

SEED & FIELD SERVICES LTD

Newsletter

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Winter 2009

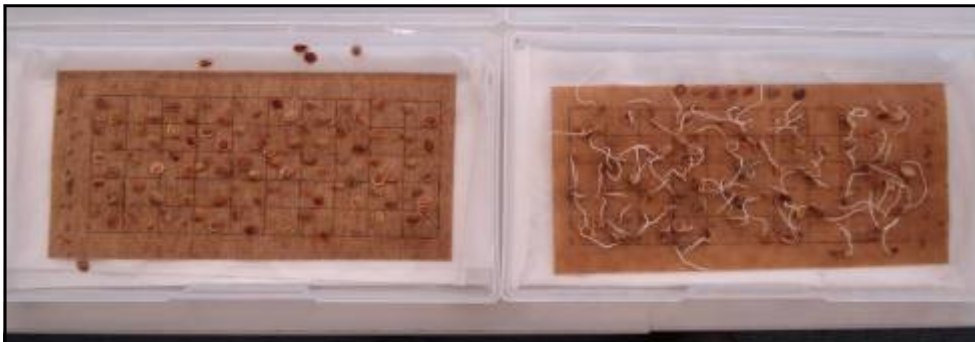
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Winter is now well upon us with frosts coming at regular intervals—we have probably already had the normal yearly quota by today (June 22nd), with still plenty of winter to come.

SEED PRIMING

Seed Enhancements now has 3 months of seed priming work “under it’s belt”. We have been working with Spinach, Parsnip and Onion seed to date. With all seed types we have been able to

bring germination forward as you can see the photo below with Parsnip seed—in this case germination was brought forward by 14 days.



Unprimed V Primed

We will be doing intensive work with mid-winter and early spring onion plantings over the next two months before focusing back on Parsnips for spring planting in Ohakune and the South Island.

As the winter to date has been a cold one we would expect onions to germinate more evenly and quickly allowing more timely onion herbicide application. We will keep you updated as the season progresses.

Visit our Website at www.seedandfield.co.nz

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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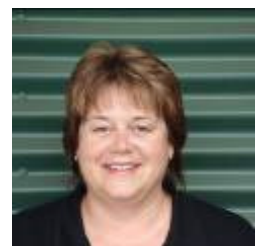
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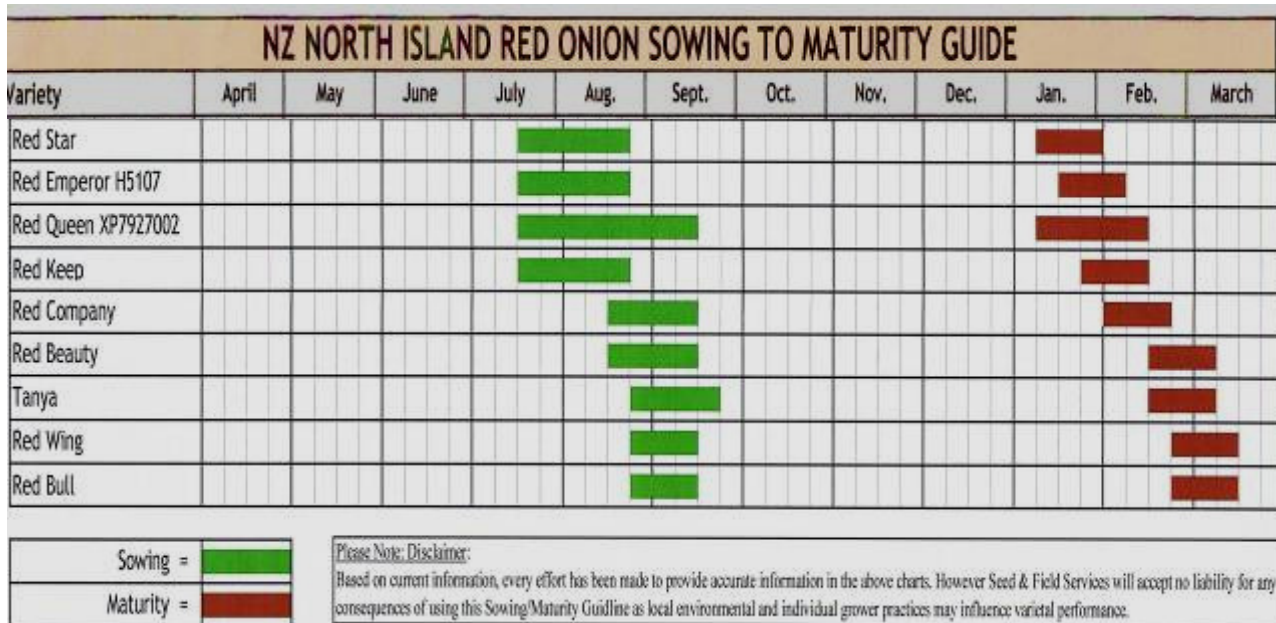
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Red Onions—July/August Sowing Options

