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ISSUE 54

NEWSLETTER

December 2011

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you all

Thank You For Your Continued Support

On behalf of myself and my colleagues at CYO Seeds (Midlands) Ltd and Alphamix, we would like to thank you all for your support throughout 2011 and hopefully beyond. We strive to offer the best service we can through professionalism, reliability, integrity and value for money. **On a personal note**, I was touched by how many of you enquired about my health when I was laid low from mid August through to mid October. I had to have an operation but now I am fighting fit, thanks again.



Wet Weather!

As I am writing this newsletter it's pouring with rain outside (doesn't look like it's going to last very long though). This is in contrast to the mild weather we've had all year really. This has led to low ground water levels and local reservoirs are worryingly depleted.

One thing I did find interesting though, this years yields were pretty good so I'm told, which surprised everybody considering how many tillers on wheat and barley plants were shed early on because of the drought.

It begs the question in a changing climate, how to get good yields (not considering any diseases). Do you want fewer plants per square metre, with lots of stems and heads to fill (as we have now in most varieties), which puts a lot of demand on the root systems? Or do you want more plants with fewer stems (as we ended up with this year) and therefore, fewer heads to fill per plant, which in turn means less nutrient and water demand on the same sized individual root structure?

New Website

A few of you have already noticed that we have had our website (www.cyoseeds.com) revamped. We aren't fully up to speed with what we can do on it yet but there will soon be even more very useful content on it, including links and a video of our operation. You can look at previous news letters, ongoing projects, news feed, fertiliser and seed sales, plus other services we offer. Please have a look and tell us what you think.

C.Y.O. Recommendations

This season we've had a lot of new customers come to us. Some from our direct marketing, some from prior knowledge of us, some by chance and some from recommendations. **Remember, if you recommend us to a new customer we'll give you £50**, which so far this year has mounted up to quite a few hundred pounds paid back to you. Thank you.

Alphamix

Alphamix, our sister company based at North Kilworth supplies concrete and screed to the surrounding area. I've banged on enough in the past about the services Alphamix offer and how good we are. If you need any concrete or screed please give Dave at Alphamix a call on 01858 881385. Alphamix website:- www.alphamixuk.com



CYO SEEDS (MIDLANDS) LTD Incorporating AGRIDRESS and CYO SEEDS (NORTH)
Based at Station Rd, N. Kilworth, Lutterworth, Leics LE17 6JB.

COMPARATIVE SPECIES POPULARITY AUTUMNS 07 - 11

This is the seed cleaned by CYO and converted into hectares to show relative land use

2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Wheat 65%	Wheat 62%	Wheat 64%	Wheat 69%	Wheat 73%
Rape 28%	Rape 29%	Rape 29%	Rape 25%	Rape 19%
Barley 3%	Barley 5%	Barley 3%	Barley 4%	Barley 6%
Oats 3%	Oats 2%	Oats 2%	Oats <1%	Oats 1%
Beans <1%	Beans <2%	Beans <2%	Beans <1%	Beans <1%

Oakley is by far our most popular wheat variety this year by a country mile. Despite any shortcomings it may have, it's a barn filler. 11% behind **Oakley** is **JB Diego**, the high yielding milling wheat that is also a good second wheat. Another 1% behind is **Solstice**, another good all rounder but with rust problems.

