

# SPARKLER



- +A high yielding soft wheat and positive for distilling
- +Wide drilling window - suitable for earlier and later drilling

Sparkler is a high-yielding Group 4 soft winter wheat variety, bred by Elsoms specifically for the UK market. It demonstrates high yield potential, with a treated yield of 108% reported in the North in AHDB trials, albeit based on limited data. The variety possesses desirable grain characteristics, including bold grain, a high HFN and a positive rating for distilling, which may generate interest. However, it faces competition from Solitaire, an established variety that is a year ahead in the market and also highly rated for distilling purposes.

Sparkler is a flexible variety, performing well across all soil types and as a second wheat. It is suitable for flexible drilling, accommodating earlier autumn sowings as well as later sowings extending through to late November and potentially beyond. It has tall straw but maintains relative stiffness and shows medium maturity (+1). The absence of OWBM resistance is not a concern for northern growers.

Disease resistance for brown rust (may raise some concern in England and compare unfavourably to varieties like Bamford and Solitaire). It has average resistance to yellow rust and mildew but is weak against eyespot. Its *Septoria tritici* resistance is considered reasonable, and its Fusarium eye blight resistance appears good.

## Agrii yield & grain quality - Agrii 2025 results only

UK fungicide treated yield (% controls)	102
Untreated yield (% controls)	90
Specific weight (kg/hl)	73.0

## AHDB yield & grain quality - AHDB RL [] = limited data

UK fungicide treated yield (% controls)	106
East fungicide treated yield (% controls)	106
West fungicide treated yield (% controls)	107
North fungicide treated yield (% controls)	[108]
Untreated yield (% treated controls)	87
Specific weight (kg/hl)	76.7
Rating for distilling quality	Medium
Hagberg Falling Number	226

## Disease ratings (black = AHDB RL data) Red = Agrii data

Mildew resistance (1-9)	[4.6]	-
Yellow rust plant susceptibility before GS32-33	Susceptible	
Yellow rust resistance (1-9)	7.3	[5.3]
Brown rust resistance (1-9)	4.3	[3.8]
<i>Septoria tritici</i> resistance (1-9) 3 year rating	7.2	[7.0]
Eyespot resistance (1-9)	3.7	-
Carries PCH1 Rendezvous gene for Eyespot resistance	No	
Fusarium ear blight resistance (1-9)	6.4	-

## Agronomic characters

Black = AHDB RL data, red = Agrii data [] = limited data

Lodging resistance - PGR untreated (1-9)	7.2	-
Lodging resistance - PGR treated (1-9)	6.0	-
Height - PGR untreated (cm)	92	-
Maturity (days +/- Skyfall)	+1	-
OWBM resistance (breeder claim)	No	
BYDV tolerance (breeder claim)	No	

