



Autumn 2011 Organic Newsletter

Please find listed our extensive range of ORGANIC Spring Cereal & Pulse Seed. All our seed is grown Under Contract with Organic Seed Growers and Processed and Certified through our contracted ORGANIC Seed Processing Units.

Wheat		Barley	Oats	Triticale	Beans	
Ararat	Lear	Scout	Saffron	Dalguise	Sequenz	Wizard
Claire	Magister	Warrior		Mascani	Tremplin	
Invicta	Panorama					

Limagrain Introduce Panorama & Invicta. Two Exciting New Varieties



Lee Robinson
Limagrain Director

We are pleased to introduce Lee Robinson, Marketing Director of Limagrain. Lee has been involved in the seed industry for over 30 years.



Panorama being grown on an organic farm in Lincs

'Lets be honest, breeding specifically for the Organic sector is probably not affordable for plant breeders due to the relatively small market, however identifying those varieties that may have attributes suited to organic production remain an important objective for the Limagrain UK wheat breeding team.

We have many sites across the UK from the South West of England up to Scotland where varieties are assessed using a range of soil types, geographical locations and rotational positions to test varieties to the fullest, in addition we test varieties in Continental Europe and Ireland to expose them to extreme weather conditions and disease pressure which enables us to select the most robust varieties available and from this we have introduced a number of lines which have shown excellent adaptability in organic situations.'

Panorama

A Group 2 milling wheat with feed wheat yield, Panorama has the highest untreated yield of any variety in that sector, Panorama is also a tall variety which produces good straw yield whilst helping to suppress the weeds in organic situations, however where tested without any chemical it is also one of the stiffest varieties in the market.

The key feature of Panorama is its all round disease resistance in particular to yellow rust and septoria spp, it also has the best available resistance to fusarium ear blight which is of particular importance where maize also features heavily in the rotation. Panorama should also be considered where growers need a good second wheat.

Recorded 3.3t an acre on two organic farms in Lincolnshire during harvest 2010.

Invicta

Invicta was introduced commercially in 2010 and is a derivative of the long standing organic favourite Claire. Like Claire it has long straw and outstanding disease resistance but has significantly higher yield potential, however Invicta tends to be slightly lower tillering than Claire so seed rates ought to be adjusted upwards by 10%. Ear fertility of Invicta is very high which is where its very high yield potential is realised from.

Lee Robinson



Invicta being grown on an organic farm in Cambridge

CLAIRE & LEAR

Old but Trusted Varieties in the Organic Market

Lear

Selected for its outstanding septoria tritici resistance, Lear is already commanding a firm following in the South west from Organic and conventional growers alike.

Claire

The old favourite and the standard by which other organic varieties are judged, a prostrate growth habit, long straw and an enduring disease resistance profile that remains as good as when it was introduced over 10 years ago, Claire is the benchmark that others will be judged against.

Remember.....

We can offer Buy Back contracts on all our seed, which will offer you...

- A guaranteed home
- A movement period to suit you
- The ability to plan your storage
- The ability to budget

MAGISTER

Organic Winter Wheat

It is difficult to produce UK grown organic wheat that will produce the protein and hagerbs the millers are looking for. It is perhaps even more difficult to achieve bread making quality from winter wheat crops than it is from spring wheat. In our opinion the same problems of attaining satisfactory protein levels for the miller with UK Bred varieties under organic conditions will continue.

MAGISTER helps to bridge that problem. Bred in Germany by Bauer, it has the ability to scavenge and access any available nitrogen and is extremely efficient at assimilating Nitrogen and converting this to grain protein. In a conventional sense, due to this ability, it is sometimes easier to achieve 15% + proteins with varieties like **MAGISTER** than it is to achieve 13% with UK Bred varieties. In an organic situation the same correlation applies.

MAGISTER displays excellent Hagberg retention. In terms of grain samples, we have seen enough of **MAGISTER** over the last four years to be confident in suggesting that Specific Weight is consistently at the very highest level.

MAGISTER is also proving very popular with organic farmers just growing for yield. With high yields of excellent quality straw complimenting a high grain yield. **MAGISTER** is gaining popularity throughout the UK being grown from

Scotland to the English South Coast.

MAGISTER has excellent resistance to Fusarium Ear Blight. Given the lower acceptable tolerances for Fusarium mycotoxins in human consumption grains, this is a significant step forward over current bread-making varieties.

