

SEED & FIELD SERVICES LTD

Newsletter

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Autumn 2011

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Plant Establishment Conference.

For two days on the 16th and 17th of March, Seed and Field Services (SFS) and Pukekohe Grower Supplies hosted a conference on plant establishment.

With a field of expert speakers from overseas and locally, subjects from cover cropping, seed quality, seed coating, early nutrition and irrigation were covered.

For those in attendance it was a great opportunity to stay up to date with the latest in local and international technology.

We would like to thank all sponsors, but particularly Seminis (major sponsor), Terranova, Clause Pacific and Syngenta, and Seed Enhancements as partners of SFS.



Carrot plantings have now begun locally and onion plantings will commence in late April/early May.



The South Island have already seeded Autumn onion crops which will be overwintered for a late Spring harvest. The next season just seems to keep rolling around as onion exports begin to wind down.

I trust 2011 will be a good one for all of us.



For the right varietal advice, talk to Grant, Andrew or Philip who will help you select the varieties that will perform for you under local conditions.



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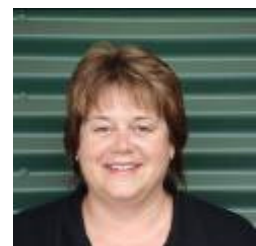
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Early Brown Onion Options

Omega— *First early hybrid brown onion. Good yield potential.*

Terranova Omega Japanese Hybrid brown onion is a very vigorous, early maturing soft mild onion. Omega suits an early winter sowing and will give up to 2—3 months storage if needed.

Sow in Franklin early to late May for a late November/early December harvest.

Advance— *Early maturing open pollinated brown onion*

Seminis Advance is a proven variety locally for a very early maturing open pollinated brown onion. Advance has good storage potential for such an early maturing variety, and with good firm bulbs it gives the grower flexibility to machine harvest.

Sow from May to early June for a mid December to early January harvest.

Lightning— *Early maturing machine harvestable hybrid brown onion*

Early maturing Terranova Hybrid brown onion, that matures between Dominator and Kiwigold.

Has the potential to make good size bulbs with outstanding skins, that are machine harvestable.

Can be sown in Pukekohe from mid May onwards maturing late December / early January.

Ayoba (Formerly trialed as Seminis 39002)

A proven performer in the Franklin area, and the results from the early maturing Hybrid have been impressive over the past couple of seasons. These results follow on from extensive trialing in the district and Ayoba should provide a good option for a machine harvestable early onion, that has some mid term storage potential.

Ayoba features include very good plant vigour and excellent uniformity in both size and shape with very firm bulbs. Good seed stocks are expected for 2011.

Sow from Mid to Late May, for a mid to late December harvest, however Ayoba has the flexibility to be sown later if needed.



New Introductions

Shinto—

Outstanding extra early maturing hybrid brown onion from Terranova seeds. Trialed with immediate success two seasons ago, Shinto has already become well recognized in the Franklin area for its high yield potential.

Shinto's bulbs are typically globe shaped with very good quality and uniformity compared to other early onions. With its good plant vigour being a feature, Shinto seems well suited to a range of soil types.

SOW EARLY MAY TO EARLY JUNE FOR A LATE NOVEMBER HARVEST.



Early Red Onion Options

Sweet Red—

Earliest red onion on the market typically maturing late November/early December. Sweet Red produces large flattened bulbs of low pungency and sweet flavour. Suits marketing as fresh new season product. Does not store for later marketing. Sow from late April for a late November/early December harvest



Ceylon—

New high yielding early red introduction from Seminis maturing at a similar time to XP Red. Ceylon features a medium red skin colour with excellent good internal colouration after curing, and also has a high percentage of single centres. Sow mid May to early June for a late December harvest.

Cabernet—

Outstanding performer in its first season of commercial plantings. Cabernet has shown through a difficult summer very good plant vigour with strong tops and good plant health.

The resultant crops were of good yields, even from later than ideal sowings, with uniform globe shape bulbs and an impressive dark red colour that stands out against many other standard red varieties.

Cabernet offers medium term storage. Sow from late July to early September for a late January/ early February harvest.



Red Emperor -

Red Emperor is now established as a preferred variety in many Red Onion production programmes. Red Emperor yields are typically very good with all plants developing bulbs and virtually a complete absence of off types or non bulbing plants. Bulbs are slightly flattened globes, and of consistent size and shape. The cosmetic appearance factor is high with tight scales of deep red colouration, matched by strong colouration of the internal rings.

To date export shipments of Red Emperor onions have been successful in several markets. Sow July/ August for a mid January Harvest



New Introductions for 2010

Red Shipper—

New long term storage Red Onion hybrid from Clause Pacific. Trial sowings to date have shown Red Shipper to have good plant vigour, and good yield potential.

The bulbs are firm with medium to dark red colouration with a slightly flattened globe shape on the larger bulbs.

Red Shipper has long term storage potential as the name suggests which should be suitable for exporting. Commercial seed is available for 2011, and we have sample bulbs for grower assessment available.