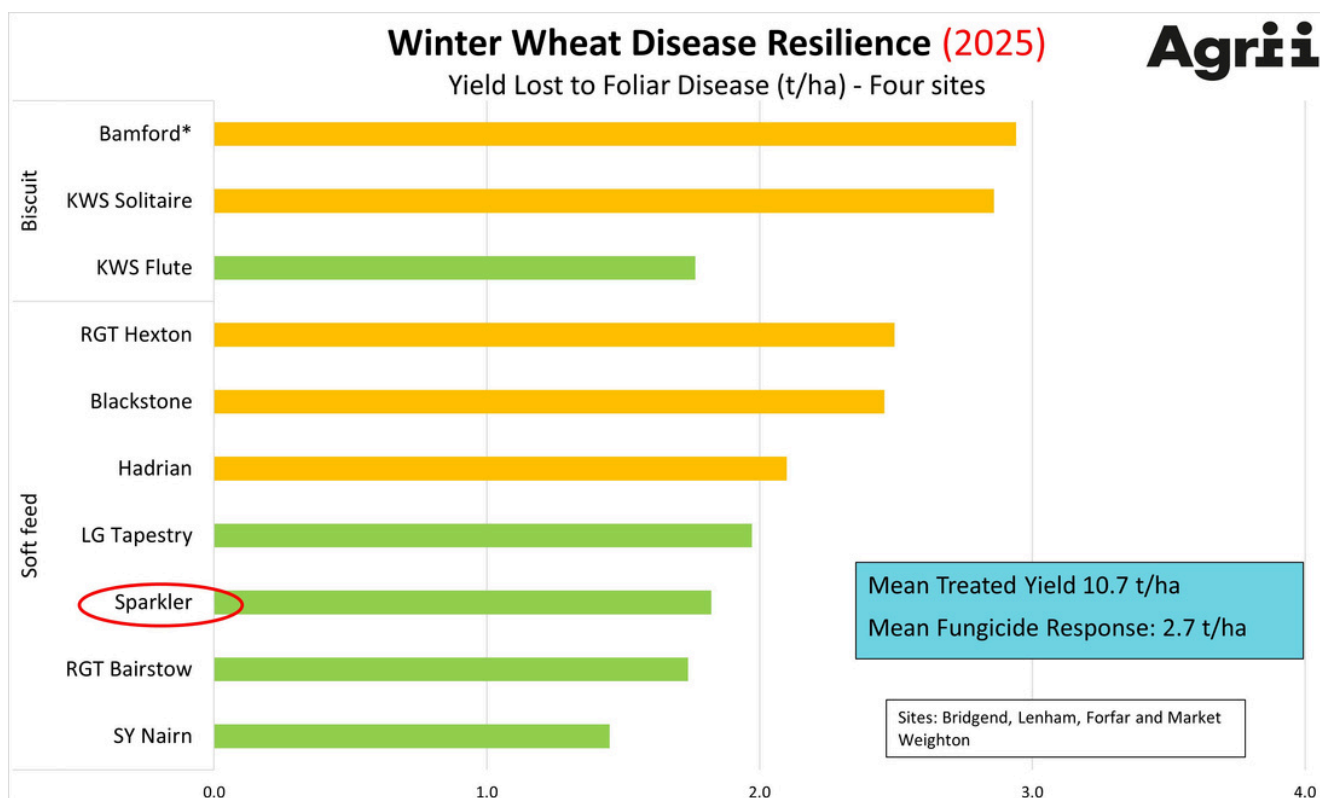
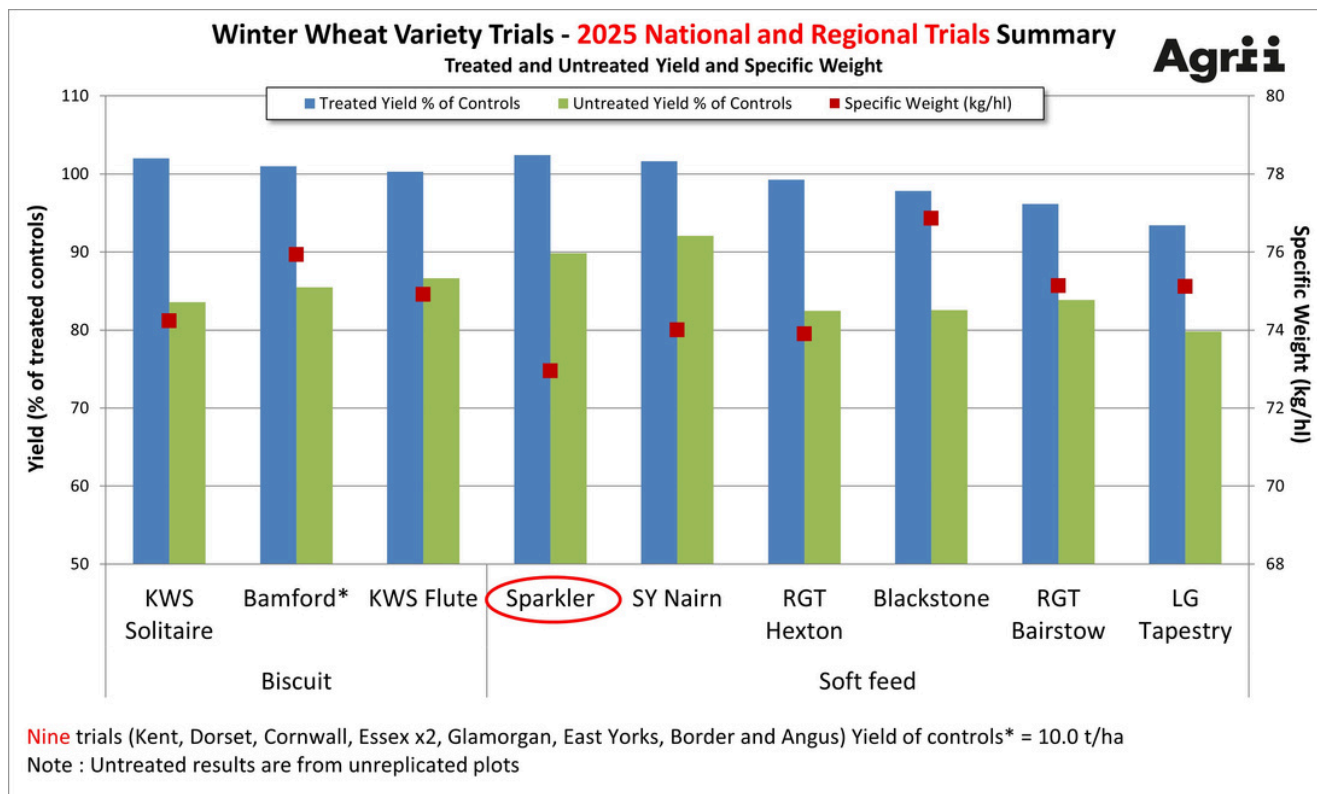
## Agrii intelligence - complementary information [] = limited data

