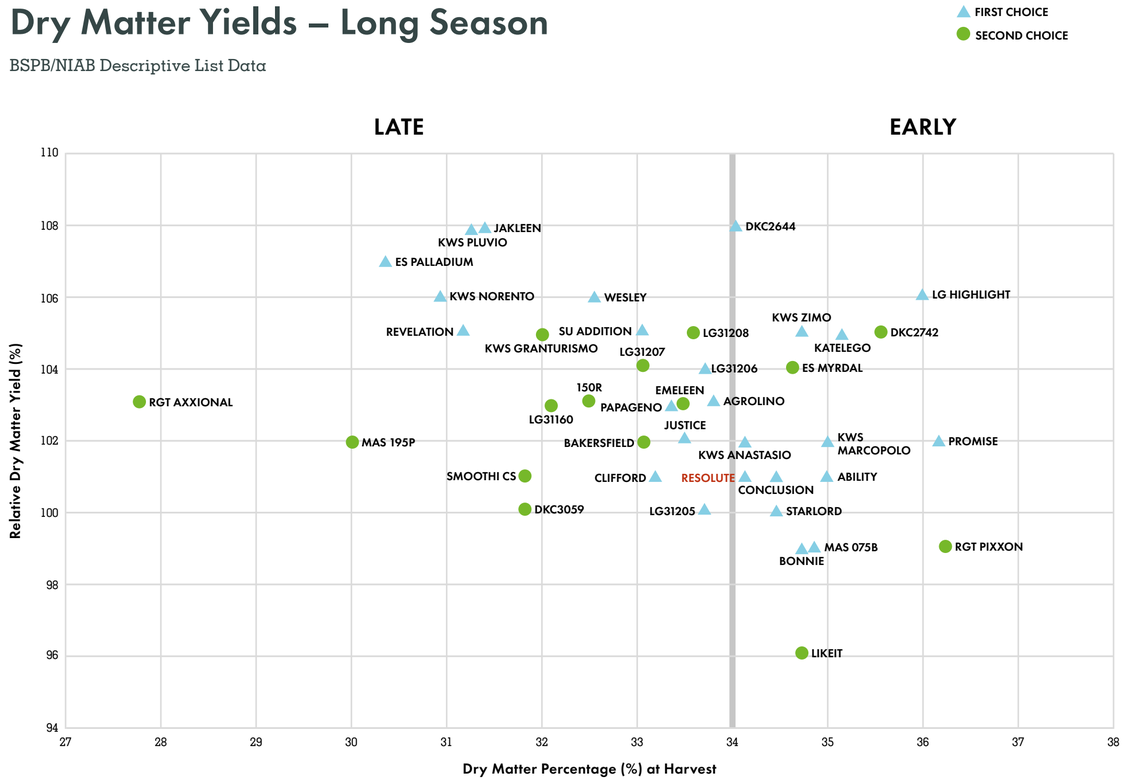
One example from 2020 showed a 5 t/ha yield increase from a maize crop when clover was present as a companion crop.



Lunator forage rye

Dry Matter Yields – Long Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data

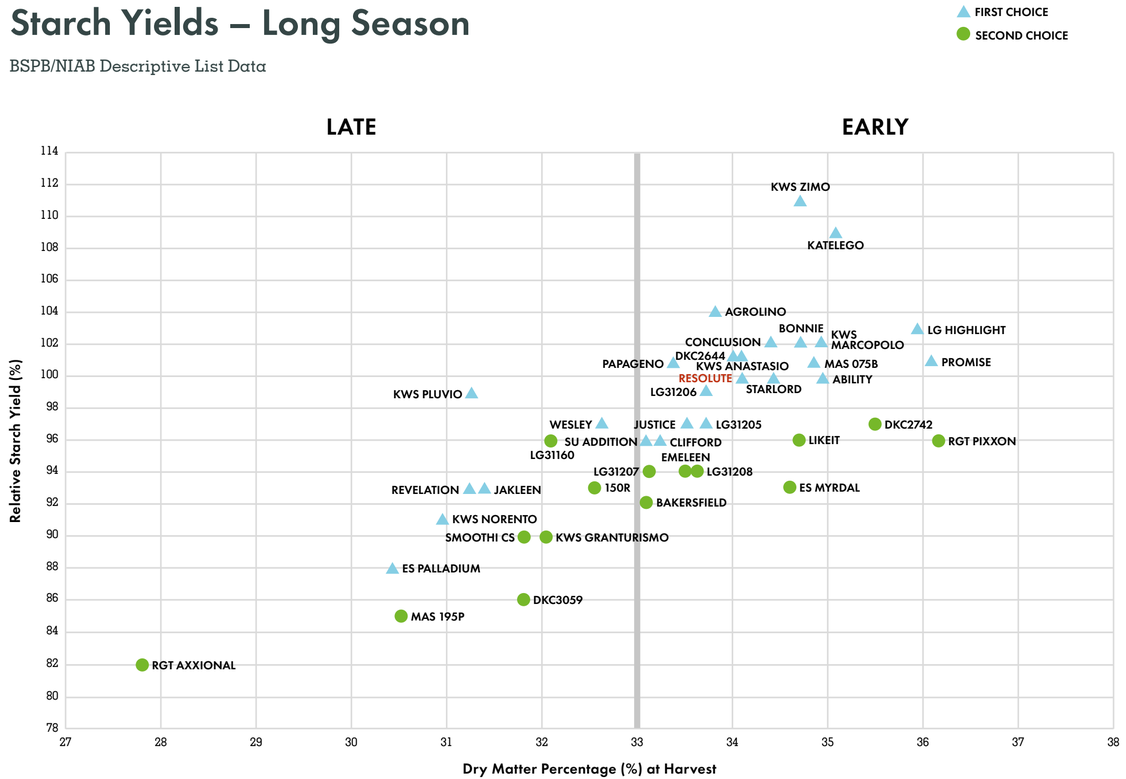


	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	DM YIELD (T/Ha)	RELATIVE DM YIELD (%)	EARLY VIGOUR^	STANDING POWER^	LODGING (%)	LEAF SENESCENCE^	EYESPOT RATING°	YEAR FIRST LISTED
EARLY	RGT PIXXON*	9	180	36.2	17.9	99	6.9	8.0	0.5	6.9	7.1	2022
	PROMISE	9	180	36.1	18.3	102	7.0	7.7	1.1	6.3	1.9	2024
	LG HIGHLIGHT	9	180	35.9	19.0	106	6.7	8.2	0.3	7.0	6.9	2026
	DKC2742*	9	180	35.5	19.0	105	6.7	8.0	0.6	6.6	6.7	2025
	KATELEGO	9	180	35.1	19.0	105	7.0	7.7	1.1	6.6	6.3	2026
	ABILITY	8	190	34.9	18.2	101	7.3	8.1	0.4	6.8	5.8	2020
	KWS MARCOPOLO	8	190	34.9	18.4	102	6.8	6.9	2.6	6.5	6.3	2026
	MAS 075B	8	190	34.8	17.9	99	7.0	7.6	1.4	6.5	6.2	2024
	BONNIE	8	190	34.7	17.9	99	7.3	8.0	0.6	7.2	5.9	2017
	KWS ZIMO	8	190	34.7	19.0	105	7.1	7.9	0.8	6.7	6.1	2025
	LIKEIT*	8	190	34.7	17.2	96	7.0	8.1	0.5	6.2	3.5	2018
	ES MYRDAL*	8	190	34.6	18.8	104	7.2	7.7	1.2	6.8	6.6	2022
	CONCLUSION	8	190	34.4	18.1	101	7.3	8.0	0.6	7.0	3.9	2020
	STARLORD	8	190	34.4	18.0	100	6.8	7.4	1.7	6.4	7.8	2024
	RESOLUTE	8	190	34.1	18.1	101	7.2	7.8	1.0	7.0	2.4	2020
	KWS ANASTASIO	8	190	34.1	18.5	102	7.2	7.8	0.9	7.0	7.6	2022
LATE	DKC2644	8	190	34.0	19.4	108	6.4	7.6	1.4	7.0	6.3	2026
	AGROLINO	7	200	33.8	18.5	103	6.8	7.7	1.2	6.6	6.4	2025
	LG31205	8	190	33.7	18.1	100	6.7	7.6	1.4	7.0	8.2	2018
	LG31206	8	190	33.7	18.8	104	7.1	7.4	1.8	7.2	4.0	2025
	LG31208*	8	190	33.6	19.0	105	7.4	8.0	0.6	6.8	6.6	2026
	JUSTICE	8	190	33.5	18.5	102	6.9	7.9	0.7	6.6	8.6	2024
	EMELEEN*	7	200	33.5	18.6	103	6.9	7.7	1.2	6.8	8.2	2023
	PAPAGENO	8	190	33.4	18.5	103	6.8	7.5	1.5	7.1	7.0	2024
	CLIFFORD	7	200	33.2	18.1	101	7.1	8.1	0.5	7.0	7.4	2025
	BAKERSFIELD*	7	200	33.1	18.5	102	7.0	6.9	2.6	7.4	5.2	2026
	LG31207*	7	200	33.1	18.7	104	7.3	7.9	0.8	6.9	8.7	2023
	SU ADDITION	7	200	33.1	19.0	105	7.0	7.9	0.9	7.1	4.5	2025
	WESLEY	6	210	32.6	19.2	106	7.0	7.7	1.1	7.2	6.5	2026
	150R*	6	210	32.5	18.6	103	7.2	7.9	0.8	7.5	5.5	2026
	LG31160*	6	210	32.1	18.6	103	7.1	7.9	0.7	6.9	4.4	2026
	KWS GRANTURISMO*	6	210	32.0	19.0	105	6.8	8.0	0.5	6.7	8.2	2024
	SMOOTHI CS*	5	220	31.8	18.3	101	6.5	7.5	1.5	7.1	7.8	2019
	DKC3059*	6	210	31.8	18.1	100	6.2	7.6	1.4	7.0	6.3	2026
	JAKLEEN	5	220	31.4	19.5	108	6.8	7.4	1.8	7.2	6.2	2024
	KWS PLUVIO	5	220	31.3	19.4	108	7.2	7.7	1.1	7.4	6.0	2026
	REVELATION	5	220	31.2	18.9	105	7.1	7.6	1.3	7.6	5.2	2026
	KWS NORENTO	5	220	30.9	19.1	106	7.0	7.8	1.0	7.1	6.8	2026
	MAS 195P*	5	220	30.5	18.4	102	7.3	7.7	1.1	7.3	6.3	2025
	ES PALLADIUM	4	230	30.4	19.3	107	7.2	7.4	1.7	7.1	5.1	2023
	RGT AXXIONAL*	3	250	27.8	18.7	103	6.7	7.8	0.9	7.7	5.6	2026