Sow from mid July to late August for a late January, February harvest.



Onion Seed Coating



Seed Enhancements Ltd

For more information visit the website at
www.seedenhancements.co.nz

ProPell® pellet (Splitting Pellet)



ProPell is a light weight coating for vegetable species. The pellet provides an optimum speed of emergence and superior uniformity under a range of environmental conditions. ProPell has a smooth finish and strong integrity that holds up under planter stress. It is also possible to apply higher rates of approved chemicals safely to pelleted seed. Performance and quality consistency are the prime benefits of Seed Enhancements ProPell vegetable pellets. Use in pneumatic (vacuum) or Stanhay belt seeders.

ProGro

ProGro is a heavier pellet formulated specifically for areas of lower fertility or newly, out of pasture type situations. ProGro has a blend of starter fertilisers and beneficial microbes to help the young plant quickly establish and thrive. This pellet is also suitable for growers simply requiring a heavier pellet.



ProCoat



A lighter weight coating increasing seed size to achieve greater drilling accuracy and singulation when using pneumatic (vacuum) drilling equipment. ProCoat has a smooth finish and strong integrity to avoid 'chipping' and blocking of vacuum seed plates.

ProPure™

ProPure is an Asure Quality certified organic seed coating that uses a naturally occurring, mined blend of clays. Pro-pure can be used in any full organic planting program. The ProPure coating can be used with most type of vegetable seeds.



Onion Seed Treatment Chemicals—*there are only a small number of chemicals that are registered for seed treatment in New Zealand. The following list includes chemicals that are routinely used on vegetables.*

Crop	Target Pest/Disease	Chemical	Rate	Active Ingredients
Onion	Damping off Diseases	Captan 600 Flo	0.50%	Captan
	Botrytis, Damping Off	MBC Flo 50	1 %	Carbendazim
	Botrytis, Damping Off, Smut	MBC Flo 50	12.50%	Carbendazim
	White Rot	Sumisclax 500SC	1-2%	Procimydone
	Onion Maggot	ProGuard	2%	



Seed Enhancements Ltd

Seed Testing Services


Seed Enhancements now have a full range of seed testing services available, that can be assessed by the grower through Seed and Field Services Ltd.

If you have any seasons carry – over seed, pelleted seed, or anything thing you would like to check the germination or vigour of the seed lot before you sow, contact Grant, Andrew or Philip to arrange a sample to be submitted to the Seed Enhancements Laboratory.

SEED SAMPLING PROTOCOL

If you are sending in seed samples for testing please ensure you bring in a good sized (at least 400 seeds) representative sample from each seed lot. If the seed lot consists of multiple containers, seed taken from at least 1/2 the containers is ideal. If the seed is in one container, sampling from the top, middle and bottom is needed. Place the sample in a sealable bag and clearly label.

- **Germination (200 seeds)**
- **Germination (400 seeds)**
- **Vigour (Accelerated Ageing)**
- **Vigour (Cold Test)**
- **Tetrazolium**
- **Moisture**
- **Seed Count**
- **Botrytis allii Test for Onion Seeds**
- **Blind Seed**
- **Hollow Heart (as part of a germ test)**



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Certificate of Analysis

SEED & FIELD SERVICES STOCK
45 Kitchener Road
PUKEKOHE

Job Number: 13855 A Crop: Carrot

Botanical Name: *Daucus Carota* Reference/Variety: Korman0

Lot Number: 654589 Lab Number: 1286849233


Date of Issue: 29/09/2010 Date Test Started 15/09/2010

Date Test Completed: 29/09/2010 Seed Previously Treated:

Interim Count: 85%	Final Count: 96%	Hard Seed:	Dead Seed:
Date 1st Count 22/09/2010 <small>Day 7</small>	Date Final Count: 29/09/2010 <small>Day 14</small>	Fresh Seed:	Remainder: 3%
		Abnormal Growths: 1%	

Seed Pre-treatment: Pleated Paper
Temperature: 20 degrees

Endorsements:
Other:
Test Image:



Comments:

Signed: *B. Linke*
Katharina Linke
Seed Analyst

Autumn/Winter Brassica Sowing Suggestions

Cauliflower—

Omeo— Sow from early January to mid April
 Escale— Sow from mid April to mid June
 Casper
 Chaser

Cabbage—

Green Cabbage
 228
 Napoleon | Sow until end of June
 Empire
 Benelli (suggestion for Trial)
Red Cabbage
 Cairo — Sow year round

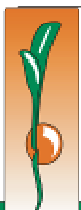
Broccoli—

Marathon | Sow January—late June
 Heritage
 Legacy
 Kolya (suggestion for Trial)

Autumn/Winter Lettuce Sowing Suggestions

Iceberg—

Winguard | Sow from late February to April
 Award
 Gitanas— Sow from May to Mid July
 Siberenas (suggestion for trial) Sow from Mid April to Late May



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