MAGISTER is a tall, but very stiff strawed variety; this is very typical of German-bred wheats. It is therefore extremely competitive in organic situations.



Photo: Organic crop of **MAGISTER** showing its tall but very stiff straw and excellent green canopy with very little disease throughout.

For Mountains of Grain, Choose ARARAT

ARARAT winter wheat is an excellent addition to the winter wheat portfolio for organic farmers. After two years of independent testing in the UK we are confident of bringing **ARARAT** to the market in the knowledge that not only have we seen outstanding yields in the UK, both treated and untreated, but these are also mirrored across Germany and Denmark where it has under-

taken extensive Official Trials.

ARARAT has a well balanced disease resistance profile supported by its **OUTSTANDING** Untreated Yields. Can be susceptible to Brown Rust.

In addition **ARARAT** has excellent resistance to Ear Fusarium Blight.

Those farming predomina-

ntly on light land and looking for a variety that will not drought out and burn up, the extra straw length and deep rooting system of **ARARAT** will help in overcoming these unpredictable seasonal problems.

This is the third year of Organic C2 seed with only **50 tonnes** available, so ensure you book early.



- **MASSIVE Grain Yield Potential**
- **Excellent Disease Resistance**
- **Superb High Specific Weight**
- **Low Screening Losses**
- **Very High Straw Yields**

Warrior Winter Wheat...A Real Barn Filler

RAGTs Warrior is the only variety on the 2011 / 2012 Recommended List with a specific recommendation for disease resistance and has the best foliar resistance package of any Recommended List variety. It has ratings of 7+ for every foliar disease. In addition to this, **Warrior** also has Orange Wheat Blossom Midge resistance. It has a relatively novel source of yellow rust resistance based on a number of different genes, that has proven its strength even in the face of the new "Oakley" race of yellow rust.

It is not a variety particularly suited as a 2nd wheat. The maturity timing is a day earlier than Scout and close to that of Claire. It has a good tillering capacity with a relatively broad leaf and prostrate early growth habit. It appears to have the ability to grow away rapidly in the late winter / early spring to achieve good ground cover. This has a clear benefit in relation to suppression of

grass weeds.

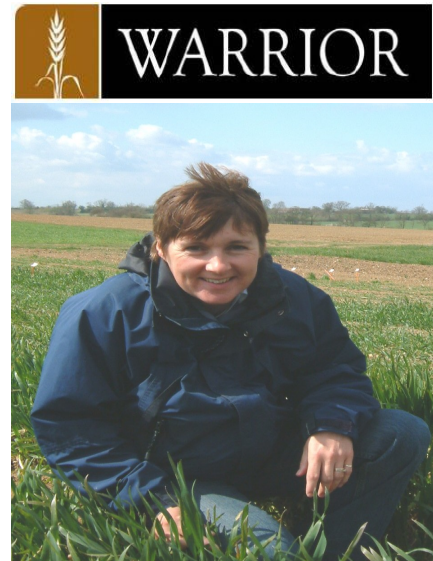
Harvest 2010 saw massive yields of 3.3t an acre recorded on an organic farm in Lincolnshire

Warrior's strengths are clearly its yield potential, overall disease resistance, ability to tiller and its prostrate growth habit, one of the reasons why Claire has performed well over a number of years.

Our only concern would be its straw length coping with thin soils, dry conditions and fields where weed competition is prevalent. Most definitely worth a look, but in your best fields.

RAGTs Technical Advisor, Cathy Hooper had this to say about the variety: 'Warrior is a soft milling group 3 variety. Warrior has excellent resistance to both yellow and brown rust and is one of only two Group 3 varieties listed to carry a 7 rating for Septoria tritici. Warrior has a unique combination of agro-

nomic characteristics: short, stiff straw, medium-early maturity and an outstanding package of pest and disease resistance (OBM). It is best suited to drilling from the second week of September until the end of Jan. It is not a good second wheat.'



Cathy Hooper. Technical Sales Advisor RAGT

SCOUT Winter Wheat

Taller than Warrior, Scout is a Group 3 Winter Wheat variety that has good untreated yield potential as well as a well balanced disease portfolio.

Like Warrior Scout scores particularly well against Yellow and Brown Rust. Scout is also resistant to orange wheat blossom midge (OWBM).