^ 9=Good/1=Poor (At Harvest) ° 9=Good/1=Poor * Second Choice

Starch Yields – Long Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data

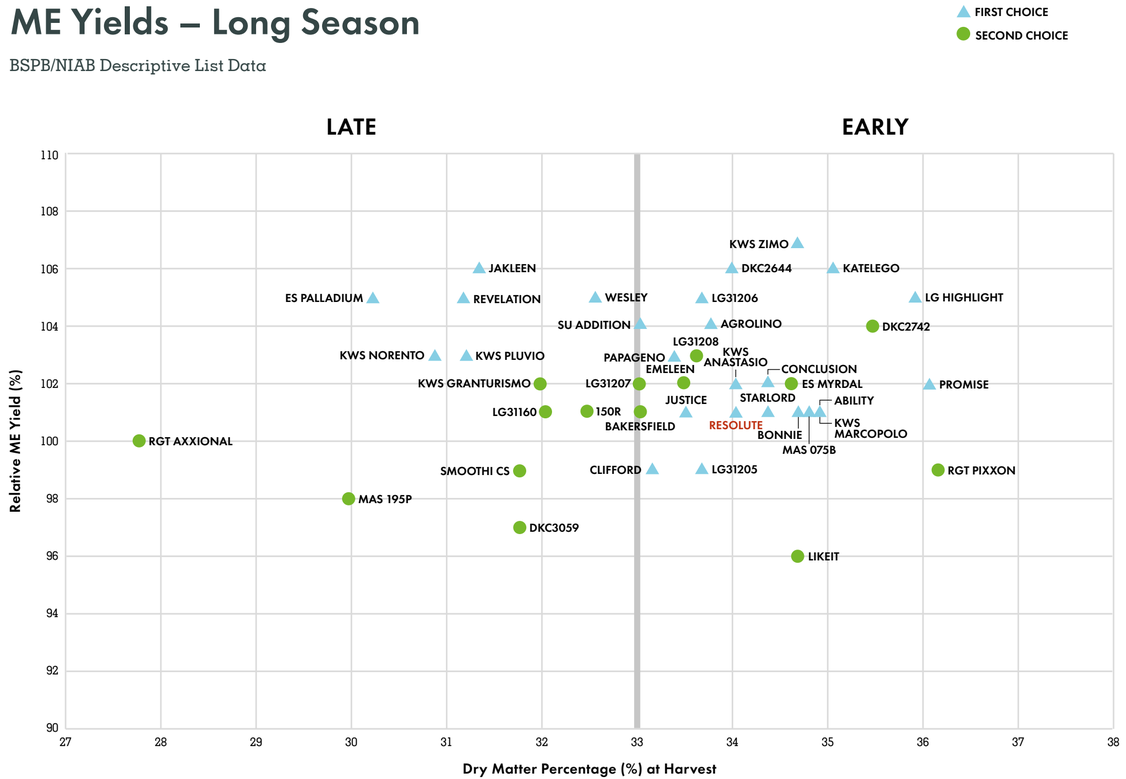


	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	STARCH % (at harvest)	STARCH YIELD (T/HA)	RELATIVE STARCH YIELD (%)	YEAR FIRST LISTED
EARLY	RGT PIXXON*	9	180	36.2	33.2	5.94	96	2022
	PROMISE	9	180	36.1	34.1	6.25	101	2024
	LG HIGHLIGHT	9	180	35.9	33.6	6.39	103	2026
	DKC2742*	9	180	35.5	31.7	6.02	97	2025
	KATELEGO	9	180	35.1	35.6	6.77	109	2026
	ABILITY	8	190	34.9	34.0	6.18	100	2020
	KWS MARCOPOLO	8	190	34.9	34.6	6.34	102	2026
	MAS 075B	8	190	34.8	35.0	6.25	101	2024
	BONNIE	8	190	34.7	35.4	6.33	102	2017
	KWS ZIMO	8	190	34.7	36.2	6.86	111	2025
	LIKEIT*	8	190	34.7	34.5	5.95	96	2018
	ES MYRDAL*	8	190	34.6	30.7	5.78	93	2022
	CONCLUSION	8	190	34.4	35.0	6.34	102	2020
	STARLORD	8	190	34.4	34.5	6.20	100	2024
	RESOLUTE	8	190	34.1	34.2	6.19	100	2020
	KWS ANASTASIO	8	190	34.1	33.9	6.26	101	2022
LATE	DKC2644	8	190	34.0	32.2	6.25	101	2026
	AGROLINO	7	200	33.8	34.8	6.45	104	2025
	LG31205	8	190	33.7	33.2	5.99	97	2018
	LG31206	8	190	33.7	32.6	6.13	99	2025
	LG31208*	8	190	33.6	30.7	5.81	94	2026
	JUSTICE	8	190	33.5	32.5	6.00	97	2024
	EMELEEN*	7	200	33.5	31.5	5.83	94	2023
	PAPAGENO	8	190	33.4	33.7	6.25	101	2024
	CLIFFORD	7	200	33.2	32.9	5.96	96	2025
	BAKERSFIELD*	7	200	33.1	31.0	5.72	92	2026
	LG31207*	7	200	33.1	31.1	5.81	94	2023
	SU ADDITION	7	200	33.1	31.4	5.95	96	2025
	WESLEY	6	210	32.6	31.3	6.01	97	2026
	150R*	6	210	32.5	30.9	5.74	93	2026
	LG31160*	6	210	32.1	32.1	5.96	96	2026
	KWS GRANTURISMO*	6	210	32.0	29.2	5.56	90	2024
	SMOOTHI CS*	5	220	31.8	30.6	5.60	90	2019
	DKC3059*	6	210	31.8	29.4	5.32	86	2026
	JAKLEEN	5	220	31.4	29.7	5.78	93	2024
	KWS PLUVIO	5	220	31.3	31.5	6.10	99	2026
	REVELATION	5	220	31.2	30.6	5.76	93	2026
	KWS NORENTO	5	220	30.9	29.6	5.64	91	2026
	MAS 195P*	5	220	30.5	28.5	5.24	85	2025
	ES PALLADIUM	4	230	30.4	28.3	5.45	88	2023
	RGT AXXIONAL*	3	250	27.8	27.3	5.10	82	2026

