



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# **Great Britain and Northern Ireland Variety List Trials: Trial Procedures for Official Examination of Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) Harvest 2026**

**Turnip Rape (*Brassica rapa* L. subsp. *campestris*)  
Appendices**

**April 2025**

## Changes since last version

- Updated year of the document and date of the last update
- Updated email link to national archives at end of document
- Updated Niab abbreviation

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## Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/ Operators for Turnip Rape

Activity	Organisers/Operators Responsible
Trial organiser	BSPB
Trial design and data handling operator	Niab
Growing trial operators	Niab
Seed handling operator	Niab
Trial inspection and technical validation operators	BSPB
Quality testing operator	SASA Limagrain Ltd
Data Review and Standard Setting Operator	Niab

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

Approved seed dressings to be applied according to current Regulations and must be approved by the Trials Organiser.

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

VCU seed must be delivered to the Seed Handling Operator by 15 February for Spring Turnip Rape and 10 August for Winter Turnip Rape.

The DUS trial is sown with the Winter Oilseed Rape DUS trial and the seed must be delivered accordingly.

## Appendix 4 – VCU growing trial operators and trial locations for Turnip Rape

Growing Trial Operator	Seed Handling Operator (If not Trial Operator)	Location of Trial
Niab	Niab	Yorkshire
Limagrain Ltd	Niab	Lincolnshire

## Appendix 5 – Control varieties

The control varieties are the proposed control and alternative variety.

### Proposed control

- SKYFALL – Limagrain - sowing May to late summer

### Alternatives:

- AVALON

## Appendix 6 – Dates by which records should be sent to Trials Organiser

### 6.1 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

### 6.2 To Data Handling Operator

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

## Appendix 7 – Assessment keys for Forage Rape diseases

### 7.1 Leaf diseases

Instructions:

1. Examine leaves in 3 areas of each plot.
2. Include all necrosis and chlorosis attributable to disease to be assessed.
3. Estimate percentage of infection using the Infection disease severity description, interpolating values if necessary.
4. Record the average percentage of infection from the 3 areas.

### 7.2 Infection disease severity description

Time	Description
<b>0</b>	No infection observed
<b>0.1</b>	Older leaves with a trace of infection, other leaves uninfected
<b>1</b>	Older leaves with up to 10% infection, other leaves largely uninfected
<b>5</b>	Older leaves with up to 25% infection, middle-aged leaves with a trace of infection
<b>10</b>	Older and middle-aged leaves with up to 25% infection, young leaves largely uninfected
<b>25</b>	Leaves of all ages appear 50% infected 50% green on average
<b>50</b>	Leaves of all ages appear more infected than green on average
<b>75</b>	Very little green tissues left
<b>100</b>	No green tissue left



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