



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

**Forage Rape
Appendices**

September 2025

Changes since last version

- Title page changed from United Kingdom to Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Appendix 4 - DSV trial in Oxfordshire has been removed

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Appendix 1 – Approved Trial Organisers/Operators for Forage Rape

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

Appendix 2 – Seed treatment products for use on VL trials

The treatment products are:

- 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 15th February for Spring Forage Rape and 10th August for Winter Forage 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 Forage Rape

Growing Trial Operator	Seed Handling Operator (if not Trial Operator)	Location of trial
Niab	Niab	Yorkshire
Limagrain UK Ltd.	Limagrain UK Ltd.	Lincolnshire

Appendix 5 – Control varieties

The Control varieties are:

- Gorilla
- Interval

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 Dates for submission of plot records 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

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

7.2 Infection disease severity description

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



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