



## Nelson VS Fertilizer

This document has been created to help our Nelson growers achieve the best from their crop, whilst considering increasing costs of production.

Based on recent studies performed by NIAB, Nelson has a **significant** cost saving element in its armoury of traits. With rates down as low as 175kg/ha of N, it has been proven to achieve the 14% Protein, whilst still yielding on average 8.1t/ha.

*\*NIAB trial figures 2021-2022*

## Facts and Figures

Trial study results

Harvest Year	KG/N	Protein Achieved
2021	125	13.2
2021	175	13.8
2021	225	14.2
2022	125	11.3
2022	175	12.4
2022	225	13.4

*\*Study completed by Dr Syed Shah |Regional Agronomist (South) & Technical Innovation Lead NIAB*

“I think it is safe to say that depending on previous crop and N price, Nitrogen rates could be 175kg/ha after legume / oilseed rape and 225kg/ha after spring cereal crops”.

*\*Dr Syed Shah |Regional Agronomist (South) & Technical Innovation Lead NIAB*

The table of results comes from a comprehensive study conducted by Dr Shah of NIAB. It shows the difference between application rate and final protein content of Nelson. It also shows the difference between a year where moisture availability was good (2021) and a year where it was extremely dry (2022).

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## Defra's NVZ rules

Nmax is a legal maximum limit averaged over the area of the crop on the farm.

Nmax for winter wheat is 220 kg/ha of nitrogen, subject to the following adjustments:

- + 40 kg/ha for milling wheat varieties
- + 20 kg/ha for each t/ha over the standard yield (8 t/ha)
- + 20 kg/ha for shallow soils, excluding shallow soils over sandstone

*\*Farmers weekly article <https://www.fwi.co.uk/arable/calculate-nitrogen-fertiliser-requirements-milling-wheat#:~:text=%2B%2040%20kg%2Fha%20for%20milling%20wheat%20varieties>*

With the UK fertilizer prices being at a record high, Nelson can deliver on cost saving compared with other UK premium milling wheats.

## Testimonials

Berkshire arable farmer, Nick Philp, grows 80 hectares of Nelson E-class winter wheat, on contract to Heygates.

*"We're in the Thames Valley, which means it gets very hot and we are prone to drought. We're not in record-breaking wheat yielding country, but Nelson performs well, holding its Hagberg with good grain quality", says Nick.*

*"Our fungicide bill on Nelson is cut by 30% and the premium and reduced growing cost more than makes up for the lesser yield", he says.*

*"We applied 250kg of nitrogen last year and reached 14 - 15% protein. This nitrogen application rate is on par with other conventional varieties on the farm, but they struggled to achieve 13% protein, so it is highly efficient, and this year we can get away with cutting back a bit to achieve the Heygates specification."*

*"Nelson also has a fantastic disease profile, it's very clean, and is a tall wheat which doesn't lodge", adds Nick.*



Wiltshire farmer, Ed Ackerman grows Nelson alongside with other group 1 milling varieties. He said.....

*"We have found Nelson a great variety to achieve milling premiums on a lower input system. On our Cotswold brash soils, it has produced a better yield and specific weight, and over 1% higher protein, than other group one varieties on the same inputs."*

#### Key Nelson attributes

- Liked by UK Miller
- Consistent milling quality
- Tall stiff straw
- Early to mature
- High untreated yields
- Consistent and reliable

The variety can earn a premium over normal group 1 premiums with its high protein and Hagberg falling number.

For any further information, please contact your local representative.

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*\*This is not explicit advice and is just a document which shares experiences.*