* Second Choice

ME Yields – Long Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data

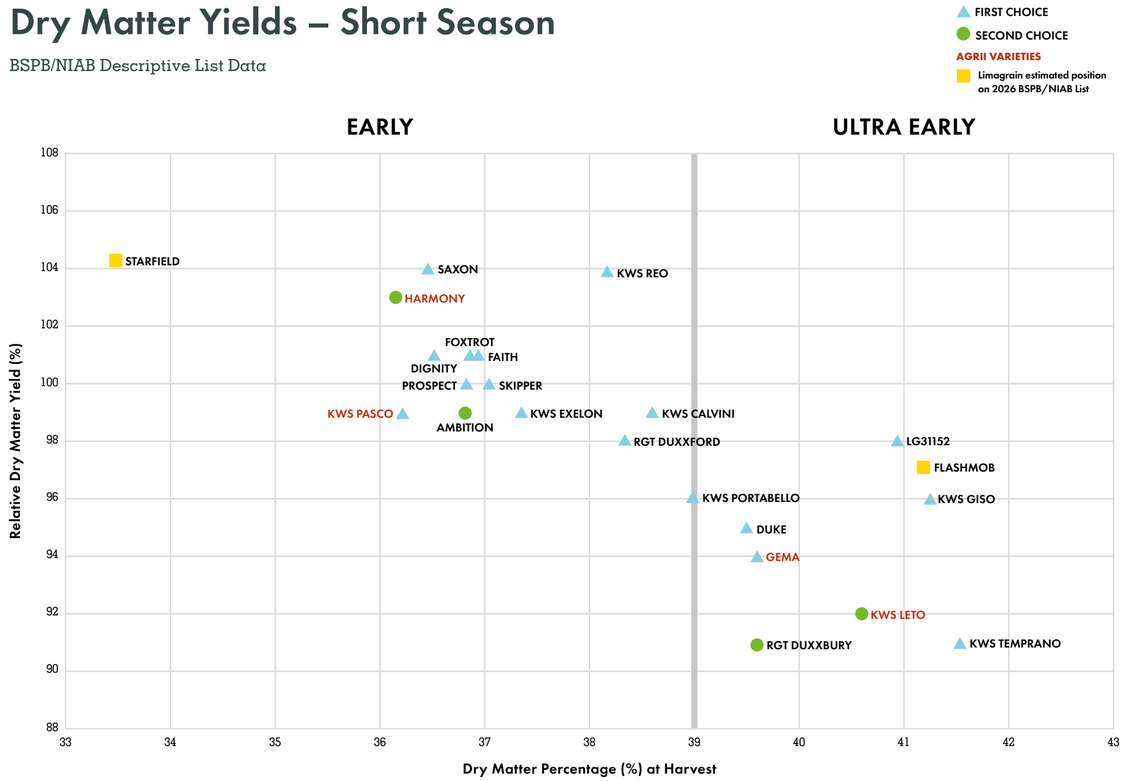


	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	ME (MJ/KG of DM at harvest)	ME YIELD (1,000'S MJ/HA at harvest)	RELATIVE ME YIELD (%)	CELL WALL DIGESTABILITY (%)	YEAR FIRST LISTED
EARLY	RGT PIXXON*	9	180	36.2	11.59	207	99	58.2	2022
	PROMISE	9	180	36.1	11.60	212	102	57.7	2024
	LG HIGHLIGHT	9	180	35.9	11.55	220	105	57.5	2026
	DKC2742*	9	180	35.5	11.41	217	104	56.7	2025
	KATELEGO	9	180	35.1	11.66	222	106	57.8	2026
	ABILITY	8	190	34.9	11.63	211	101	57.9	2020
	KWS MARCOPOLO	8	190	34.9	11.52	211	101	57.2	2026
	MAS 075B	8	190	34.8	11.84	211	101	59.6	2024
	BONNIE	8	190	34.7	11.76	210	101	58.4	2017
	KWS ZIMO	8	190	34.7	11.79	224	107	58.3	2025
	LIKEIT*	8	190	34.7	11.62	200	96	57.4	2018
	ES MYRDAL*	8	190	34.6	11.32	213	102	56.6	2022
	CONCLUSION	8	190	34.4	11.76	213	102	58.7	2020
	STARLORD	8	190	34.4	11.81	212	101	59.6	2024
	RESOLUTE	8	190	34.1	11.59	210	101	57.3	2020
	KWS ANASTASIO	8	190	34.1	11.59	214	102	57.2	2022
LATE	DKC2644	8	190	34.0	11.39	221	106	56.8	2026
	AGROLINO	7	200	33.8	11.75	217	104	58.7	2025
	LG31205	8	190	33.7	11.51	208	99	56.9	2018
	LG31206	8	190	33.7	11.64	219	105	58.6	2025
	LG31208*	8	190	33.6	11.38	216	103	57.0	2026
	JUSTICE	8	190	33.5	11.47	212	101	57.3	2024
	EMELEEN*	7	200	33.5	11.47	213	102	57.4	2023
	PAPAGENO	8	190	33.4	11.67	216	103	58.0	2024
	CLIFFORD	7	200	33.2	11.46	208	99	57.0	2025
	BAKERSFIELD*	7	200	33.1	11.46	211	101	57.4	2026
	LG31207*	7	200	33.1	11.38	213	102	56.9	2023
	SU ADDITION	7	200	33.1	11.43	217	104	57.2	2025
	WESLEY	6	210	32.6	11.39	219	105	57.1	2026
	150R*	6	210	32.5	11.37	211	101	56.7	2026
	LG31160*	6	210	32.1	11.34	210	101	56.0	2026
	KWS GRANTURISMO*	6	210	32.0	11.26	214	102	56.6	2024
	SMOOTHI CS*	5	220	31.8	11.31	207	99	57.0	2019
	DKC3059*	6	210	31.8	11.17	202	97	56.3	2026
	JAKLEEN	5	220	31.4	11.38	221	106	57.4	2024
	KWS PLUVIO	5	220	31.3	11.35	220	105	55.9	2026
	REVELATION	5	220	31.2	11.60	219	105	58.9	2026
	KWS NORENTO	5	220	30.9	11.25	215	103	56.5	2026
	MAS 195P*	5	220	30.5	11.18	205	98	56.6	2025
	ES PALLADIUM	4	230	30.4	11.43	220	105	58.3	2023
	RGT AXXIONAL*	3	250	27.8	11.21	209	100	57.3	2026

* Second Choice

Dry Matter Yields – Short Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data

