

# Aleksandra

## winter barley

Agrovista  
exclusive

Aleksandra is a specialist feed variety designed for livestock farmers who require an easy management, contractor-friendly crop, a bold sample for rolling on-farm use and loads of clean straw for bedding and adding fibre to the feed mix.

If growers are looking to simply maximise grain yield and barn-filling tonnage then there are numerous varieties such as RESOLUTE and 6-row hybrids that will cover that requirement.

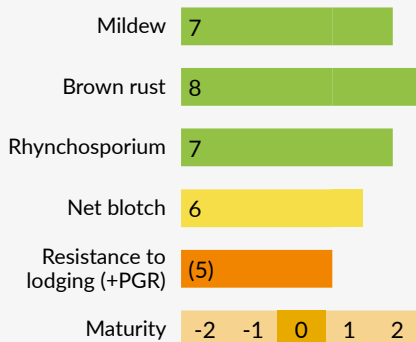
Aleksandra has the best untreated yield of any 2-row winter barley thus far nationally trialled within the UK in recent history, with one of the highest specific weight values ever recorded. It is moderately taller than most winter 2-row feed types giving straw yields any livestock farmer would be delighted with.



### Aleksandra - 2 Row

Data drawn from AHDB RL 5-Year Report 2020 - 2024  
REML Model 3 and 2025/26 AHDB winter barley RL

- Aleksandra is a two-row feed barley with **exceptional** disease resistance and the highest untreated yield and specific weight of **any** variety of its time in official trials
- Untreated yield highest of any variety three years running
- Medium to long strawed perfectly suited to livestock farmers - easy to manage feed variety with max straw yield
- PGR recommended



REGION	YIELD
UK	(101)
EAST	(102)
WEST	(101)
NORTH	(99)
Untreated yield	(97)
Light soils	(100)
Heavy soils	(101)
Spec. weight	72.2

Bracketed data highlights a low number of trials in dataset and cannot be presumed accurate.

growing through innovation

"Last year's crop [of Aleksandra] yielded just short of 8t/ha with a specific weight of 67kg/hl at 13% moisture. Screening losses were very low and straw yield extraordinary" Robert Vines, Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Aleksandra's straw is taller than most 2-row varieties, but not as tall as 6-rows. A three PGR programme would be recommended for highly fertile soils or earlier drilled land. It is important to understand that when varieties are trialed within the AHDB Recommended List plot management protocol, trial operators are tasked with making varieties lodge – they have specific trials for this purpose.

Such trials are not assessed for yield or disease levels. The back cropping and soil type locations are selected with the sole purpose of promoting stem lodging or brackling. Nitrogen quantities are increased and timings adjusted accordingly.

"While this helps to differentiate between varieties in trial it also unnecessarily deprives UK growers of significantly beneficial new varieties which managed correctly on suitable soil can offer key managerial and time-saving benefits" Stuart Cree, Seed Technical Manager.

## Winter barley trials harvest 2023

Control varieties	Yield treated (T) - UK	Yield treated (T) - East	Yield treated (T) - West	Yield treated (T) - North	Yield untreated (UT) (% treated controls)	Lodging % (UT)	Brackling % (T)	Straw length (cm) (UT)	Ripening (days +/- KWS Onwell)	Specific weight (kg/hl)	Mildew (1-9)	Brown rust (1-9)	Rhynchosporium (1-9)	Net blotch (1-9)	BaYMV	Variety type
Mean of controls (t/ha)	9.7	9.1	9.4	11.2	9.7	-	-	-	289	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LSD 5%	3.4	5.0	5.4	4.1	5.3	4.9	0.7	8.4	1.0	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	
ALEKSANDRA	103	(105)	(100)	(101)	(99)	(12)	11	(102)	0	73.3	7	8	7	5	R	Two-row
CRAFT	93	93	93	94	81	(1)	8	(94)	0	71.3	6	7	6	5	R	Two-row
FUNKY	103	103	102	104	88	(4)	14	(94)	0	70.3	5	7	6	5	R	Six-row
ELECTRUM	96	96	97	96	82	(4)	6	(94)	-1	71.5	6	7	5	5	R	Two-row
SY KINGSBARN	107	107	107	107	83	(10)	11	(109)	0	71.6	7	5	6	5	R	Six-row hybrid
LG MOUNTAIN	100	100	101	99	84	(3)	22	(87)	0	71.9	5	7	5	5	R	Two-row

SOURCE: AHDB RL candidates harvest 2023



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**Robert Vines**  
Marlborough, Wiltshire



*It's vigour alone speaks volumes; as well as producing robust plants that could be very useful for shading blackgrass out.*

**Colin Chappell**  
Lincolnshire

"Many livestock farmers use contractors to spray their crops at peak work-load periods. With changeable weather patterns and resources stretched, having a variety which can resist yield-robbing disease longer than all others will prove financially beneficial" concluded Stuart.

Aleksandra has an 8 for brown rust resistance and 7 for rhynchosporium and the highest untreated yield while in official trials. Its treated yield was equally robust matching control varieties and out-yielding KWS Tardis in private trialling 2 years running. In the wetter west of the UK where crops are severely tested with adverse weather, Aleksandra has shown its true potential.

## 2-Year untreated yield, Ireland harvest 22-23

Control varieties	Yield as a 100% control Untreated	Yield as a 100% control Untreated	MEAN 2 Year Untreated Yield
	7.49 t/ha	5.6t/ha	6.45t/ha
ALEKSANDRA	118	122	120
CASSIA (C)	89	102	95.5
INFINITY (C)	103	85	94
BELFRY (C)	108	113	110.5
KWS TARDIS	84	106	95
BORDEAUX	89	104	96.5

SOURCE: Breeder data 2022-2023

High specific weight also helps in other quarters. From a crop establishment perspective, a bold, large grain will boost seedling vigour and offer better establishment in difficult conditions.

Seed grower Colin Chappell, who drilled Aleksandra autumn 2024 was delighted with Aleksandra's rate of emergence.



"I used the usual seed rate of about 200kg/ha," says Colin. "In hindsight, that might have been too much – the Aleksandra went into a pretty fertile situation and the seed was the biggest I've ever seen and full of vigour. But, having lost crops during the wet autumn the year before, I was being a bit cautious.

"It was certainly impressive – the crop raced out of the ground and tillered so well that I decided to put the brakes on it, delaying the first nitrogen until the second week of March, limited to 60kg/ha.

"It's vigour alone speaks volumes; as well as producing robust plants that could be very useful for shading blackgrass out.

"The variety has a very good specific weight, helped by its excellent disease resistance. It could be a very attractive variety as a feed barley, and if it has good thick stems it could be a good one for the AD market as well. If it performs as I hope, it will be a definite contender on this farm."

## Drought tolerance

While disease resistance and high specific weight are key attributes to manage wet conditions, straw length is a recognisable trait within most cereal species that denotes good drought tolerance. In the drier parts of the eastern region a tall-strawed variety will generally offer better durability and greater stem carbohydrate reserves to withstand drought better. Having a high specific weight will also retain yield.

C2 Aleksandra seed will be limited autumn 2025 due to circumstances beyond Agrovista's control. Please order early to guarantee availability.