Scout has very stiff straw and the best lodging resistance of any Group 3 varieties

With an impressive specific weight of 78.4, the highest of any variety other than Grafton, and an excellent hagerberg even in poor seasons, Scout has superb grain characters.

It is an ideal variety choice for the second wheat slot. Best suited to drilling from early September until the end of January.

For Consistency, Choose SEQUENZ Winter Triticale



SEQUENZ from BayWa in Germany is an extremely reliable and adaptable variety. No particular disease weaknesses, suitable to a wide range of soils from thin brash to heavy clay loam. **SEQUENZ** has an excellent rooting system for scavenging any available nutrients, perfect in drought situations seen in 2011, has very good all round disease resistance and standing power.

SEQUENZ produces one of the best winter triticale grain samples with low screenings and high specific weight.

Anthony Grieve of Harry Ferguson Farms is delighted with his crop of sequenz. Stating 'It's the best winter crop we currently have on the farm, It looks superb in this exceptionally dry spring, thick and clean with no disease showing'

Sequenz - A very consistent variety



TREMPLIN Winter Triticale

‘Cope seeds are the sole producer of organic Tremplin seed, and with Triticale proving to be an excellent choice for organic grain production, Tremplin has become the favoured variety for organic growers.’

Lee Robinson

Limagrain Director of Marketing

Triticale was originally produced from a cross between wheat and rye.

It is an unusually robust cereal crop species that is capable of being grown successfully on a wide range of soil types and rotational positions. Most interestingly, it performs with remarkable consistency on marginal soils, where it is difficult to achieve consistently good yields of wheat. As Triticale tends to be a leafy and vigorous species, it is often grown for grazing or whole-crop silage as well as for grain.

Tremplin Winter Triticale is a trusted variety used by Organic farmers nationwide. It is a high yielding triticale, with medium length straw and an excellent specific weight that is second to none.



Photo: Tremplin Winter Triticale

Specific Weight	Straw Length	Untreated Yields	
73.6	111	99	Tremplin
72.1	108	97	Borwo
73.3	110	99	Constant
70.4	122	100	Benetto

HGCA Results
2011/2012

MASCANI Winter Oats

Mascani is a high yielding, stiff strawed variety, with yields comparable to Gerald. It is early to mature and has excellent disease resistance, particularly to the common crown rust races. A race does exist that can infect Mascani, although levels have been low.

Just like Dalguise the excellent grain quality of Mascani should continue to ensure its

popularity with the millers.

Its grain quality is excellent, with low screenings, high kernel content and good specific weight and is now as popular with growers as Gerald.

As an alternative to Mascani we are also able to offer the established and popular variety Dalguise.

	Mascani	Brochan	Gerald
Untreated Yields	98	98	95
Resistance to Lodging	6	7	5
Straw Length	117	108	119
Mildew Resistance	6	5	3
Crown Rust Resistance	8	5	4
Specific Weight	53.8	50.2	52.6
Screenings	0.1	0.3	0.3

HGCA Results 2011/2012

WIZARD Winter Beans Still Have the Magic

During 2009/2010 it was oats and this year it seems to have been beans that have been difficult to trade in the organic market.

This certainly wasn't helped by a large influx of imported peas flooding our market. Due to the pea imports, we have seen the price of organic wheat rise and go beyond that of organic beans

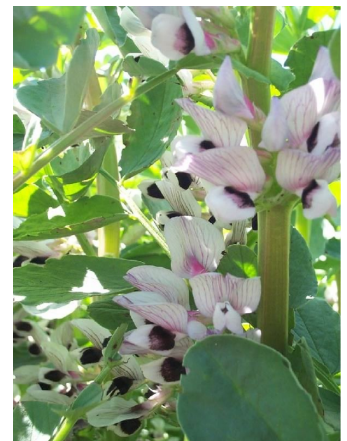
which remained stagnant in price throughout the year.

However beans still offer a reliable source of home grown protein, are an excellent break crop preceding winter wheat which responds favourably to the higher soil nitrogen status left by the bean crop.

The advantages for UK growers is that WIZARD

offers adaptability to a wide range of soil types and can be sown anytime between October and December.

Wizard is still the most widely grown winter bean variety despite being first listed in 2003.