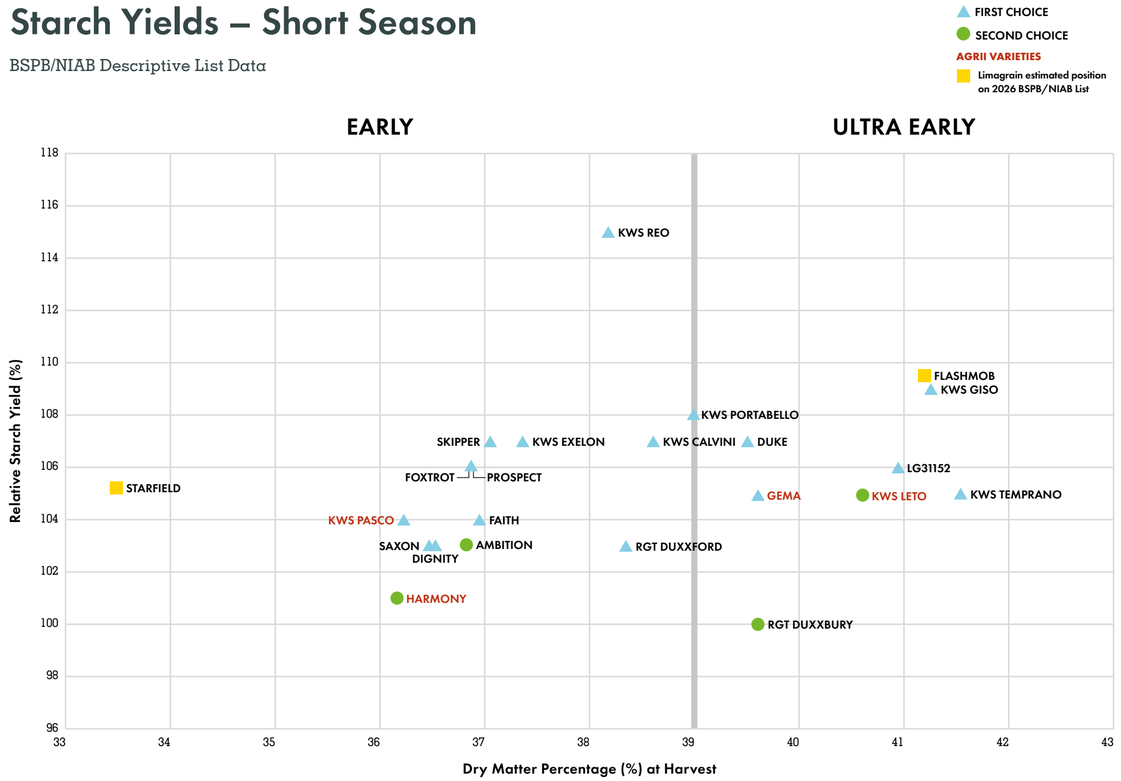


	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	DM YIELD (T/Ha)	RELATIVE DM YIELD (%)	EARLY VIGOUR^	STANDING POWER^	LODGING (%)	LEAF SENESCENCE^	EYESPOT RATING°	YEAR FIRST LISTED
ULTRA EARLY	KWS TEMPRANO	12	150	41.6	16.3	91	7.0	7.9	0.9	3.8	4.9	2024
	KWS GISO	12	150	41.3	17.2	96	7.0	7.7	1.2	4.3	6.1	2026
	LG31152	12	150	40.9	17.7	98	7.2	7.7	1.2	5.3	5.7	2025
	KWS LETO*	12	150	40.6	16.5	92	7.0	7.7	1.2	3.7	5.1	2024
	RGT DUXXBURY*	12	150	39.6	16.2	91	6.9	8.3	0.1	5.2	4.6	2018
	GEMA	12	150	39.6	16.9	94	6.7	7.5	1.5	5.7	6.4	2021
	DUKE	12	150	39.5	17.1	95	7.0	7.7	1.2	5.6	6.6	2024
EARLY	KWS PORTABELLO	11	160	39.0	17.4	96	7.4	8.0	0.5	5.6	6.4	2025
	KWS CALVINI	10	170	38.6	17.8	99	7.1	8.0	0.6	5.1	7.2	2019
	RGT DUXXFORD	10	170	38.4	17.6	98	6.8	7.9	0.7	6.0	2.3	2026
	KWS REO	10	170	38.2	18.7	104	7.2	7.8	1.1	5.5	6.0	2025
	KWS EXELON	10	170	37.4	17.8	99	7.0	7.7	1.2	6.3	8.1	2021
	SKIPPER	10	170	37.1	18.0	100	7.1	8.1	0.5	6.7	2.6	2023
	FAITH	10	170	36.9	18.3	101	7.3	8.0	0.6	6.1	2.9	2023
	AMBITION*	10	170	36.8	17.6	99	7.4	8.1	0.5	6.3	6.1	2012
	FOXTROT	10	170	36.8	18.3	101	7.2	7.5	1.5	6.9	2.1	2023
	PROSPECT	10	170	36.8	18.0	100	7.0	7.9	0.8	6.8	7.6	2019
	DIGNITY	10	170	36.6	18.3	101	7.2	7.9	0.8	6.2	1.9	2022
	SAXON	10	170	36.5	18.7	104	7.5	7.6	1.4	6.2	2.4	2022
	KWS PASCO	10	170	36.3	17.9	99	6.8	7.8	0.9	6.2	8.1	2022
	HARMONY*	10	170	36.2	18.6	103	7.2	7.1	2.3	6.7	5.3	2025

^ 9=Good/1=Poor (At Harvest) ° 9=Good/1=Poor * Second Choice

Starch Yields – Short Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data



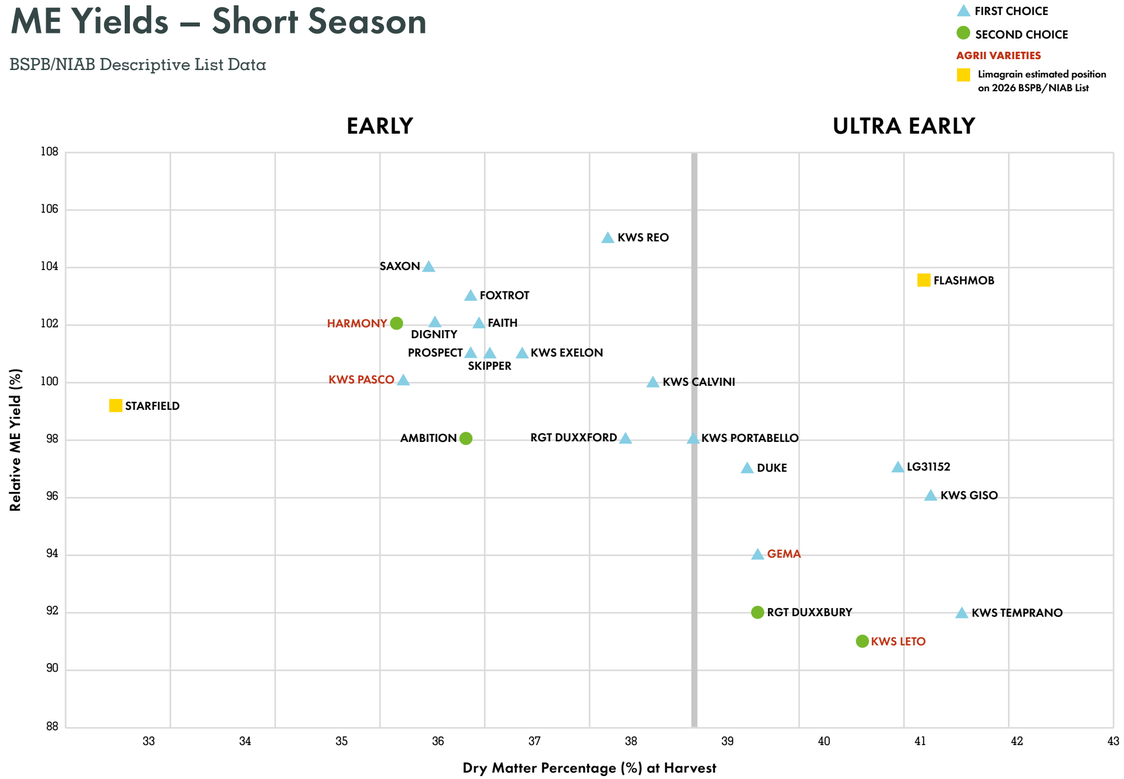
	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	STARCH % (at harvest)	STARCH YIELD (T/HA)	RELATIVE STARCH YIELD (%)	YEAR FIRST LISTED
ULTRA EARLY	KWS TEMPRANO	12	150	41.6	39.8	6.51	105	2024
	KWS GISO	12	150	41.3	39.2	6.75	109	2026
	LG31152	12	150	40.9	37.0	6.56	106	2025
	KWS LETO*	12	150	40.6	38.7	6.37	105	2024
	RGT DUXXBURY*	12	150	39.6	37.6	6.08	100	2018
	GEMA	12	150	39.6	38.4	6.48	105	2021
	DUKE	12	150	39.5	39.0	6.65	107	2024
EARLY	KWS PORTABELLO	11	160	39.0	38.5	6.70	108	2025
	KWS CALVINI	10	170	38.6	37.4	6.65	107	2019
	RGT DUXXFORD	10	170	38.4	36.3	6.39	103	2026
	KWS REO	10	170	38.2	38.0	7.11	115	2025
	KWS EXELON	10	170	37.4	37.2	6.62	107	2021
	SKIPPER	10	170	37.1	36.6	6.60	107	2023
	FAITH	10	170	36.9	35.3	6.44	104	2023
	AMBITION*	10	170	36.8	35.8	6.29	103	2012
	FOXTROT	10	170	36.8	35.8	6.55	106	2023
	PROSPECT	10	170	36.8	36.6	6.57	106	2019
	DIGNITY	10	170	36.6	35.0	6.38	103	2022
	SAXON	10	170	36.5	34.2	6.39	103	2022
	KWS PASCO	10	170	36.3	35.9	6.43	104	2022
	HARMONY*	10	170	36.2	33.8	6.28	101	2025

