



BELEPI
WHEAT

Last in, first out

Belepi Winter Wheat | January - March Drilling Guidelines

Belepi winter wheat has the widest sowing window of any winter wheat currently available to UK growers, with a sowing opportunity from the first week in October through to the end of March.

Variety Summary

- BELEPI (uniquely) is recognised as a spring wheat for the sole purpose of the three-crop rule in England & Wales.
- Parentage: Robigus (winter wheat) x Samoa (spring wheat).
- Quality: Soft feed with high Hagberg potential, medium distilling capability.
- Unique: Only soft endosperm variety available for February / March drilling

Crop Yields:

- February 2014 drilled, Suffolk, after sugar beet: 13 has, average 7.28t/ha. BUT where field conditions were poor yielded 6t/ha, and where good up to 10t/ha – highlighting the importance of NOT mauling the crop in but waiting until conditions improve.
- 13th March 2015 drilled, Lincolnshire, after sugar beet: 37 has yielded 10t/ha.
- 3rd March 2015 drilled, Lincolnshire, after vegetables: yielded 10.75t/ha. Same grower drilled 24th March after wheat to yield 8t/ha - grower felt dry spring impacted on yield.
- Orange Wheat Blossom Midge resistant.
- Robust disease resistance for mildew and septoria tritici with excellent fusarium ear disease resistance. Belepi is susceptible to yellow rust (YR).
- Excellent sprouting resistance.

Agronomy

Belepi buys you time to allow soils following root crops to restructure and dry and return to a better state pre-drilling.

- Growers should drill at standard sowing rates for spring wheat less 10%.
- Nitrogen - apply half total requirement post drilling or latest mid-April. Apply second half mid-May (no earlier unless flag leaf emerging). Apply 30-50kg Sulphur where soils are deficient. Adjust by 2 weeks for mid-late March drilling.
- Belepi has a wide leaf type and vigorous growth mid-April. Too high a seed rate will cause crop shading, a leggy stem growth and increase lodging risk. If growth regulator is to be used, avoid Moddus where possible, using Cycocel Chlormequat Chloride (CCC) in preference, following manufacturer guidelines for spring drilled crops.
- Belepi's wide leaf and vigorous spring growth will help it out-compete and smother grass weeds such as blackgrass.
- In second wheat situations (pH above 6.2), or where Belepi is to be drilled alongside YR susceptible wheat, Opus as the first fungicide offers cheap and effective control.
- As a winter wheat Belepi has a wide spectrum of herbicides available to choose up to 31st January, after which all crops become 'spring' as defined by CRD rules. Please check labels carefully and only use approved products.
- BYDV – wheat is more susceptible than spring barley. Aphids need controlling. Consider using a pyrethroid early (at 2-leaf stage) with a follow-up application 3-4 weeks later or whenever aphids are actively moving around. If possible, change chemical active on second or subsequent application where resistance is known.
- Spring drilled Belepi tends to mature ahead of other spring wheat varieties drilled at the same time, but may appear initially slow in cold April conditions. Belepi will, however, subsequently move through its growth stages rapidly. Be prepared to adjust fungicide timings according to the growth stage exhibited.

This is a spring drilling update to the main Belepi Husbandry Guide and should be read in conjunction with it.

This agronomy sheet provides basic information concerning the variety in question and should be referenced accordingly. No guarantee is given that the information represents all aspects of agricultural practice. We do not accept any liability arising from any inaccuracy or omission in any of the information provided herein.