RED QUEEN— (Formerly trialed as 27002) - an early- mid season red hybrid that is flat globe shaped with good internal and external colour, it has excellent vigour and produces a high percentage of large bulbs that are ideally suited for peeling. Suitable for export to South East Asia and Pacific Rim markets. Intermediate resistance to Fusarium basal rot.

RED EMPEROR—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.

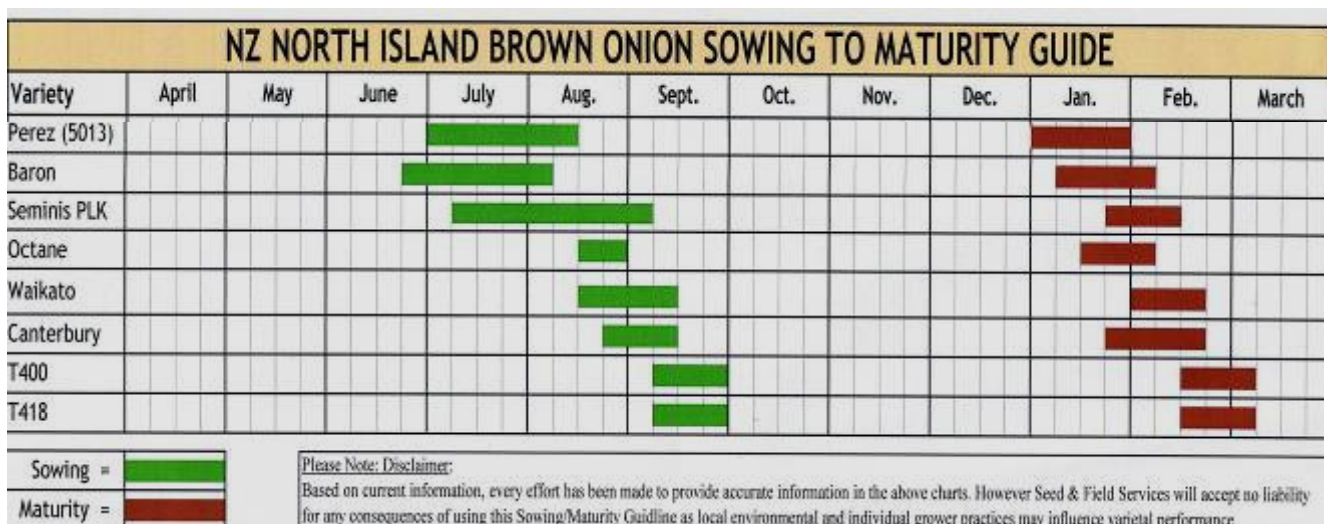
RED KEEP— Excellent yields and quality typify this open pollinated storage variety with Pukekohe Longkeeper blood-lines. Red Keep typically displays superior resistance to bolting compared with most red varieties in this timeframe. Five to six months shed storage is possible with Red Keep. Proven as suitable for export shipping.