* Second Choice

STARCH YIELDS

ME Yields – Short Season

BSPB/NIAB Descriptive List Data



	VARIETY	MC	FAO	DM % (at harvest)	ME (MJ/KG of DM at harvest)	ME YIELD (1,000'S MJ/HA at harvest)	RELATIVE ME YIELD (%)	CELL WALL DIGESTABILITY (%)	YEAR FIRST LISTED
ULTRA EARLY	KWS TEMPRANO	12	150	41.6	11.77	192	92	56.7	2024
	KWS GISO	12	150	41.3	11.66	201	96	55.8	2026
	LG31152	12	150	40.9	11.58	205	97	56.4	2025
	KWS LETO*	12	150	40.6	11.50	189	91	55.2	2024
	RGT DUXXBURY*	12	150	39.6	11.72	190	92	57.5	2018
	GEMA	12	150	39.6	11.68	197	94	56.8	2021
	DUKE	12	150	39.5	11.91	203	97	57.9	2024
EARLY	KWS PORTABELLO	11	160	39.0	11.73	204	98	57.1	2025
	KWS CALVINI	10	170	38.6	11.76	209	100	57.6	2019
	RGT DUXXFORD	10	170	38.4	11.62	205	98	57.2	2026
	KWS REO	10	170	38.2	11.69	219	105	56.7	2025
	KWS EXELON	10	170	37.4	11.84	211	101	57.9	2021
	SKIPPER	10	170	37.1	11.72	211	101	57.5	2023
	FAITH	10	170	36.9	11.63	212	102	57.4	2023
	AMBITION*	10	170	36.8	11.59	204	98	56.8	2012
	FOXTROT	10	170	36.8	11.72	215	103	57.5	2023
	PROSPECT	10	170	36.8	11.80	212	101	58.1	2019
	DIGNITY	10	170	36.6	11.68	213	102	58.0	2022
	SAXON	10	170	36.5	11.64	217	104	57.5	2022
	KWS PASCO	10	170	36.3	11.68	209	100	57.2	2022
	HARMONY*	10	170	36.2	11.43	212	102	56.3	2025

* Second Choice

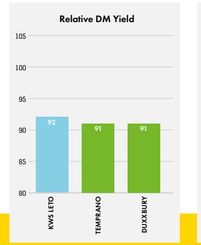
ME YIELDS

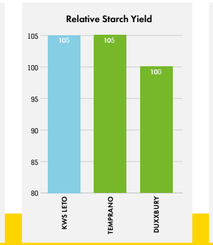
MAIZE GUIDE 2027

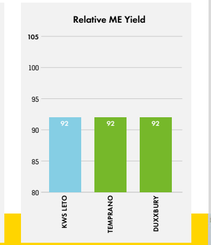
KWS LETO

- Ultra Early
- FAO 150
- 40.6% DM at Harvest
- 16.50 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.37 Tonnes Starch per Ha
- 189 GJ ME per Ha









Breeder's Comments

"KWS Leto is the short season champion! KWS Leto delivers an excellent early season DM yield, suitable for shorter growing season. A high energy hybrid to enhance animal performance."

If it's more you're looking for from an Ultra Early harvest date, look no further than Leto!

New to the BSPB Descriptive List for 2025, KWS Leto is the next generation within the Ultra Early sector. With ever changing weather patterns and increased focus on reducing environmental impacts of maize, KWS Leto provides the solutions that UK growers are looking for. Tracked throughout its development within BSBP National Trials and within Agrii screening sites over the last few years, KWS Leto has been a standout performer.

Not only offering extraordinary earliness to harvest, but overall yield and quality output also. In most cases, KWS Leto will easily outperform official data when harvested at the target 32% DM in a commercial setting. After the previous couple of seasons, many growers have understandably looked to achieve an earlier harvest date or work with a shorter growing season KWS Leto will deliver on these requirements and supply very high quality and overall yields along the way.

Since 2025, KWS Leto has been grown as far north as Castle Douglas, South West Scotland and provided an early maturity date to ensure a following crops of forage rye are established, before returning back to maize again in Spring all without the use of plastic! Since 2025, KWS Leto has shown itself to be at least one week earlier to harvest than any other variety within Agrii Maize Demo Sites across the UK.

If you're looking for maintained high yields and quality but from an earlier harvest date in 2027, let KWS Leto be your short season champion!

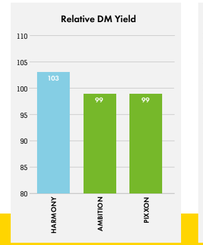
Ben Lowe | National Forage Product Manager

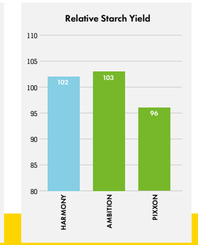


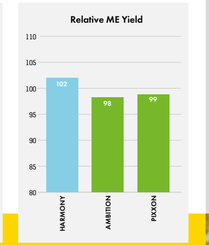
HARMONY

- Early
- FAO 170
- 36.2% DM at Harvest
- 18.60 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.28 Tonnes Starch per Ha
- 212 GJ ME per Ha









Breeder's Comments

"Harmony is brand new and has shown great promise in Trials. Harmony is an early maturing variety with excellent digestibility. It has excellent early vigour and good standing power. This new variety has very high dry matter yields that reduce costs of production."

Harmony sets the stage to deliver unrivalled performance within the Early maturity sector.

Added to the BSPB Descriptive List for 2026, LG Harmony should be a variety of choice for those growers looking to achieve maximum output and quality potential. Every once in a while, the extreme performance of a new line can catch the eye within National List Trials, well in advance of it becoming a listed variety and reaching the UK market. In many cases, this initial data settles down and these varieties become less of an anomaly when compared to existing material. However, Harmony has continued to set new standards for overall yield and quality. Combined with an FAO of 170, this incredible performance also comes hand in hand with an early harvest date.

Harmony has also been screened within Agrii Maize Demo Sites throughout the UK over the last four years and has repeatedly been a standout variety and a key point of conversation for all those in attendance. The previous three seasons have presented UK growers, and their maize crops, with severe challenges regarding establishment, crop development and harvest. However, Harmony shouldered these pressures and delivered every time. Again, throughout a challenging season for many growers in 2026, Harmony has remained a standout performer.

Positive feedback from growers has been regular throughout the growing season, affirming Harmony as a farmer's favourite! Agrii have a unique insight into the development of new maize varieties for the UK market and this drives our selection process of the leading varieties for our customers. Whether you're in a Favourable or Less Favourable region and growing for Livestock or AD, Harmony is on tune to be your next big hit!

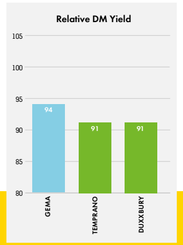
Ben Lowe | National Forage Product Manager

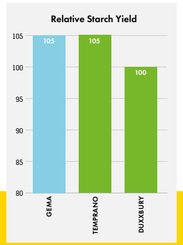


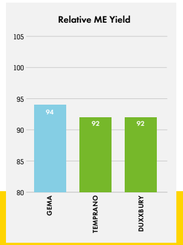
GEMA

- Ultra Early
- FAO 150
- 39.6% DM at Harvest
- 16.90 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.48 Tonnes Starch per Ha
- 197 GJ ME per Ha









Agrii's Comments

Gema takes overall yield and quality within the Very Early sector to a whole new level. Gema offers an early harvest but without paying significant overall yield penalties. Ideal for spreading harvest dates or producing more maize from marginal sites. **The start of a new beginning for Very Early varieties!**

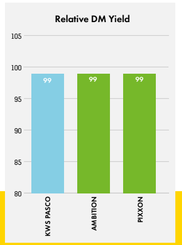
Breeder's Comments

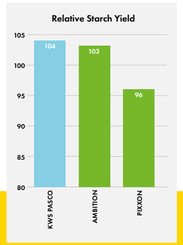
"Gema was new to the NIAB/BSPB list in 2022. With an FAO of 150, Gema is the earliest variety from the LG breeding programme, offering significant improvements in terms of agronomy, starch and yield to maize growers. Gema has good tolerance to diseases such as fusarium and eyespot and has excellent standing power."

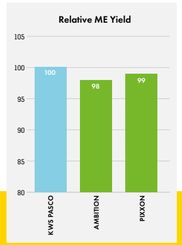
KWS PASCO

- Early
- FAO 170
- 36.3% DM at Harvest
- 17.90 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.43 Tonnes Starch per Ha
- 209 GJ ME per Ha









Agrii's Comments

Pasco was identified by Agrii within official and breeders' trials as a stand-out performer from a very early stage. This exciting new variety is a superb addition to the early sector for growers looking to maximise both very high quality forage and huge overall yields. **The big variety with a bright future!**

Breeder's Comments

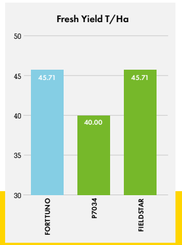
"KWS Pasco offers excellent performance for silage production with leading DM yields and quality. A stable single cross hybrid, KWS Pasco is ideal for CCM, moderate to high inclusions within TMR rations and also high starch silage for beef finishing."