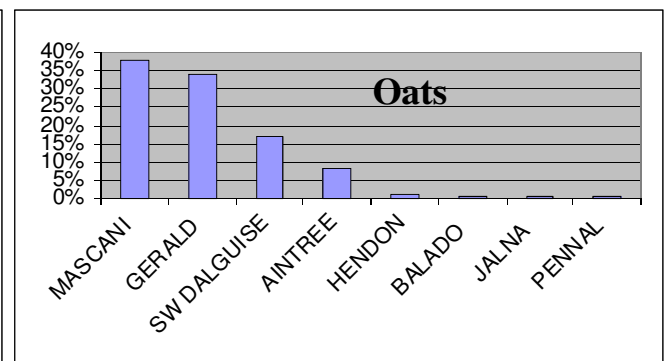
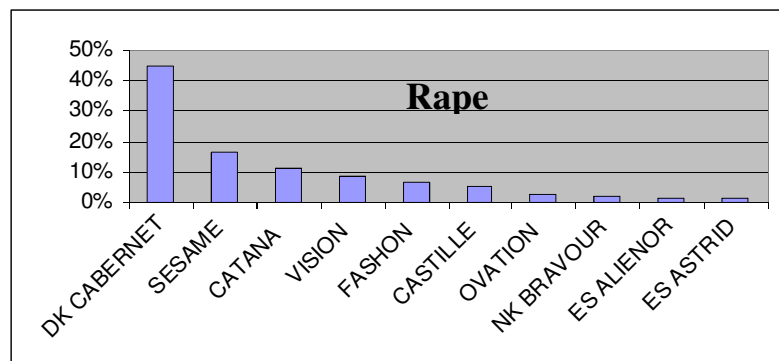
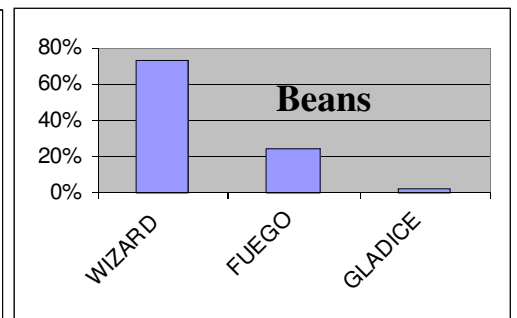
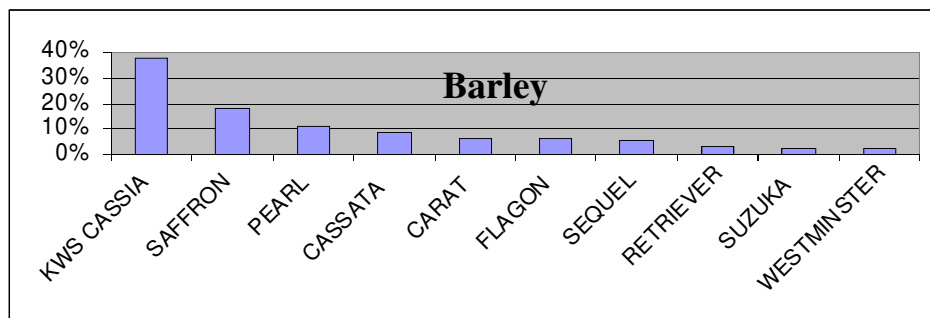
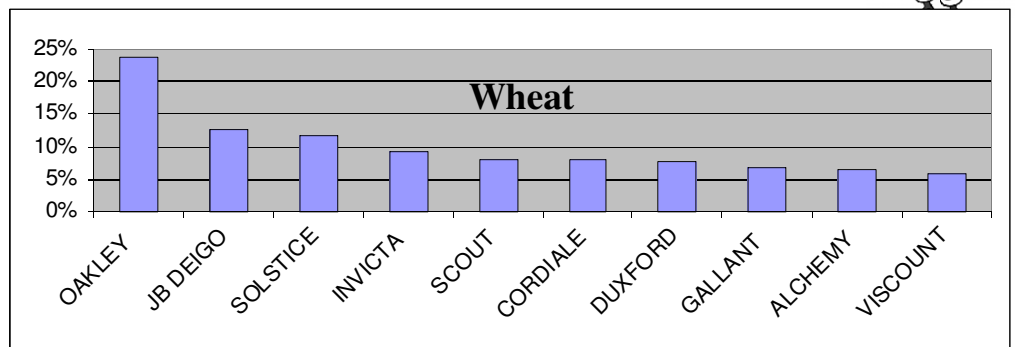
DK Cabernet is by far our most popular rape variety at nearly 45% of the total rape cleaned, with **Castille** now well down the pecking order. Both are excellent conventional varieties, relatively cheap to grow and in most cases, have given better yields, better quality and better returns than hybrids. However, hybrid rape is being pushed hard by the trade and it's gaining ground. This will lead to hybrid seed costing even more than it does now through reduced competition. One of the main reasons it's being pushed so hard is because you're **not allowed to farm save** it without the breeders permission. This guarantees the breeder and merchant a very nice income every year through **higher prices and 100% royalty, not the 50% as with Farm Saved Seed.**

Barley this year has risen, mainly due to certified seed cost and availability.

Oats & Beans are steadily declining with **Linseed** and **Triticale** etc. only minority crops.



Varietal Popularity Autumn 2011: These graphs show the relative popularity of the main varieties we have cleaned this Autumn (including some spring varieties).



**Bank Details: Sort Code 40-32-04
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