Brown Onions—July/August Sowing Options

WAIKATO— a mid to late season New Zealand adapted Pukekohe Longkeeper hybrid. It has excellent storage with a shorter growing time frame than typical Longkeeper lines, and is well suited for export.

SEMINIS 19045—A recent introduction from Seminis, 19045 is a high yielding hybrid onion that can be stored for up to 5 months. Sow from Mid July to the end of August for a mid January to Mid February harvest.



Product Profile - Summer Cauliflower



NOVA

Nova is a well established variety for Summer harvest. Nova has displayed excellent flowering reliability through the demanding warm weather period. Quick and very uniform maturity for high percentage first harvest. Medium sized frames, strong wrapper leaves and bright white, attractively shaped curds featuring density, depth and good bottom "tuck".

Nova harvests best from January to late May



SUMMERLOVE

The current premium Summer harvest variety for quality and consistency. Summer Love features the best cauliflower wrapper leaves we have seen. The bright white curds have excellent weight, depth and feature a strong bottom "tuck".

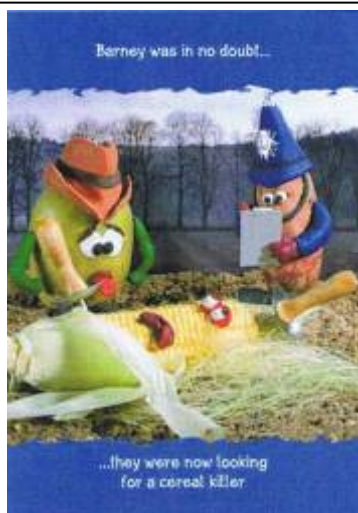
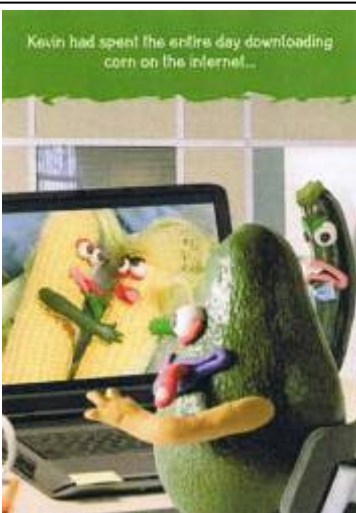
Summer Love harvests best from January to early June.

HIGHFIELD

Tried within the Franklin area over the 2006/2007 season., Highfield has continued to show good results in commercial planting for 2008. Previous positive results in trials highlighted the effectiveness of the club root resistant breeding, as shown in this photo's taken from a local trial. (Highfield on the right).

Highfield Club Root Resistant Cauli, offers an option for growers when dealing with the problem of club root.

Highfield harvests best from January to April



Summer Brassica Sowing Suggestions

Summerlove—Sow July to January

Nova—Sow August to January

Highfield - (Clubroot Resistant) - Sow July—December

Green Cabbage

Cabaret —Sow July to March

Ducati—Sow July to November

Red Cabbage

Red Baron — Sow Year Round

Cairo

Kremlin Sow July to Mid February

Red Dynasty

Arcadia

Liberty Sow July to January

(Suggestion for Trial)

Agassi

Serenity Sow July to December

Werribee Fielddays 2009—Victoria, Australia

Werribee 2009— A good contingent of Pukekohe Growers attended this years fielddays in Melbourne once again. With rumours that this may be the last on the current site, there was a good turnout. There was a strong focus on babyleaf salad varieties shown in the seed company trial plots in what appears to be a very competitive market in Australia.

The vegetable plot trials were again extensive requiring a good amount of time to see everything. It is also a great opportunity to catch up with representatives from various seed companies to discuss trends across the ditch and gaining some insight into what may be on offer in the near future.



