

# Winter Oilseed Rape Varieties

## Irish Recommended List for 2011 Sowing



**The Department of  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Iascaigh agus Bia**

### CROP EVALUATION and CERTIFICATION DIVISION

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#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) has taken all due care in evaluating the performance of the listed varieties over a wide range of soils and environmental conditions, for a period of 3 years. The Department cannot, however, accept responsibility for any loss or inconvenience arising from any future variation in absolute or relative varietal performance.

#### Winter Oilseed Rape Growing in Ireland

Winter oilseed rape (WOSR) varieties grown commercially in Ireland are classified as Brassica napus (Swede Rape) and all have low levels of both erucic acid and glucosinolates. These varieties are known as 'double zero varieties' and their seed is suitable for processing for both food and feed use. The crop is usually grown in rotation with cereals, with usually two or more years between successive WOSR crops in the same field.

It is important that the crop is sown at the best time, which is usually between mid August and mid September, to get good establishment before winter. Sowing dates should be decided on the basis of the local climate and the experience gained in the area over the years.

## Introduction

This leaflet lists the winter oilseed rape varieties that are considered most suitable for growing under Irish conditions. The varieties included on the recommended list have completed three years in the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's trials. These trials were located in Cork, Kilkenny, Kildare and Carlow and were grown in accordance with good farming practice. The results presented are based on the trials harvested in the years 2009 to 2011. The yearly trial results over the three years are combined in a single evaluation.

## Variety Testing Procedure

New varieties are submitted annually to the Department from Irish Agents acting on behalf of International plant breeders or directly from these breeders. These varieties enter combined National List/ Recommended List trials. Trials comprised of 21 varieties are grown at three Department centres and one external site per year. In the trials, the seeding rate as 'seeds per square metre' is 85 for conventional varieties and 55 for hybrid varieties. The varieties are assessed as to their suitability under Irish conditions for seed yield, oil content and various other traits.

After completing 3 years in the combined National List/Recommended List trials, new varieties showing superior performance are considered for provisional recommendation. Those varieties may be given a positive Value for Cultivation and Use (V.C.U.) status, thus allowing them, at the request of the breeder to be listed in the national and EU common catalogues. If these Provisionally Recommended varieties perform sufficiently well in subsequent trials, they may be upgraded to Full Recommendation after 1, 2 or occasionally 3 years further evaluation. Provisional recommendation is allowable for a maximum of three years.

**Growers should give preference to the varieties listed unless there is compelling evidence that other varieties are more suited to their specific conditions.**

Throughout the trial programme, every effort is made to select improved varieties.

## Types of Recommendation:

Varieties appearing on the list for the first time are **Provisionally Recommended (PR)**, and have completed three years in combined National list/ Recommended list (NL/RL) trials. The eventual status of these varieties is determined by the level of performance in ongoing NL/RL trials; fully **Recommended (R)** classification may be deemed to be merited after a further one, two or exceptionally three years, or alternatively they may be removed from the list at any stage.

## Laboratory Analysis:

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food take seed samples from each trial plot during harvesting to determine the dry matter content. The seed yield of controls and the relative yield of a variety at harvest is based on an adjusted 9% moisture content. A dried seed sample is also tested on behalf of the Department by NIAB, UK for oil and glucosinolate contents. Results are expressed @ 9% moisture content.

**Table 1: Recommended List of Winter Oilseed Rape Varieties for 2011 Sowing.**

Actual seed yield data is shown for the mean of the control varieties, and the relative seed yield data (as % of controls) is shown for all varieties. The data is based on results of trials harvested in the period 2009 to 2011.

	Hybrid/ Conv Variety	Treated Relative Seed Yield @9% moisture	Relative Oil Content @ 9% moisture	Glucosinolate Content ( $\mu\text{mol/g}$ seed)	Full Plant Height (m)	Lodging Resistance Of the maturing crop. (1 - 9) (9 = best).	Stem Stiffness (1 – 9). (9 = upright).	Earliness of flowering (1 – 9). (9 = earliest)	Earliness of Maturity/ Ripening Score (1 – 9). (9 = earliest).	Year of first Recommend -ation
<b>Controls* (actual)</b>	---	<b>4.7(t/ha)</b>	<b>44.8%</b>	---	---	---	---	---	---	
<b>Compass (PR-1)</b>	Hybrid	<b>101</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>1.62</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(5)</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Epure (R)</b>	Conv	<b>104</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Flash (R)</b>	Hybrid	<b>111</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>(7)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>(4)</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Osprey (R)</b>	Conv	<b>101</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>(8)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>2009</b>

\* 'Control' figures are the averages for all the treated varieties in the trials in 2009 & 2010. The treated varieties of Epure, Flash and Osprey were used as controls for 2011. (R): Recommended for general use. (PR): Provisionally Recommended (The number after the PR, indicates the number of years provisionally recommended). \*\*The average 'Seed Yield @ 9% moisture' of the control varieties over the period 2009 to 2011 was 4.7t/ha and the 'Oil Content @ 9% moisture' was 44.8%. Figures shown in brackets ( ) are based on limited data and should be treated with caution.

## Characteristics of the Winter Oilseed Rape Varieties in Table 1.

<p><b>Compass (PR-1):</b> (Hybrid Variety)</p>	<p>First Year on the recommended list with a provisional recommendation. Good seed yielding variety. It is the highest oil content variety on the recommended list. A very tall variety with very good stem stiffness and lodging resistance. An intermediate maturing variety. Bred by DSV, Germany.</p>
<p><b>Epure (R):</b> (Conventional variety)</p>	<p>Second highest seed yielding variety on the recommended list. Good oil content. A tall variety with good stem stiffness and very good lodging resistance. It is a late maturing variety. Bred by Momont, France.</p>
<p><b>Flash (R):</b> (Hybrid variety)</p>	<p>It has the highest seed yield on the recommended list. Good oil content. It is the tallest variety on the list and has good stem stiffness and lodging resistance. A late maturing variety. Bred by DSV, Germany.</p>
<p><b>Osprey (R):</b> (Conventional variety)</p>	<p>Good seed yielding variety. Its oil content is very good. A tall variety with very good stem stiffness and lodging resistance. An intermediate to early maturing variety. Bred by M. Pickford, UK.</p>

### Information on the Variety Traits Shown in Table 1.

**Seed Yield;** It is for fungicide treated crops.

**Oil Content;** The importance of oil content to an individual grower in deciding which variety to grow is very dependent on whether or not a bonus payment will be received for deliveries containing a particularly high oil content, and the particular terms of those payments. It is common practice in Ireland, for winter oilseed rape seed to be sold without payment of an oil bonus.



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## RECOMMENDED LISTS

Cereal Varieties

Herbages Varieties: (Grasses and Clover)

Forage Maize Varieties

## CROPS SCHEMES AND SERVICES

Seed Certification

Seed Testing

*The use of certified seed ensures a high level of varietal purity and germination.*

*Requests for this booklet should be sent to:*

Plant Health, Crop Production & Safety Division, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Administrative Building, Backweston Campus, Stacumny Lane, Celbridge, Co Kildare, or

E-mail [christine.prior@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:christine.prior@agriculture.gov.ie)

Alternatively, Recommended Lists can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food website;

**[www.agriculture.gov.ie](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie)**

where they can be found under the heading 'PUBLICATIONS'.