

INTRODUCTION TO OUR CEREAL BLENDS

Cereals such as wheat, barley and oats are usually grown as a single species crop on conventional farms in the U.K.. This has been made possible by the availability, in the last 50 years, of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides.

These artificial crop inputs are utilised to try and minimise the inevitable loss of yield caused by crop pathogens, when growing single variety species in the field.

Organic farmers cannot utilise herbicides, fungicides and insecticides in their cereal cropping and yet, despite the difficulties, many still attempt to grow single variety cereal crops, as they have done heretofore, accepting lower yields “because they are Organic.”

For over 35 years, Company profits have been invested in research and development trials (on our own and other participating organic farms), resulting in the development of **Cereal Blends**.

Marketed over 25 years, Cereal Blends have proven to fill that yield difference between organic and conventional cereal production.

Cereals and grasses are part of the same botanical family, but standard practice has been to sow grass leys as a **blend** of grasses and cereals as a **single** species. **Why?**

The advantages of **sowing a grass ley as a Blend** has been well proven over many years and applies to both conventional and organic farmers:

- **Higher, reliable yields with minimal forage crop diseases**

The same advantages as above have been shown with **selected cereal varieties grown together as a cereal Blend**.

Our forefathers in their wisdom grew blends. Western Seeds, have **developed** and **refined** the concept, bringing **precision** and **accuracy** into the process and with access to **outstanding** cereal varieties now available, we have produced first rate Blends, that leave our customers asking, year on year, for more.

Undersowing with *Organic* PREMIUM is highly recommended.

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ORGANIC OVATION WHEAT BLEND

Organic OVATION is a mixture of **selected wheat varieties** which will ripen at the same time and offer **variable disease resistance** to cereal fungal diseases; grown and utilised by farmers, well before fungicides became available, so this is **not a new idea**.

Many modern Spring wheat varieties rely on applications of fungicides to keep them disease-free to produce a good grain crop.

How can we grow a good sample of organically grown wheat on a regular basis **without the use of fungicides?**

Western Seeds have conducted trials, over many years, in an effort to improve the disease resistance of Spring wheat in the organic growing situation.

We have evaluated different single wheat varieties, blended them together in many different ratios, always assessing for yield, disease resistance, grain and straw quality.

Taking advantage of new cereal varieties becoming available from the plant breeders, Western Seeds' trials are always ongoing, assessing and utilising the best varieties for our Blends.

Always trying to turn a good old idea into a very good new idea!

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ORGANIC ADVANCE BARLEY BLEND

A cereal Blend has proven to considerably lessen the infection of fungal diseases on the cereal crop and was utilised, by farmers, well before fungicides became available, **so this is not a new idea but remains a bedrock principle that holds good to this day.**

Organic **ADVANCE** is a mixture of **different barley varieties** which ripen at the same time and offer **varied disease resistance** to cereal fungal diseases.

Why sow a Western Seeds` Organic ADVANCE cereal Blend?

- More resistant to variable yearly conditions – weather, fertility and field
- **Less crop disease – better grain sample – stronger straw – higher yield**
- **ADVANCE** is suitable for combining dry, crimped or wholecrop, for animal feed

ADVANCE is not suitable for barley grown for malting, a single variety is required by the maltster.

There are many production advantages to buying a grass seed mixture.

The same principles apply to a cereal mixture.

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ORGANIC CONCERT OAT BLEND

A cereal Blend has proven to considerably lessen the infection of fungal diseases on the cereal crop and was utilised, by farmers, well before fungicides became available; **so this old idea is now the new, good idea, with even more boost from modern day developments in plant breeding.**

Organic **CONCERT** is a mixture of **different oat varieties** which ripen at the same time giving a diverse range of **disease resistance to cereal fungal diseases.**

Why sow a Western Seeds` Organic CONCERT cereal Blend?

- More resistant to variable yearly conditions – weather, fertility and field
- **Less crop disease – better grain sample – stronger straw – higher yield**
- **CONCERT** is suitable for, wholecrop, combined dry for animal feed and sold off-farm for milling oats

There are many production advantages to buying a grass seed mixture.

The same principles apply to a cereal mixture.

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ORGANIC MELODY CEREAL BLEND

Organic **MELODY** is a cereal Blend of **wheat, barley and oats**, developed as a **Cereal Wholecrop**.

Cereal crop leaf diseases can severely affect the forage quality of **Wholecrop**.

- A **three cereal Blend** has proven to considerably lessen the infection of leaf / root diseases in the cereal crop and was utilised by farmers, well before conventional pesticides became available, **so this is a tried and tested principle**.
- Recognising the extensive practice of blending mixtures in former times, Western Seeds developed, improved and refined the concept, producing for our 2018 customers our new updated Blend **MELODY**
- Organic **MELODY** is a **precise** mixture supplied with the same **constant** ratio of each cereal species, sown per acre.

This **precision** ensures a **harmonious mixture** of wheat, barley, oats, without any one cereal species dominating the crop.

There are many benefits to buying a grass seed mixture which also apply to a cereal mixture.

Take advantage of this simple concept of a Blend, proven to be a leap forward in modern-day farming

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