Yield consistency	Medium
Yield 'resilience' under disease pressure	Medium

2nd v 1st wheat <b>relative</b> performance	Good
Soil type suitability	[Heavy+ light]
Suitability to drill early (before 15th Sept)	-
Latest <b>optimum</b> drilling date	[-]
AHDB latest <b>safe</b> sowing dates (breeder: see notes)	[[End Jan]]
Suitable for regions of high sterility risk	TNC
British Cereal Exports (BCE) rating	uks
SRUC Scottish RL Status	Recommended

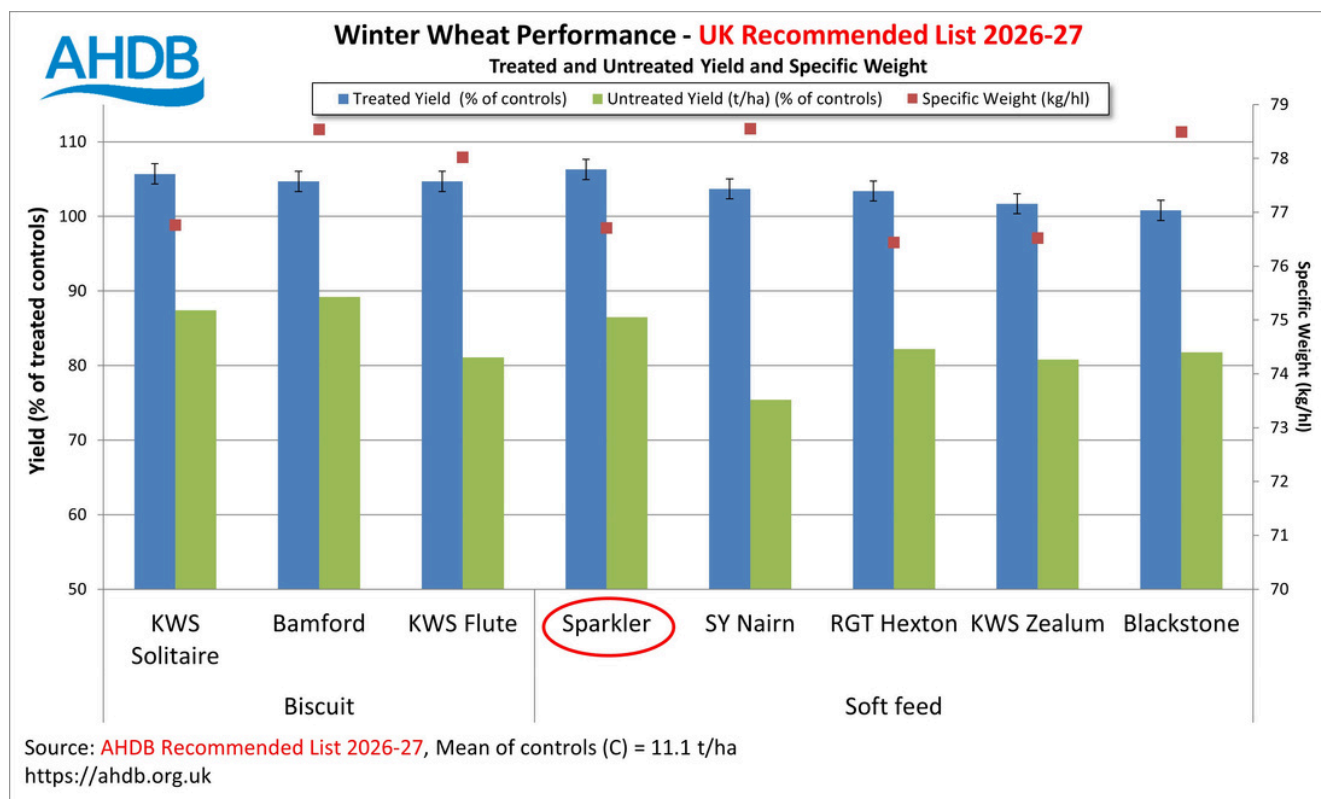
Note: Specific weights are assessed in the field and are consistently below those of cleaned samples.  
Full RL dataset is available from AHDB at [www.ahdb.org.uk](http://www.ahdb.org.uk)

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