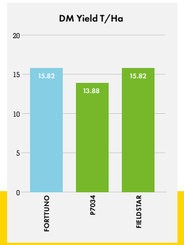
FORTTUNO

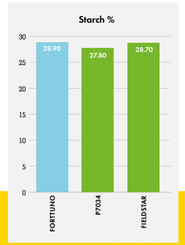
- Early
- FAO 190
- 19.00 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.30 Tonnes Starch per Ha

*DSV Trials Data









*Agrii Plot Data

Agrii's Comments

Forttuno is now a well proven and reliable variety. Launched in 2024, Forttuno has had two very testing seasons, but performed incredibly well in all regions.

Early maturity combined with high overall yields and great quality, **Forttuno is already a farmers favourite!**

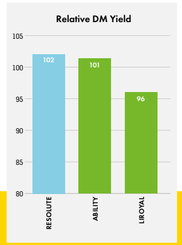
Breeder's Comments

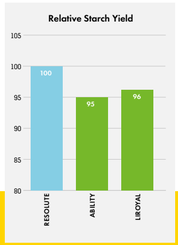
"Forttuno has truly proven its strength this season. Its early maturity, strong plant health, and rapid juvenile development have made it a standout performer in a challenging growing year. We've received fantastic feedback from growers who achieved impressive dry matter yields despite difficult conditions a real testament to Forttuno's reliability and vigour."

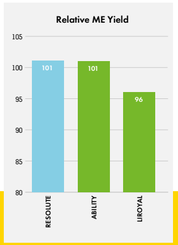
RESOLUTE

- Early
- FAO 190
- 34.1% DM at Harvest
- 18.10 Tonnes DM per Ha
- 6.19 Tonnes Starch per Ha
- 210 GJ ME per Ha









Agrii's Comments

Resolute offers massive combined DM and ME yields. It achieves an earlier harvest yet maintains massive overall yields when compared to much later material. UK maize production must adapt for ever changing futures and Resolute already holds many of the answers. The big hitting variety for any UK grower.

Breeder's Comments

"The yield of Resolute is exceptional, the only variety to break the 19 t/ha barrier. Not only does Resolute offer a significant improvement in terms of yield, it also maximises feed quality from an early maize harvest. A truly impressive performer both on paper and in the field."

P7179

Breeder's Comments

"P7179 was launched in 2023. It is an extra early maturity flint grain textured hybrid suitable for sowing on less favourable sites and favourable sites where an early harvest is sought. In PACTS trials it has shown itself to be the earliest maturity hybrid in the Pioneer range."

P7034

Breeder's Comments

"A dent-like hybrid bred specifically for the cool maritime conditions of North West Europe. PACTS Results show the large degradable starch yield that P7034 can produce. This demonstrates that growers in cooler areas no longer need to rely solely on hybrids with flint textured grain that invariably produce much lower yields of rumen degradable starch."

P7381

Breeder's Comments

"P7381 is a large stature hybrid that was first grown commercially in 2022. P7381 is very early in terms of its relative maturity and has given high dry matter yields in both favourable and less favourable sites. P7381 has been tested on 26 PACTS favourable open sites and 28 less favourable open sites over three years."



Agrii are key UK distributors of Corteva's Pioneer Maize portfolio. Speak to your local Agrii Contact for any technical or commercial support and input you may require.

Post-cropping options

Forage Rye

A crop of forage rye can offer growers high yields of a quality forage between maize crops. It also offers valuable over-winter ground cover, mopping up nutrients, reducing erosion and helping to improve soils.

Established as soon as the maize crop has been harvested, forage rye has rapid early growth and very strong winter hardiness. The crop will be very quick to get growing in the New Year and ready to be cut and ensiled in late April or early May.

Sheep can also be introduced over the winter months for some additional grazing on forward and well established crops.

In Agrii Trials and Commercial Crop between 2020 and 2023, forage rye yields were 15-20 tonnes per acre at 30-34% DM.

"Forage rye can be sown with minimum cultivations, provided the field is in good condition, rapidly establishes and doesn't really stop growing through the winter, so provides either early grazing in spring or can be ensiled mid-late April."

Ben Lowe | Agrii National Forage Product Manager

Grass

Short-term grasses such as Westerwolds or Italian Ryegrass can provide an early bite at the start of spring, or alternatively, can offer a quality first-cut silage.

These grasses are vigorous and extremely quick to establish, even at lower soil temperatures of 3°C.

This enables the ley to get established before the winter period, also leading to earlier spring growth.

While only short-term, these species are very productive which means that weather permitting, growers will be able to take a high yielding and excellent quality cut of silage before preparing the field for the next crop.



Elsoms The Seed Specialists

LUNATOR from Elsoms Seeds offers an increase in vigour, winter hardiness and is earlier to harvest in the spring when compared to many other varieties on the market.

"Typical seed costs for Lunator forage rye are around £85/ha, plus another £35-55/ha for drilling. Compared with other varieties, Lunator offers extra yield and considerable advantages in earliness to harvest."

Ben Lowe | National Forage Product Manager

Maize Master

Specialist undersowing mixture for maize

Maize Master is a specifically formulated grass mixture to undersow within maize crops to improve travelling conditions at the time of harvest, provide ground cover over the winter, retain residual nutrients and supply additional forage within a rotation.

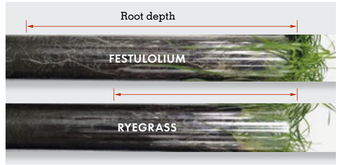
This dedicated mixture is comprised of three key components:

35% LOFA festulolium which is a genetic cross between a fescue and a perennial ryegrass. The main agronomic attributes which are carried through from this hybridisation are stress tolerance, yield and rooting capability. Enhanced rooting capabilities play a vital part in ensuring soil erosion is minimised and residual nutrients retained during the winter months.

35% ABERECHO hybrid ryegrass enhances overall yield potential within the mixture and carries just enough aggression within the formulation to ensure it establishes well but does not outcompete the maize when undersown. This variety, although a hybrid, also has excellent ground cover ability.

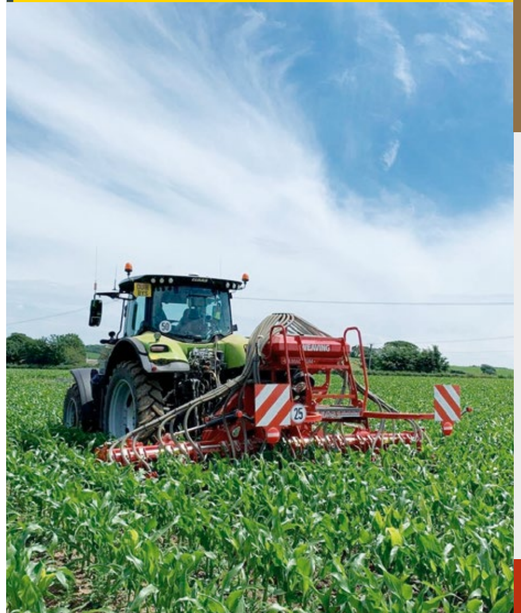
30% ABERGAIN perennial ryegrass is a tetraploid with superb ground cover capabilities. This additional ground cover is key to ensuring soil structures are not damaged at the time of harvest, by improving travelling conditions for machinery.

- Pack size: 15 kg / 3 acre
- Seed rate: 5 kg per acre
- Maize Master can be sown when maize is drilled, or at the 6-8 leaf stage



*Please note, varieties may change depending on supply.

Please see page 8 for more information about how undersowing your maize crop can help reduce its environmental impact and improve future farm resilience.



Anaerobic Digestion

Agrii has been able to provide the UK's AD Industry with a unique insight into commercial feedstock production since 2012.



Based 20 miles east of Leeds, Agrii's Brotherton trial site is home to an extensive Agrii R&D trials facility which focuses primarily on hybrid rye, forage rye, winter wheat, triticale and also maize.

The trials are specifically designed to supply leading technical management recommendations as well as screening many new genetic lines on an annual basis.

In addition to collating the UK's leading detailed agronomic data, we are also able to gain in depth methane production analysis from the 500 kW AD Plant that is also based at the iFarm.

Throughout the year, iFarm events and tours take place at the site to demonstrate the most up to date developments which can range from information on drilling date, seed rates and variety traits to input programmes.

The Brotherton site has also played a key role in Agrii's development of hybrid rye for grain and its place within today's UK market.

