



**Autumn 2016**



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We are now well into 2016 with Onion harvest fully underway, while for some growers it has even been completed. It is nice to see strong demand and reasonable prices being paid for good quality onions.

Here at Seed and Field Services we have been monitoring the performance of old and new onion varieties. A selection of well performed early onions are described in the following pages—please talk to Grant, Philip or Kenny and they will be able to give you more in-depth information.

We have just completed another round of onion seed treatment trials targeting white rot and onion smut. By mid April we will have completed yet another series of seed treatment trials targeting the same diseases. We will report results once this work has been completed - our thanks go to Peter Wright at Plant and Food for assisting with this important work.

Finally we would like to remind you that we are a New Zealand owned and operated company, employing local people. Any profits that we make stay here in the local area and are not sent offshore. We are always looking overseas to bring the best technology and ideas back for the benefit of the New Zealand vegetable growing industry.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Terranova Summer Lettuce Field Day

1340A Glenbrook Road

Glenbrook

Thursday 10th March 2016

10.30am to 4.00pm



Visit our Website at [www.seedandfield.co.nz](http://www.seedandfield.co.nz)

## Product Profiles—Early Maturing Brown Onions

### **Shinto**

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

Shinto's bulbs are typically globe shaped with very good quality and uniformity compared to other early onions. With it's 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.*



### **Cutlass**

Cutlass produces very firm uniform shaped bulbs with good skins for an onion in this early time frame. Cutlass has vigorous growth and has shown good disease tolerance in sowings to date. Follows closely behind Shinto in maturity with improved bulb quality.

*Sow from May to early June for a early December harvest.*



### **NEW VARIETY TO TRIAL—Lucinda**

Trialed for the first time in 2014 with good results. Lucinda is of similar maturity to Cutlass with good shaped firm bulbs that will offer some short term storage. Like Cutlass, Lucinda will offer early maturity with much improved quality bulbs than the very early types, with possibly more yield potential than Cutlass.

*Sow from May to Early June for a early December harvest*



### **NEW VARIETY TO TRIAL—SV8968**

New hybrid introduction from Seminis. SV8968 is an early ELK onion similar in maturity to Ayoba and Lightning.

Trialed for 2 seasons to date, the variety has shown good bolt tolerance with firm good quality bulbs. SV8968 has good plant vigour and has performed well from a wide range of seeding dates from Mid May to early July.

This variety also appears to have improved mildew tolerance and better yield potential to Ayoba.

*Sow from Mid May to Mid June for a late December/early January harvest*



### **Ayoba**

A proven performer in the Franklin area, and the results from the early maturing Hybrid have been impressive over the past couple of seasons. Ayoba provides 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.

*Sow from Mid May to Mid June for a late December/early January harvest*



### **Lightning**

Early maturing Terranova Hybrid brown onion, that matures between Cutlass 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.*



## Product Profiles—Early Maturing Red Onions

### 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 early May for a late November harvest.*



### Sweet Red Improved

As the name suggests, an improved Sweet Red type with the advantage being a more globe shaped bulb, dark red skins and good early internal colour.

Can be sown in a similar time frame to Sweet Red, and has shown good bolt tolerance in early sowings.

*Sow early May for a late November harvest.*



### Malbec

Malbec is now well established as the favoured early red variety for growers.

Malbec matures slightly later than Sweet Red, with much improved shape and colour and is a good option to follow on from Sweet Red with much improved quality.

Bulb shape is a globe to flattened globe on larger bulbs, that also offers some short term storage.

*Sow early May for an early December harvest.*



### Pinotage

Pinotage is an early red hybrid that produces dark red globe shaped bulbs, with good early internal colouration.

Pinotage has a very vigorous plant that has shown to perform in a range of soil types and conditions, and shows an ability to yield well, with bulbs sizing exponentially at maturity.

Sound bulbs of Pinotage will also offer some short/medium term storage offering growers some flexibility.

*Sow from June to Early July for an early January harvest.*



### Cabernet

Outstanding performer again this season in commercial plantings. Cabernet has shown through a difficult spring very good plant vigour with strong tops and good plant health.

The resultant crops were of good yields, even from later 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.*



**Also available this season—Red Star and Red Emperor (Terranova)**

# Onion Seed Coating



**Seed Enhancements Ltd**

For more information visit the website at  
[www.seedandfield.co.nz](http://www.seedandfield.co.nz)

## SeedPell



SeedPell is a light weight pellet for vegetable species. The pellet provides an optimum speed of emergence and superior uniformity under a range of environmental conditions. SeedPell 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 SeedPell vegetable pellets. Use in pneumatic (vacuum) or Stanhay belt seeders.



## SeedPell Plus

SeedPell Plus is a heavier pellet formulated specifically for areas of lower fertility or newly, out of pasture type situations. SeedPell Plus 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.



## SeedPell Light

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

## EnviroPell

EnviroPell is an Asure Quality certified organic seed coating that uses a naturally occurring, mined blend of clays. EnviroPell can be used in any full organic planting program.

The EnviroPell coating can be used with most type of vegetable seeds.





**Seed Enhancements Ltd**

# Seed Testing Services

Seed Enhancements has 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 that you would like to check the germination or vigour of before you sow, contact Grant, Andrew or Philip, Hazim or Kenny to arrange a sample to be submitted to the Seed Enhancements Laboratory.

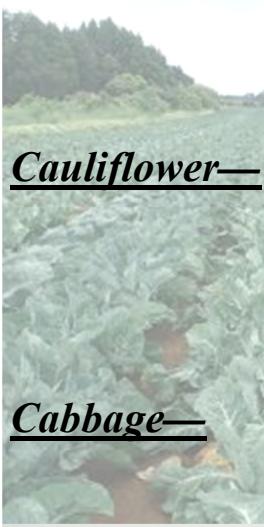
## **SEED SAMPLING PROTOCOL**

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**

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<i>Certificate of Analysis</i>			
SEED & FIELD SERVICES STOCK 45 Kitchener Road		PUKEKOHE	
Job Number:	13855 A	Crop:	Carrot
Botanical Name:	Daucus Carota	Reference/Variety:	Kormano
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: Fresh Seed: Abnormal Growths:	Dead Seed: Remainder: 1%
Date 1st Count: 22/09/2010 Day 7	Date Final Count: 29/09/2010 Day 14		
Seed Pre-treatment: Pleated Paper Temperature: 20 degrees			
Endorsements:			
Other:			
Test Image: 			
Comments:			
Signed: 		Katharina Linke Seed Analyst	

## Autumn Brassica Sowing Suggestions



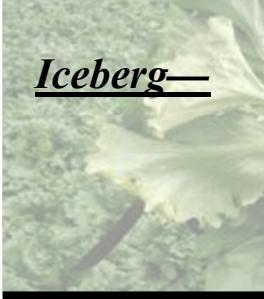
### Cauliflower

Omeo—	Sow from early January to mid April
SV5982	Sow from February to Late March
Escale—	
Casper	Sow from mid April to mid June
Chaser	



### Cabbage

228	Sow until end of June
Terranova Lambada—	Sow Year Round
<i>Red Cabbage</i>	
Red Baron	Sow year round



### Broccoli

Marathon	
Heritage	Sow January—late June
Legacy	
Kanga	Sow January— July
Kolya	Sow April to July

## Autumn Lettuce Sowing Suggestions



### Iceberg

Winguard	Sow from February to April
Gitanas—	Sow from May to mid July
Siberenas	Sow from mid April to late May



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