



# EVELINA

SPRING FEED BARLEY



The modern day DANDY / HART type Feed Spring Barley variety with .....

Outstanding Disease Resistance

Very Tall Straw

High Yields of Grain & Straw

Cope Seeds are pleased to introduce **EVELINA** a new spring feed barley bred by Saatzucht Edelhof in Austria.

For many years spring barley growers in the traditional mixed farm areas have liked to grow a spring feed barley that offered a competitive grain yield, coupled importantly with plenty of barley straw. In the past, varieties such as Dandy, Hart, Riviera and latterly Westminster have been extremely popular due to their ability to produce an excellent combination of grain and straw yield with excellent disease resistance.

Plant breeding however, over the past two decades, has seen the introduction of newer shorter strawed, high yielding varieties that are in the main directed at the UK and Export malting/distilling market.

We have therefore been looking for a new feed variety that could offer our customers not only an improvement in yield, coupled with good agronomic attributes but crucially the ability to produce a very good straw yield. We contacted numerous plant breeding companies across several European countries and over the years they too, have bred the straw length out of their new varieties and could only offer short, stiff strawed varieties.

However, we eventually spoke to a Plant Breeding Company in Austria called EDELHOF. They are a company very committed to Breeding varieties suitable for the Organic Farmer and as such had a line called **EVELINA** which was successful in their own country and fitted what we were looking for. We immediately put **EVELINA** into some UK based trials and after a very promising first year decided to fast track some Organic C2 seed multiplication with a seed crop being grown in 2015 with one of our major seed growers, Woodlands Farm, Kirton, Boston, Lincolnshire. ( See photos and comments further on in this article )

In private trials in 2014 **EVELINA** was compared against 9 varieties from the 2014/15 UK Recommended List and produced very competitive yields with the **Highest** specific weight, the **Tallest** straw and was also the **Earliest** maturing variety by quite some distance.

The variety has very good resistance to brackling along with a good tolerance to the important diseases. The infection scores for Rhynchosporium on 30<sup>th</sup> May was 0.0% and Brown Rust on 2<sup>nd</sup> July was only 3%.

We found the growth rate and establishment of **EVELINA** to be much quicker than other varieties making it especially competitive to any weed contamination. In terms of straw height we would suggest that **EVELINA** is even taller than any current spring barley on the Recommended List and taller than the popular varieties from the past such as Hart and Dandy.

On the back of these promising 2014 trial results we produced an Organic C2 Seed crop at Woodlands Organic Farm, Kirton, Boston in Lincolnshire who are one of our longstanding organic seed growers of both winter and spring crops.

We were invited along by Farm Manager, Mr . Michael Sutherland on the 4<sup>th</sup> June to view what in his words were the “ best looking spring barley crop he had ever seen” and Mr. Sutherland had been growing spring barley varieties on the farm for over 40 years.

On arrival Mr Sutherland was quite excited to show us the crop and when we got to the field we could see why, for the crop was **already up to our waist after only 12 weeks** having been drilled on March 5<sup>th</sup>. It was billiard table level showing it to be an excellent seed stock.



*Set attached photo of Trevor Cope and Mr. Sutherland within the crop on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2015.*

*This organic seed crop was sown on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2015.*

*Harvest was on August 6<sup>th</sup>, the first cereal crop cut on the farm and yielded 80.000 tonnes off 28.4 acres ( 2.800 tonnes per acre ). An outstanding yield for an Organic Spring Barley with excellent feed grain spec of 70.4 kg/hl bushel weight and 4% screenings through a 2.2 mm sieve.*

*As a seed crop it has produced a disease free sample, with a germination of 98% and 1.2 ISTA Vigour Score which is classed a very high vigour.*

*Mr. Sutherland made the comment that despite not recording the straw yield, he was convinced the amount of straw they baled was greater than any other spring barley they had grown in his many years as Farm Manager at Woodlands Farm.*

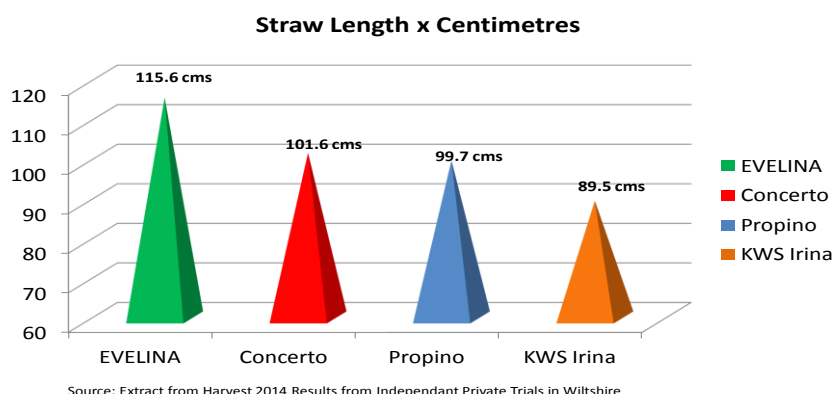
*The crop was extremely clean with no disease showing from the bottom to the top of the crop and due to the varieties aggressive growth and tall straw, had smothered out any potential weed issues, a problem often faced by organic farmers.*



**EVELINA** showing its superb all round disease resistance. There was no disease noted throughout the organic seed crop all the way through to harvest.

**EVELINA** is particularly suited to livestock farmers across the United Kingdom who require a variety that can offer very good competitive yields, combined with good agronomics and grain quality, plus of course that all important straw yield!

## EVELINA Spring Barley



- EVELINA displays good tillering characteristics which enables **lower sowing rates**.
- EVELINA can be grown in maritime and dry areas.
- EVELINA shows good suppression of weeds.
- EVELINA is suitable for all soil types. Due to its excellent disease resistance it is also possible to grow it in wet cold climates.
- EVELINA is very fast establishing and early to harvest.

With only about 75.000 tonnes of Organic C2 **EVELINA** Seed available for sowing in Spring 2016 we strongly advise anyone interested in trying this new variety to register their interest as early as possible to ensure supply.