All Agrii varieties are suitable for AD

For more information on how Agrii can help you progress your AD business please contact:

Matt Richardson | Area Business Manager, North of England	07887 547287
Philip Marr | Hybrid Rye and Renewable Energy Consultant	07867 317116
John Charlton | Crop Inputs Specialist	07469 284165



New DIGEST-IT® for AD farms

DIGEST-IT® is a biological slurry and digestate additive designed to increase nutrient recovery from slurry, while also reducing ammonia emissions.

How does DIGEST-IT® work?



DIGEST-IT® provides a rich food for microbes as well as dormant aerobic bacteria species that are able to feed on and break down the organic matter in the slurry and use the ammonia gas as a source of nitrogen to grow, thus turning it into microbial nitrogen.

Benefits of DIGEST-IT®

For Slurry Storage:

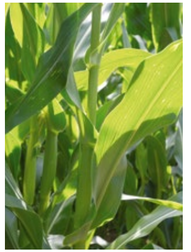
- 80% reduction in ammonia losses, resulting in less smell from slurry when agitating or spreading.
- In trials over a 13-week period, the mean ammonia concentration level for untreated slurry was 20.9ppm compared to 4.2ppm for the DIGEST-IT® treated slurry – an 80% reduction.
- Anaerobic bacteria compost solids into plant-available liquid nutrients.
- 29% reduction in oven dry solids, reducing time required to agitate and pump slurry.
- Reduces surface crusting, reducing agitation time.

In the Field:

- Improves soil health by supplying "good" microbes to the soil.
- DIGEST-IT® treated slurry has a lower Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) than untreated slurry, reducing the time soil is anaerobic after application.
- The reduction in dry solids aids absorption into the soil, reducing in-field ammonia losses.
- Average 30% improvement in N, P & K crop availability.
- Quicker flow rates and more accurate application of liquid.

Maize for Grain

Utilising maize crops for grain production is becoming a popular choice for many UK growers.



In many cases, crops that may be surplus to forage requirements following an ideal growing season are left for combining to supply an extremely high quality source of starch for feed rations.

Agrii also works closely with those who wish to produce grain only.

Agrii's varieties of choice for grain production:

RESOLUTE

DSV FORTTUNO

Gamecover

Agrii is also able to recommend and supply maize varieties suitable for the UK gamecover market.



Reliability is key to ensure these crops produce viable cover throughout the entire shooting season, so making the right choice is crucial.

In addition to maize suitable for gamecover, Agrii also has access to a full range of alternative gamecover and environmental options.

Working closely with Limagrain and the HiBird portfolio, Agrii can cater for any requirement you may have for the coming season. Please get in touch for a copy of the HiBird brochure.

Agrii-Ferm MAIZE

Agrii-Ferm MAIZE is a biological Silage Additive designed to maximise the preservation of maize silage and produce a highly palatable, cool and stable feedstock – every time.

Maximising Stability

The key to maize silage stability, both in the clamp and in the feed passage, is to control yeast and moulds.

Agrii-Ferm MAIZE will inhibit both yeasts and moulds during the fermentation process and supply long term stability. The result is a cool and stable maize silage which maximises animal performance from home grown forage.



Usage Instructions

Each 500 ml bottle of Agrii-Ferm MAIZE will treat 50 tonnes of Maize Silage. This can be applied at any rate from 10 ml per Tonne to 2.0 L per tonne.

- Remove the lid and add clean, cold water until the bottle is half full.
- Replace the lid and shake vigorously to dissolve the contents.
- Remove the lid and fill to 5 mm above the shoulder of the bottle.
- Add to the tank on the applicator.
- Dilute as required with additional water.

Your Fertiliser Options

OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
+ Low P indices + Little/no organic material applied	+ High P indices + High organic matter applied + All N in seedbed Accounting for 20 kg/ha of N from organic material	+ Close to target P indices + Little/no organic material applied
DAP Agrii Protected Phosphate (A.P.P) 18N 46P @125 kg/ha placement	Agrii-Start Release @4 ltr/ha pre-drilling Agrii-Start Enhance 46% N @175 kg/ha pre-drilling	Maize Kicka 18N-20P-27.5SO_3+0.8% Zn+Kicka+A.P.P. @62.5 kg/ha placement
Top Dress AN @230 kg/ha	No top dressing	Top Dress Agrii-Start Enhance @175 kg/ha

Agristart®

MAGNUM 10-48-0 plus Zn

Agristart® is a microgranular NP Complex fertiliser high in phosphorus combined with ammoniacal nitrogen (suited for early root uptake). The product also contains Quelaphos, an organo-humic complex designed to stimulate early root activity and promote root development.

Recommendations

CROP	APPLICATION RATE
Maize	25 to 50 kgs/ha
OSR	25 kgs/ha
Root crops	25 to 30 kgs/ha
Basic use	25 kgs/ha

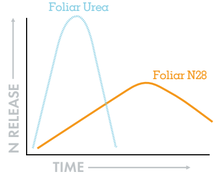
Agronomic benefits

+ Vigorous plant emergence.
+ Improved early rooting.
+ Rapid development of seedlings.
+ Zinc activates enzymes in protein synthesis and is a component of auxin formation, a necessary plant hormone.
+ Reduced leaching losses due to stable form of Nitrogen.

Efficie-N28-t

28% FOLIAR NITROGEN

+ 28% Foliar Nitrogen – Liquid Foliar Nitrogen Fertiliser.
+ Unique Amide Nitrogen (NH_2) formulation designed to provide effective crop uptake whilst maximising crop safety.
+ The amide (NH_2) formulation breaks down slowly to enable faster plant uptake compared to nitrate forms of N, resulting in greater Nitrogen Use Efficiency compared to traditional nitrogen fertilisers.
+ N28 is a useful tool where growers need to supply additional nitrogen to crops where N availability may be limited.
+ Due to the increase in NUE, Foliar N in some situations can displace the need for 40 kgs bagged nitrogen.



Application

Application Rate – 20 l/ha.

Water Volume – 100-300 l/ha.

Compatibility – Widely compatible with Ag Chem products, avoid hormone herbicides and late PGR products.

CROP	RATE L/HA	WATER VOLUME	TIMING
Cereals	20	100-300 l/ha	T0 to T3
Maize	20	100-300 l/ha	8-12 Leaf Stage Onwards
Oil Seed Rape	20	100-300 l/ha	Late Green Bud/Early Flowering
Potatoes	20	100-300 l/ha	Post Flowering
Onions	20	100-300 l/ha	Bulb Initiation Onwards
Vegetable Crops*	20	100-300 l/ha	Full Leaf Cover
Grassland	20	100-300 l/ha	4 Weeks Pre Cutting

*Please seek label approval for vegetable crops

Maize Kicka

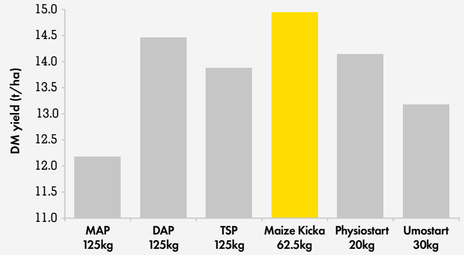
MAIZE STARTER FERTILISER

Kickstart your maize this Spring

Maize Kicka has been designed as a starter fertiliser with the nutrients required to enable the crop to develop rapidly from an early stage.

+ Maize Kicka is a specifically formulated maize starter fertiliser for placement at planting.
+ It is a granular compound (2 to 4 mm) with the analysis – 18N – $20P_2O_5$ – $27.5SO_3$ – 0.8% Zn.
+ It is treated with "Kicka" – Methanoic Zinc Amonionate – to promote root growth and help the plant access nutrients.
+ Maize Kicka is also treated with "P-Reserve" to prevent phosphate lock-up and therefore increasing phosphate availability to the crop.
+ Environmental benefits with targeted phosphate application with Maize Kicka compared to standard DAP.
+ Maize Kicka is cost effective against DAP and is available in both 600 kg and 25 kg packs to ensure you only purchase the amount you need for your crop area.

Seedbed Fertiliser – Trials results Source: NDSM, W, Curtiss, Sinnington, North Yorks



Agrii-Start Release

SOIL PHOSPHORUS ACTIVATOR

+ **Release is a unique soil phosphorus activator** for all soils <OM 30%.
+ **Agrii-Start Release increases phosphate availability which leads to increased rooting development**, making the plant more resistant to stresses including take-all, drought and anaerobic soil conditions.
+ **Release can be used on high P soils** to help unlock P for crop uptake on sites where P availability may be limiting.
+ **Release also increases the availability of other soil nutrients** including P, Zn, Mn, B, and Cu.
+ **Release can be used effectively** on both high and low pH soils.