Wizard in Flower

Organic Grain Market Update

We are pleased to welcome Jack Cordery, Raw Materials Buyer from BOCM Pauls Ltd to discuss his view on the past and future of the organic grain market:

‘Once again we face huge uncertainty in the agricultural sector as drought threatens to ruin crops within the UK and across the main producing regions of the World as well as the economic recovery expected looking fragile with the Sovereign debt crisis spreading across Europe.

Whilst the fragile Economic climate could limit the demand for commodities the realisation that conventional supplies of corn, wheat and oilseeds are at dangerously low levels there is sufficient price support. In the organic sector the demand remains fairly buoyant despite some obvious challenges created by the overall economic climate of the UK. Organic beef sales were up 18% last year and of the £1,731 million of annual organic sales 30.5% were dairy products. (Soil Association).

This shortfall should provide the UK grower with a huge

opportunity and a security of demand at a time when grain prices are in the ascendancy.

Our aim is to work closely with professional growers to source our requirements by providing outlets that are fair, easy to do business with and competitive. If we do this then we can reduce our reliance on imported grains and create a more sustainable and secure UK food chain.

One of our demands as a feed compounder is making sure that we take in raw materials consistent in quality and from suppliers who are efficient and committed to producing what we need. We see that our business will continue to grow as the demand for food increases and we are keen to build longer term relationships with our suppliers. We are therefore delighted to be working closely with **Cope Grain Limited** to source grain for our feed mills.

Over the past year we have grown our activities and through our partnership we are sourcing local, quality grain for our feed mills.

For the grower this means reduced haulage costs, direct communication with the point of intake and the chance to build a relationship with the end user.’

Jack Cordery

BOCM PAULS Ltd is fully committed to organic compound production at 4 sites across the UK, Blandford in Dorset, Selby in Yorkshire, Burston in Norfolk and Penrith in Cumbria.



Cope
Grain Limited
AGRICULTURAL GRAIN SPECIALISTS

Remember....

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Cope Grain Ltd works with a number of organic end users across the UK, allowing us to secure the leading market price and various movement options to suit you.

We are sometimes requested at short notice to source sizeable volumes of organic grain for homes ranging from the top of Scotland down to the South Coast. We target email these requests to UK Organic Farmers based on their location and proximity to the end user.

- We **NEVER** look to the continent to import.
- **NEITHER** do we charge a membership fee or set % commission fee for marketing your grain.

If you would be interested in receiving our emails requiring specific volumes of Organic Wheat, Barley, Oats, Triticale, Peas or Beans or you would like us to market your grain, please forward your details to gemma@copeseeds.co.uk

Gemma will be pleased to forward these opportunities to you as and when they arise.

Organic Seed Testing Service

As merchants of organic seeds it would be unthinkable that we market any produce that had not first passed the highest possible levels of quality. In order to check this we subject all of our seed lots to a range of rigorous testing.

For sowing purposes all seed lots are checked for purity, viability, VIGOUR and a range of disease tests according to type. We believe these checks are essential on organic material. Once drilled the seed needs to have a high percentage germination figure and lots of energy in order to give it the best possible chance of quick and high establishment to cut down on competition from other unwanted field plants. Obviously high levels of disease in the seed you drill are unacceptable as they can have disastrous effects on yield and, unlike conventional seed crops, no remedial measures can be taken.



High levels of Bunt in wheat or triticale have been known to render such crops unmarketable. This is why we take every possible precaution to ensure our seed gives you the best possible chance of maximum yields.

If you are considering home saving some of your own seed we strongly recommend you have your own produce put through the same regime of rigorous tests that we do, in order to ensure you are not using inferior material. When compared to the financial return on yields it really is a small price to pay and can be regarded as a wise investment.

We have been using our own facilities for testing for many years now and are pleased to inform you we are now prepared to offer the same services at, we believe, the most competitive rates you will find anywhere.

If you do compare our prices, particularly on cereals, to others it is important to ask if the package you are getting includes a rapid viability and VIGOUR test. Many don't and charge extra if you require them. Furthermore some outlets cannot do the VIGOUR test, but where

they do it is often charged separately to the viability thereby greatly increasing the cost.

There is little point in having high germination seed if it doesn't have acceptable vigour. Our cereal test packages always include these two essential tests and in most cases are still cheaper than other providers packages that don't.

Please go to our website to see our price list and download the order form or alternatively call 01529 309091 to request an order form be posted, emailed or faxed. We can also supply you with sample bags if needed. The good news is you don't even have to be a member or current customer of ours to receive the discounts.



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