



### REWARD Arable Silage

Spring Barley  
Spring Forage Pea

**Sown @ 50 Kilo / Acre**

### LIBERTY Arable Silage

Spring Oats  
Spring Forage Pea

**Sown @ 50 Kilo / Acre**

## SPRING SOWN ARABLE SILAGE

**The ability to successfully reseed a field after tillage, or grass into grass is vitally important, since a poor grass take, for whatever reason, will not reach its full potential, leaving the farm business at substantial financial and forage loss, over many years.**

#### Problems:

- Many farmers squeeze in an Autumn grass reseed after Winter/ Spring cereals only to find problems with cereal regrowth and weed growth; chickweed, especially, is a real problem on high fertility, heavy soils when high Autumn rainfall negates an application of a weed herbicide

- The **loss** of the **effective insecticide Chlorpyrifos**, previously utilised when reseeding from grass to grass on stock farms, makes Autumn reseeding more uncertain

All grass farms (no tillage for cereals), have the additional question of **when to reseed** – Spring, Summer or Autumn? This is especially tricky if the farm is heavily stocked and unable to withstand any loss of grass production.

***How can we reseed for the future with confidence, ensuring that we obtain the full potential from the grass mixture sown, with maximum profit over the length of the ley?***

**An old Welsh method** is now becoming the **new Welsh method** and is increasingly popular, especially since the termination, of the insecticide **Chlorpyrifos**.

**The Welsh grass reseed method:**

Instead of reseeding **directly** from grass-to-grass, a **brassica break** is recommended **before** reseeding with grass seed. Plough and sow forage rape or stubble turnips (see page 18), in early Autumn (mid-July to mid-August), and feed Autumn-Winter. Ideally, if you have a further field on the farm (say after a cereal crop), sow **Humbolt** grazing rye (see page 16), in August to September, for grazing late February onwards. You will then have provided stock with a low-cost feed option for Autumn, Winter and Spring, then plough for next crop.

***Unless the field is totally un-ploughable, Western Seeds does not recommend direct drilling of forage crops or grass, with the exception of *Salvus* – the sward-saver (See Page 10)***

After all Autumn-sown forage crops have been utilised in Spring, it is time to consider the best grass seed mixture for sowing under a cover crop.

**Western Seeds' Arable Silage Mixtures** are a **precise** combination of cereal and **forage peas and are unique** to the U.K.

**How do we achieve a first-class reseed in the Spring?**

- Plough field in Spring (after Autumn-sown brassica break), and cultivate to a good seed bed
- Drill Arable Silage @ 50 kilo acre
- Broadcast new grass ley **the same day (very important)**
- Roll field

- Harvest Arable Silage with grass included in **9 to 10 weeks maximum**
- Yield; 8 X 600 kilo ( approx.), big bales per acre

You will have a well-established new weed-free ley by mid-June to mid-July (depending on time of sowing), and with good grassland management the ley will give many years of profit.

**Arable Silage as a cover crop is highly recommended when reseeding grass since it achieves a number of important objectives:**

- **Arable Silage** will give a palatable forage composed of grass, cereal and peas: **cut at 9 to 10 weeks**
- There will be no rats in the big bales or clamp because there will be no grain in the arable silage for them to eat, by cutting at **9 to 10 weeks**
- **Arable silage** will make up for the loss of silage production when sowing grass in Spring with the added plus, of leaving a weed-free thick, dense new ley which is clean (worm-free), **in 9 to 10 weeks**

**Arable Silage is not a Wholecrop!!!**

Wholecrop is usually harvested in **15 to 16 weeks** when the grain is at milky stage. This is not recommended for grass reseed because the **cereal cover continues for too long**.

Even with perfect weather conditions and a standing wholecrop, a good percentage of the grass seed sown will be lost, due to competition and lack of light.

Farmers will say **"This is ok, the ley will thicken-up"** but in reality although the remaining grass will do its best to cover the ground, spaces will be left for **weed grasses / seedling docks** to establish and you are soon **back to square one**.

**Have a look at the old-new Welsh way of reseeding – it works!**