Benefits for maize

+ A useful tool where maize growers are looking to reduce traditional applications of DAP.
+ Works to increase solubility of soil available phosphorus during the early establishment phases of maize growth.
+ Increases the availability of locked up forms of phosphate in the soil.

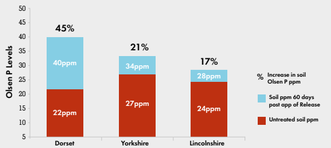
Agrii-Start Release – application for maize

+ **Can be applied pre-emergence** and suitable for tank mixing.
+ **Best applied into moist soils,** to increase soil coverage Release can be used with silicone wetter.
+ **Recommended rate of application** for maize: 4.0 l/ha +/- silicone wetter.
+ **When to apply:** apply pre-drilling/early post drilling.
+ **Can be applied** before or during light rainfall.

Olsen P Increases

+ Agrii-Start Release has been shown to increase P levels in the soil post application.

*Release applied at 4.0 l/ha. Data based upon the principle that to raise soil Olsen P by 10 ppm requires 400 kgs/ha P_2O_5.



Agrii-Start Release

SOIL PHOSPHORUS ACTIVATOR

Agrii-Start Release delivers maize yield gains in Shropshire

Early results with Agrii-Start Release in the maize crop of R. Gough and Son near Ludlow in Shropshire are showing promising early results.



Richard Gough's wife, Carol Gough stands beside the KWS Pasco maize crop on their farm in Ludlow, Shropshire.

With no starter fertiliser used and a crop nutrition approach based largely around the digestate produced from the business' AD plant, maximising forage yields as cost effectively as possible is a cornerstone of their business.

"Yield is all important for us," explains Richard Gough who has been growing maize to feed their 1.1 megawatt digester since 2013.

"Last year we grew 180ha of early maturing maize and establishing it reliably and ensuring it has adequate nutrition through to harvest can be a challenge in the increasingly variable conditions we now experience.

"Making sure crops are drilled into adequate soil moisture is an essential starting point and sowing date is dictated by this and soil temperature, but we hope to be drilled up by the end of April and early May. It has been as late as June, however.

"From there on we rely on the digestate to deliver all the nutrition and we need to know every kg applied is working as hard as possible. We have used a small amount of ammonium nitrate in the past, but the organic sources do most of the hard work."

The Agrii-Start Release trials were carried out on 52ha of land as a single block chosen at random form the three blocks maize was grown on in 2025, recalls the farm's Agrii agronomist Ben Griffiths.

"With no synthetic fertiliser applied, the idea was to see how we could make best use of the phosphate (P) contained in the organic sources applied," he explains.

"Maize is typically grown in a system where organic manures provide the majority of nutrition and Agrii-Start Release has been shown to increase the availability of P from these sources as well as the soil, where reserves can remain locked up.

"It can also help reduce the risk of P indices rising to a level where organic manure cannot be applied."

The Release was applied with pre-emergence herbicide and the activator adjuvant Backrow on the 2nd of May at 4.0l/ha.

"Crops with the Agrii-Start Release applied looked strong throughout the season and coped with the difficult drought conditions well." Ben says.

"This was confirmed at harvest with the block of land that had product applied averaging 43.6t/ha with the rest of the maize producing 42.4t/ha – a 1.2t/ha improvement.

"It's early days, but these results are very promising so we are going to continue the trials next year on different land to see where we can finetune things to get even better nutrient utilisation and yield gains."

MasterLeys & Kingsford Quality Mixtures

The MasterLeys & Kingsford Quality Mixtures Range of grass mixtures offers full and comprehensive options for all types of farming systems and regions of the UK.



Working closely with leading grass seed breeders throughout the UK and Europe, Agrii is able to access the best varieties for the MasterLeys & Kingsford Quality Mixtures portfolio. In addition to this, Agrii grows and produces more than 80% of the seed used to produce both ranges.

This gives us greater control over the quality of the seed we use and ensures that what goes into every one of our bags is of the highest possible standard. The best varieties from the Grass and Clover Recommended List are specifically chosen for each mixture.

We're continually developing and innovating our variety choices and mixtures – ensuring that we provide the most resilient and best performing grass mixtures for your specific requirements and current climates.

The story doesn't stop with the seed in the bag.

Agrii agronomists and crop input specialists provide advice throughout the lifetime of the ley to ensure the best possible returns from your grass. This covers nutrition, weed control and forage nutrient analysis, together with support on animal health and advice on storage.

This integrated approach to making your grass work harder will help drive on farm profitability from your home grown forage.

Please get in touch for more information about our grass mixtures, or for a copy of the Agrii Guide to Grass & Roots, or the Agrii Livestock Directory.

You can also scan the QR codes for the digital versions.





England, Wales & NI



Scotland

Bringing forage and livestock together

Adopting an integrated approach to managing your forage system can help to improve its performance, and consequently the productivity of your livestock.

Agrii specialists in nutrition, seed, forage, animal health, agronomy and precision work together, using the latest technologies in a joined up way – helping you to increase your profits sustainably.

All of this expertise is backed up by the latest research and most up-to-date agri-intelligence on grassland productivity, translated into practice on our local demonstration sites. We can provide the products, support and advice that you need across all areas of your mixed or livestock enterprises.

If you would like a copy of the Agrii Livestock Directory, please scan the QR code, email info@agrii.co.uk, speak to your usual Agrii contact or call Emma Gatehouse on 07966 664096.



The Agrii Livestock Team is made up of highly qualified and dedicated advisory staff, who provide a professional, advice-based service, in addition to supplying the following products.

- Vaccines for beef, sheep, suckler cow and dairy enterprises.
- External and internal parasite control products for all farm animals.
- Trace element drenches and boluses for sheep and cattle.
- Superstock proteins for home mixing.
- Calf and lamb milk powders and follow on products.
- Protein and mineralised buckets and feed blocks.
- Compound feeds.
- Dairy and hygiene chemicals.
- Mobile livestock handling equipment.
- Cereal, grassland and forage crop seed.
- Silage preservation products.
- Cereal harvest preservation products.
- Farm plans.
- Worming programmes, including faecal egg counts.

Agrii: for all your livestock needs.

Helping you manage each stage of the production cycle

R&D
Research plots across the UK identify the best growing programmes

VARIETY & SEED SELECTION
Optimising crop selection for the soil type

ESTABLISHMENT
Identifying the most cost effective cultivation system

SOIL & NUTRITION
Maximising soil potential and setting up yield potential using Contour

WEEDS & DISEASE
Crop protection programmes that maintain yield and quality

MICRO-NUTRITION
Correcting deficiencies that limit yield and quality

ENVIRONMENT
Ensuring due diligence and compliance

CROP PACKAGING
Efficient post-harvest management and supply

ANIMAL MEDICINES AND NUTRITION
Qualified research-based advice and supply



Notes

Your local contacts

Local Contacts

A	Lincoln Seed Plant	01522 513351
B	Finmere Seed Plant	01280 848848
C	Moreton Seed Plant	01277 899700
D	GB Seeds	01284 729200
1	Liam Wink	07765 020546
2	Don Peters	07780 316055
3	Samantha Dungworth	07841 777026
4	Poppy Bunting	07967 593776
5	Rob Stuart	07563 390273
6	Angie Baker	07796 193895
7	Will Sanderson	07980 943538
8	Cas Sandy	07970 641741
9	Charlie Siggs	07769 964472
10	Louise Rawlinson	07721 788943

Seed Commercial Team

Rodger Shirreff	National Seed Business Manager	07831 188500
Louise Rawlinson	National Seed Operations Manager	07721 788943
Jess Preston	Seed Commercial Operations Manager	07870 546599
Mark Taylor	National Farm Saved Seed Business Manager	07836 527251
Ben Lowe	National Forage Product Manager	07966 533374
Adam Simper	National Grass, Roots and Environmental Seeds Manager	07767 007021
Rebecca White	Specialist Break Crop Product Manager	07721 128172
Simon Hobbs	National Cover Crop, Environmental & Wildflower Seeds Manager	07770 643365

Seed Technical Team

John Miles	Seed Technical Manager	07855 130439



Agri intelligence

For all your seed enquiries please contact your Crop Inputs Specialist on one of these numbers or your local Agronomist.

Agrii

Printed using vegetable inks on paper made from FSC® certified and traceable pulp sources. Manufactured in accordance with ISO certified standards for environmental, quality and energy management. A Carbon Balanced product with World Land Trust certificates.