

DRUMMOND



a grain oat

Drummond is the highest yielding, white, grain oat recommended for spring sowing in Southland and West Otago, and autumn/winter sowing in Canterbury. In Southland trials, Drummond's yield averaged 6% above Charlton and 19% above Makuru. In Canterbury trials, Drummond's yield averaged 17% above Otama. Drummond is not recommended as a forage oat. Drummond was selected in Gore from the Crop & Food Research/Fleming & Co. oat improvement programme.

Key features

- *Very high yielding oat*
- *Good quality if well managed*
- *Later maturing than Makuru*
- *Good crown rust resistance*
- *Suitable for Southland spring sowing*
- *Suitable for autumn sowing in Canterbury*

Southland characteristics

Drummond is capable of producing both very high yields and good quality. Its yield is higher than Charlton and Makuru yields. Screenings can be higher than Charlton with a lower hectolitre test weight than Charlton and Makuru. Seed weight and groat percentage are similar to Makuru but lower than Charlton. **Drummond** matures later than Charlton and Makuru. It is similar in plant height to Makuru but shorter than Charlton. It has good resistance to crown rust, and moderate resistance to septoria and barley yellow dwarf virus.

Southland management

Sowing

Drummond consistently performs best when sown early at low to medium rates. The recommended sowing rate is 110-120 kg/ha. **Drummond** matures later than Charlton and Makuru and where possible should be sown before mid-October. Avoid exceeding the recommended sowing rates especially in high soil nitrogen (N) situations.

Fertiliser and diseases

Milling oats have similar N requirements to barley. Previous cropping and fertiliser history, grower experience and soil N tests are useful guides to the amount of N likely to be available to the crop.

Growth regulators should be used on potentially high yielding crops of **Drummond**.

Fungicides are not usually recommended but may be required to reduce septoria infection in wet spring conditions, or crown rust in high disease pressure situations in late summer.

Straw strength and harvesting

It has moderate straw strength but lodging can occur if sown after pasture or other high fertility situations where soil N is high.

Drummond has good resistance to preharvest grain loss but, like all milling oat crops, should be harvested as soon as possible after harvest maturity to avoid grain discoloration.

Canterbury characteristics

Drummond's yield is higher than Makuru and Otama yields. Screenings are lower than Makuru and Otama, with a similar hectolitre test weight. Seed weight and groat percentage are slightly higher than those of Makuru and Otama. **Drummond** matures a few days later than Makuru and Otama and plant height is shorter. It has good resistance to crown rust and moderate resistance to septoria and barley yellow dwarf virus.

Canterbury management

Sowing

Drummond consistently performs well when sown in a wide range of fertility conditions, responding well to autumn and early winter dryland sowing or late irrigation if spring sown. The recommended autumn sowing rate is 100-110 kg/ha. Avoid higher sowing rates especially in high soil nitrogen (N) situations.

Fertiliser and diseases

Milling oats have similar N requirements to barley. Previous cropping and fertiliser history, grower experience and/or soil N tests are useful guides to the amount of N likely to be available to the crop. Growth regulators should be used on potentially high yielding crops of **Drummond**.

Fungicides are not usually recommended but may be required to reduce crown rust infection in high disease pressure situations during summer.

Straw strength and harvesting

It has good straw strength, but like most oats lodging can occur in high fertility situations, resulting in lower test weights, increased screenings, poor grain fill, discoloration of the groat and consequently lower grain yields.

Drummond has good resistance to preharvest grain loss but, like all milling oat crops, should be harvested as soon as possible after harvest maturity to avoid grain discoloration.

Marketing

Crop & Food Research, as head licensee, has appointed Central Grain & Produce in Southland as seed production licensee. Fleming & Co. contract seed requirements can be sourced directly from Central Grain & Produce or through their traditional suppliers. In Canterbury, seed can be sourced through Peter Cates Ltd or Pyne Gould Guinness.

Acknowledgements

Crop & Food Research acknowledges the ongoing support of the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology, the Foundation for Arable Research, Fleming & Co., Central Grain & Produce, and Southland growers.

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