

# CROPCO

Newsletter

Autumn 2012

## Harvest results for Hybrid Wheat

Hybrid Wheat remains a relatively novel crop in the UK despite extensive experience in other parts of Europe. Therefore the 2012 harvest results were eagerly awaited.

Below are initial reports from growers around the country. In a year when many mainstream varieties failed to shine, the Hybrid Wheat variety Hystar performed well, clearly demonstrating the benefits of heterosis on poor land under less than favourable weather conditions. On-farm experience was repeated in trials carried out by Cambridge Arable Technologies, as shown in the table on the right.

CAT Technical Director Richard Fenwick reported:

"With a yield advantage around 25 to 30% over the mean of the control varieties Hystar certainly showed a benefit in making the most of the conditions this year when several of the more popular commercial varieties failed to live up to expectations. Specific weights of Hystar were also very good considering the rather low figures of some of the other varieties.

"The advantage which Hystar showed this year was in part due to its earliness. Being over a week earlier into ear than most of the other varieties it was able to make the most of the dull wet conditions this season when later maturing types were unable to convert what little radiation they were able to pick up into yield and quality. Its robust disease resistance also had a major part to play and this year we have been able to see how Hybrid Wheat copes with a range

Variety	Yield as % controls	Yield t/ha @ 15%MC	Spec. Weight Kg/HL	Ear Emergence Date	Straw Length cm
Hystar 100% SR	129	10.9	73.2	29-May	92
Hystar 70% SR	124	10.5	73.4	29-May	90
Gallant *	117	9.9	70.4	02-Jun	84
Grafton	109	9.2	71.1	06-Jun	81
Solstice *	106	9.0	69.3	07-Jun	95
JB Diego *	104	8.8	71.1	09-Jun	89
KWS Santiago	102	8.6	66.3	10-Jun	91
KWS Gator	102	8.6	67.3	09-Jun	89
Oakley *	98	8.3	67.0	10-Jun	89
Relay	98	8.3	66.5	10-Jun	84
Invicta *	88	7.4	65.0	10-Jun	92
Scout *	87	7.4	68.5	10-Jun	86
* Control varieties:	100	8.46	68.5	08-Jun	89

*Hybrid Wheat results from Cambridge Arable Technologies trials at Cowlinge, near Newmarket.*

of stressful conditions."

CAT plans to repeat its trials and extend them, using new varieties now being introduced. Growing recommendations based on the latest data can be found over the page.

GROWER	LOCATION	YIELD	GROWER COMMENTS
Malcolm Haywood	Sleaford, Lincs	3.25 T/ac	Very light land; wheat not normally grown on this site.
A & W Bentall	Southend on Sea	Over 4.3 T/ac	Grain merchant said "best sample of wheat seen this year".
William Procter	Tillingham Essex	3.97 T/ac	Highest yielding wheat 1.6 T/ac above Oakley.
W. Yeldham & Son	Sudbury Suffolk	4.1 T/ac	Continuous wheat for 30 years, highest yield since 1984.
Swinbrook Farms	Burford, Oxon	8.12 T/ha	Highest yield on farm exceeding Santiago by 1.47 T/Ha. Variable rate drilled: average 150 s/m <sup>2</sup> into very poor brashy soils.

# HYSTAR Hybrid Wheat

## Autumn grower guidelines

# 2012

### Site selection & rotational positioning

Select sites with lower yield potential eg drought prone soils or second, subsequent or continuous wheats. Hystar is a very high yielding, early maturing wheat.

### Drilling date

First wheat from Sept 20th, Second wheat after October 5th.

### Crop nutrition and pH status

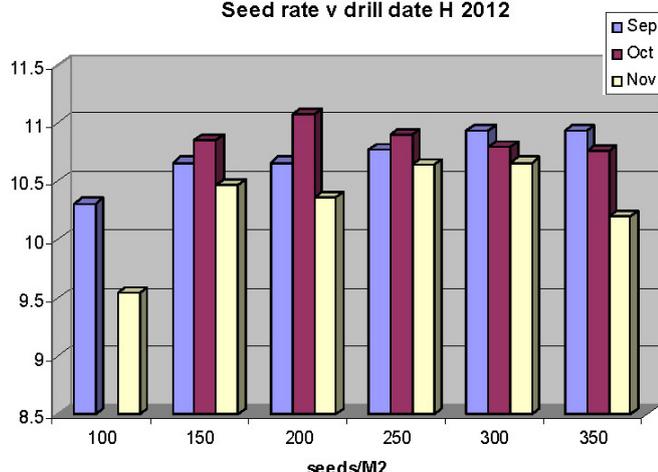
As for conventional wheat.

### Seed bed condition and drilling

Hybrid wheat can be sown at very low seed rates from 150 seeds/m<sup>2</sup>. This seed rate assumes good field conditions and evenly distributed seeds. When sowing at the earlier dates 150 - 180 seeds/m<sup>2</sup> is adequate, increase the rate when drilling later or into poorer conditions up to a maximum of 70% of your conventional seed rate.

Ensure your drill is capable of evenly spacing low seed numbers. A fine and firm seed bed with minimal surface trash, drill to 2.5cm min but not deeper than 5cm as this could inhibit the plants ability to tiller.

Seed rate v drill date H 2012



### Seed rate and drill date trials data

The above chart provides you with the results from our seed rate and drill date work with Hystar for Harvest 2012 at our Newmarket trial site. The actual drilling dates were

10th Sept, 1st Oct & 2nd Nov. This series of trials is ongoing and we will provide you with more information as we uncover it.

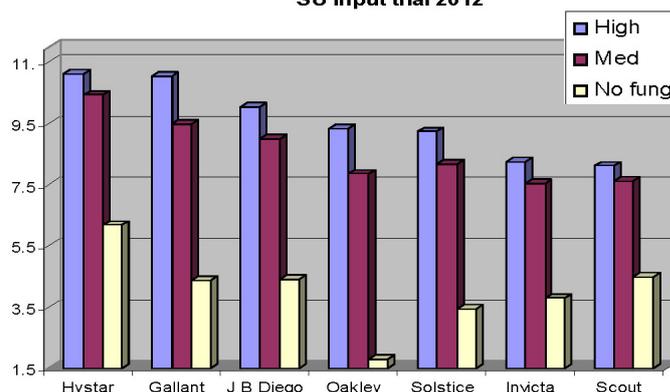
### BYDV

Treat as conventional wheat.

### Wheat Bulb Fly

Lower established plant numbers make Hystar vulnerable to attack from WBF, it is advisable to drill appropriately treated seed but also remain vigilant to this threat.

SU input trial 2012



### Autumn weed control

Low plant populations result in a lack of crop competition with weeds in the Autumn. Use an appropriate herbicide programme to control grass and broad leaved weeds incorporating resistance strategies. Hystar is tolerant to chlorotoluron.

### Disease control

Hystar seems to like Mildew! A forward crop during a mild winter will be most vulnerable. Control this with a suitable mildewicide either during the Autumn and with an early TO Spring application.

For further information call your local  
HYSTAR distributor, visit:  
[www.hybridwheat.co.uk](http://www.hybridwheat.co.uk)  
or call: 01787 238200