



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# United Kingdom Variety List Trials: Trial Procedures for Official Examination of Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) Harvest 2024

## Forage Oats

## Appendices

July 2023

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# Changes

None

# Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/ Operators for forage Oats

Activity	Organisers/Operators responsible
Trials Organiser	BSPB
Trial Design and Data Handling Operator	NIAB
Growing Trial Operator	NIAB
Seed Handling Operator	NIAB
Trial Inspection and Technical Validation Operator	NIAB
Quality Testing Operator	NIAB
Data Review and Standard Setting Operator	NIAB

## **Appendix 2 – Seed treatment products for use on NL trials**

Approved products compliant with restrictions, manufacturer's guidance and Trials Organiser's approval.

## **Appendix 3 – Seed despatch deadline**

VCU seed must be delivered to the Seed Handler by 15 September for winter sown oats or 15 January for spring sown oats.

## Appendix 4 – VCU Growing Trial Operators and trial locations for forage oats

Growing Trial Operator	Seed Handling Operator (if not trial operator)	Location of trial
NIAB	NIAB	Devon

# Appendix 5 – Control varieties for VCU assessments for forage oats

## Spring Oat Controls

Canyon

WPB Elyann

Aspen

## Winter Oat Control

Mascani

## Appendix 6 – dates by which records should be submitted

### To Trials Organiser

Record	Latest date of receipt by Trials Organiser
Site data part 1 (including site sketch)	Within 1 month of drilling trial
Site data part 2	By the time trial is harvested
Plot records (in approved electronic format)	Growing Trial Operator should notify Trials Organiser that trial has been harvested within 2 days of harvest

### Plot records to Data Handling Operator

Record	Date
Plot records should be sent to Data Handling Operator	Within 10 days of record being taken

### Plot samples to Quality Testing Operator

Samples	Date
Plot samples for quality testing Should be sent to Quality Testing Operator	Within 2 days of harvest

## Appendix 7 – Assessment keys for forage oats diseases

### Powdery mildew

% Infection	Infection by score (1-9)	Amount of infection
0	1	
0.1	2	3 pustules per tiller
1	3	5 pustules per leaf
5	4	2 lower leaves appear $\frac{1}{4}$ infected
10	5	2 lower leaves appear $\frac{1}{2}$ infected
25	6	Leaves appear $\frac{1}{2}$ infected $\frac{1}{2}$ green
50	7	Leaves appear more infected than green
75	8	Very little green leaf tissue left
100	9	Leaves dead - no green tissue left

## Crown rust

% Infection	Infection by score (1-9)	Amount of infection
0	1	No infection observed
0.1	2	1 small cluster of pustules per tiller
1	3	1 cluster per leaf
5	4	Most tillers infected but some top leaves uninfected
10	5	All leaves infected but leaves appear green overall
25	6	Leaves appear ½ infected ½ green
50	7	Leaves appear more infected than green
75	8	Very little green leaf tissue left
100	9	Leaves dead - no green tissue left

## Oat mosaic virus

The severity of symptoms can vary with variety; thus a weighted score can be used as follows:

% leaves with infection	Type of infection		
	Slight	Moderate	Severe
0	0	0	0
1	0.3	0.7	1
5	2	3	5
10	3	7	10
25	8	17	25
50	17	33	50
75	25	50	75
100	33	67	100

## Barley yellow dwarf virus

The disease can be assessed visually as the % of leaves within a plot showing typical red/orange or yellow symptoms. Oats will typically show strong reddish/orange discolouration from the leaf tip downwards.



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