

Hybrid Barley Husbandry Guide

Spring 2015

There are two main varieties of Hybrid barley sown in Ireland; **Volume** and **Quadra**. For the purpose of this information we will categorise these under the same guidelines. There are 4 essential steps to follow to ensure you get your Hybrid Barley crop to yield to its maximum potential:

1. Autumn Sowing Rates

Hybrid barley, as with other hybrid crops - are drilled at a lower seed rate to maximise the potential of hybrid vigour, yield and grain quality. Recommended sowing rates 200 per m² (approx 100 kilos per Ha).

2. Nitrogen Application

Trials have shown that an early application of nitrogen will increase yield level. **Volume** and **Quadra** will need the same total dose of nitrogen as conventional feed barley. **All crops irrespective of sowing date should be inspected prior to Nitrogen application to determine tiller numbers per square meter.** Early sown crops may show tiller numbers greater than 1000+ per m². The following are the guidelines for Nitrogen application based on sowing date and tiller numbers.

- ◆ Early Hybrid barley crops sown between September 2014 weeks 1-3 *or* with tiller numbers greater than 1000 per m²:

Fertiliser Application	20%	50%	30%
GS	25+	30-31	32-37

- ◆ Hybrid barley crops sown after 20th September 2014 *or* with tiller numbers less than 1000 per m² achieve consistently high yields by using the below nitrogen application programme:

Fertiliser Application	30%	50%	20%
GS	25+	30-31	32-37

All crops should be inspected by your agronomist prior to planning your Nitrogen application programme and as crop growth stages can vary from site to site. You must work with your agronomist when calculating nitrogen rates, taking into consideration end market requirements and the fertility of the field.

3. PGRs; Plant Growth Regulators

Hybrid barley is drilled at a low seed rate to achieve the full yield and grain quality potential. Growth is rapid from GS 30 on so the following PGR programmes are recommended.

Standard PGR Programme

T1 GS 30-31 Moddus 0.2l/ha + CCC 75% 1.0l/ha

T2 GS 37-39 Moddus 0.3l/ha or etephon based PGR

4. Fungicide Use - A Robust Fungicide Programme

Volume has good resistance to the key diseases Rhynchosporium and Net Blotch, however to enhance grain fill, yield potential and grain quality. Volume will benefit from a robust fungicide programme.

Quadra has an excellent disease package and as with all cereal crops it will respond to a robust disease programme.

Core Fungicide Programme

T0 Amistar Opti (1.25l/ha) +/- **Tern** (if Mildew present) will help to protect against early disease infection. There are reports of Brown Rust in some early sown crops. Spray with Amistar Opti 1.25-1.5 litres/ha plus Tern 0.5-0.7 litres/ha. Use the higher rates where disease present. Apply as soon as conditions allow.

T1 Bontima (1.8-2.0 litres/ha) at T1 will provide clean stress free green lower leaves to build yield potential.

T2 Bontima (1.8-2.0 litres/ha) + **Bravo** (1.0l/ha) at T2 gives outstanding disease protection and green leaf retention for optimum yield and grain quality.

DISCLAIMER - The information given in this document is for general guidance only. Whilst every care has been taken to ensure it is accurate, it is out of necessity, of a general nature and variation in growing environment or climate can render it inaccurate.

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