

SEED & FIELD SERVICES LTD

Newsletter

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Autumn 2010

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SEED GERMINATION TESTING SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE

In February of 2009, Seed Enhancements established at the Pukekohe site its own Seed Germination Testing Facility.

With the arrival of Katharina Linke, the laboratory was "set up from scratch". For the best part of 2009, as part of Seed Enhancements quality control procedures post pelleting or coating of seed, seed germination testing has been

all carried out in house, right above the factory where it has been processed.

With a year of comprehensive germination testing now completed we are pleased to be able to offer our germination testing services to our Customers.

If you have any doubts about the germination of the seed you intend to sow or have sown, for the small fee our lab germination test could save you thousands.

With our local facility here in Pukekohe, it gives the added benefit for you to be able to discuss directly with Katharina the test results or view the germ test trays for yourself.

From April we will also be able to offer seed vigour testing also.

SEED SAMPLING PROTOCOL

If you are bringing a seed samples in for testing please ensure you bring in at least 200 seeds approx, and that this quantity is a good representative sample from the seed lot, i.e.: 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.



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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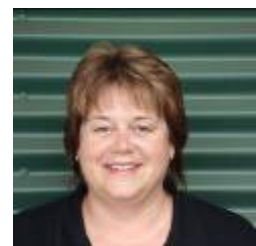
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Early Brown Onion Options

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 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.

Seminis 39002

2009 has been the first season of commercial plantings in the Franklin area, and the results from the early maturing Hybrid have been impressive. These results follow on from extensive trialing in the district and 39002 should provide a good option for a machine harvestable early onion, that has some short storage potential.

39002 features include very good plant vigour and excellent uniformity in both size and shape with very firm bulbs.

Sow mid –May / Early June—Harvest late December



New Introductions for 2010

Grenade

New hybrid from Terranova seeds, maturing at a similar time to Dominator. Grenade is vigorous with medium sized globe shaped bulbs, good skins and some short term storage potential. Good option for growers to follow on from a first early. Limited seed available for 2010

Sow Late May to Early June for mid December maturity.



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.



XP Red— Early maturing red onion for suitable for fresh market. Bulbs have a medium red internal and external red colouration.

Sow late May to mid June for a mid to late December harvest.

Electric— Open Pollinated red onion from Premier seeds. Very vigorous variety with strong tall erect leaves. Produces a shiny dark red bulb that is suitable for fresh market. Electric typically produces higher tonnages than other early red onions.

Sow from mid June to early July for a early January harvest



Red Star—*Red Onion with excellent storage potential*

Tried with good success over the last couple of seasons, Red Star from Terranova seeds offers growers a red onion with versatility, having a deep red colour and excellent storage potential.

Sow from mid July to mid August for a mid January 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



Cabernet—

New hybrid Red Onion from Terranova trialed over the last two seasons in the Franklin area. Cabernet's outstanding feature is its intense dark red outer skin colour, and dark red internal rings, with a uniformed globe shape. To date in trials Cabernet has offered medium term storage. Limited seed available for 2010.

Sow from July to August for a Mid to late January harvest.

Ceylon—

Seminis Vegetable Seeds have been working with Ceylon for the last three years in trials on the trial station in Pukekohe and on growers farms.

Ceylon is a hybrid red onion that has improved bulb shape over XP Red and is highly single centered. Ceylon has a medium red external colour and develops its strong internal colour 3 to 4 weeks after lifting. Ceylon will store for 3 to 4 months and has PRR resistance and tolerance to FBR.

Sow from Mid May to Mid June for a early January harvest



Onion Seed Coating



Seed Enhancements Ltd



SEED & FIELD SERVICES LTD

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. Propure can be used in any full organic planting program.

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



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



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	Sumisclex 500SC	1-2%	Procimydone
	Onion Maggot	ProGuard	2%	

Want to Know if it will Grow???

**Fast, efficient and local Seed Germination Testing Service available NOW.
Contact Grant, Philip or Andrew for further details or to submit your seed**

Introducing Katharina Linke



Hello—My name is Katharina Linke. I come from Germany, where I did my apprenticeship as an Agricultural Lab Technician for KWS Saat AG. Here I was mostly involved with Wheat, Barley and Sugar beet. Upon my arrival in New Zealand I worked for Seed Solutions, where I did the quality control and was involved with maize, sweet corn and other vegetable trials. I have also just completed another course at Massey University involving Seed Germination.

I have been living in New Zealand since 2006, and came to work here at Seed Enhancements in 2009. I currently conduct the quality control, and have set up and maintained the Seed Priming and Germination Testing Facilities.

I have enjoyed the challenge of starting the Seed Priming and Germ Testing facilities here, and look forward to adding a new dimension to these.

Autumn/Winter Brassica Sowing Suggestions

Cauliflower—

Omeo— Sow from early January to mid April

Sirente— Sow from mid April to mid June

Cabbage—

Green Cabbage

228

Napoleon

Empire

Sow until end of June

Red Cabbage

Cairo —

Sow Year Round

Broccoli—

Marathon

Heritage

Legacy

Sow January—late June

Autumn/Winter Lettuce Sowing Suggestions

Iceberg—

Wintergreen— Sow from Mid February to May

Winguard

Award

Sow from late February to April

Gitanas—

Sow from May to Mid July

New Introduction—Spinach

Seminis PALAOS (RS 3411)

A Semi Savoy type spinach with mid late maturity. Palaos is similar to SPIT-FIRE but not quite as dark in colour. The growth habit is semi erect with slightly more vigour than Spitfire. Palaos has excellent uniformity and leaves are rounder than Spitfire. Suitable for both Bunching and Baby Leaf production.

DMR 1-10

