

CROPCO



HYBRID WHEAT

What is Hybrid Wheat?

Hybrid Wheat is a cross between two, carefully selected, pure lines. Each hybrid variety therefore has genes from both parent varieties.

The hybrid vigour or heterosis achieved by crossing two distinct varieties is expressed as the plant grows.

Benefits common to hybrid wheat varieties include:

- More developed root system
- Outstanding tillering
- Resistance to stress - cold, drought, waterlogging
- Good disease resistance
- Greater yield potential - especially in marginal conditions
- Higher specific weights

All of this adds up to improvements in consistency of yield when compared to conventional varieties.

Hybrid Wheat in the UK

Modern varieties of Hybrid Wheat, bred by European co-operative Saaten Union, were introduced into the UK by CROPCO in 2010.

Already popular in France and in other parts of Europe, Hybrid Wheat has developed an enthusiastic following across the UK, especially on marginal land where wheat seldom performs well and in years when the weather has restricted yields.

On light land and under dry conditions Hybrid Wheat has consistently lifted whole farm averages. On challenging sites that usually average less than 9 t/ha – including sandy, drought-prone soils in East Anglia and high altitude plots in the Yorkshire Wolds – Hybrid Wheat varieties have exceeded 14 tonnes per hectare. Even December drilled plots of Hybrid Wheat have produced over 9.5 tonnes per hectare on Suffolk sand.

A list of Hybrid Wheat farm strip trials can be found at the end of this booklet or for more information on Hybrid Wheat:

www.cropco.co.uk

What growers think



Garton Field, East Yorkshire

Simon Ullyott farms 600 acres on the Yorkshire Wolds. High altitude plus chalky soils mean that early establishment of OSR

is essential and Hystar's early maturity has been invaluable. In 2015 his Hylux plots topped 14 t/ha with the Hybrid Wheat varieties averaging well over 10 t/ha across the board.



Stody Estate, North Norfolk

Arable manager Mike Wilton operates a diverse rotation on light soils. In 2015 he recorded over 11 t/ha in Hybrid Wheat strip

trials on land that seldom favours winter wheat.



Tillingham, Essex

William Procter sees Hybrid Wheat as an insurance policy against the risk of drought on his light land. Hybrid Wheat has provided

consistently high yields on poor fields and in difficult seasons for over 10 years.

Varieties in the UK

Hylux

A very early maturing hybrid with very high yield. Yielding well as a 2nd wheat this is a medium hard textured feed wheat providing ideal early entry for sowing winter OSR.

Hyguardo

New variety with medium maturity and very high yield. The first HW to display resistance to OWBM. Excellent all-round disease resistance. Medium soft textured feed wheat quality.

Hyteck

Medium early maturing soft textured wheat variety mostly grown in Scotland and Northern England. Very suitable for early drilling.

Other varieties in trial include:

Hystar

An established variety with high tillering capacity. Now displaying poor disease resistance.

Hybery

High quality grain; very good disease resistance.

Hybiza

Very early maturity. Currently under test in the UK.

Farm strip trial locations



R & P Farming, Exeter EX6 8HR

Stody Estate, Melton Constable NR11 7LH

Geo Gittus & Son, Bury St Edmunds IP29 5LA

Robert Davidson & Son Ltd, Colchester CO6 3DU

Woodsford Farms, Dorchester DT2 8AU

Swinbrook Farms, Burford OX18 4EN

Garton Field Ltd, Driffield YO25 3AL

JC Lewis, Hinton Waldrist SN7 8RX

The following varieties are being grown on each of the trial sites:

Hystar, Hyteck, Hybery, Hylux, Hyguardo; in addition, Hybiza is being trialled at Driffield and Exeter.

If you would like to visit any of the plots to see how Hybrid Wheat is progressing under local conditions contact us on 01787 238200 or hybridwheat@cropco.co.uk

Contacts

Your local distributor:

Acorn Seeds

Downham Market

George Maule 01366 388915 acornseeds@hotmail.co.uk

BCW (Agriculture)

Market Drayton

Sion Price 01630 655722 sion.price@bcwagric.co.uk

Bright Seeds

Salisbury

Rod Crossley 01722 744494 sales@davidbright.co.uk

CROPCO

Sudbury

Essex, Suffolk, Cambs, Herts and national enquiries

01787 238200 hybridwheat@cropco.co.uk

Hubbards Seeds

Grantham

Barnaby Patchett 01476 593195 & 07932 100159

barnaby@hubbardsseeds.co.uk

ProCam CP

Cambourne

Will Miller 07803 243873 seeds@procam.co.uk

Wallace of Kelso

Dundee, Kelso and Blyth

Calum Cargill 01573 224131 calum@wallaceofkelso.co.uk