

# mindful

## winter wheat

Agrovista  
exclusive

**Mindful group 4 hard feed was launched in autumn 2023 offering growers an alternative to the later drilling window of its predecessor Sartorial.**

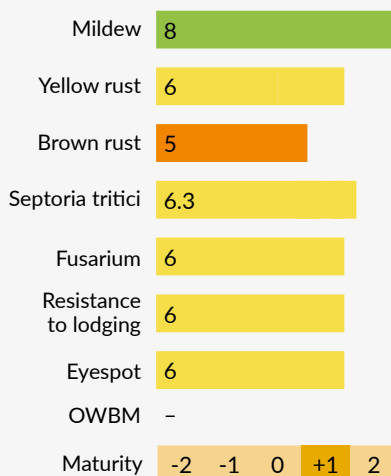
With a very different genetic profile of Evolution x Costello, new variety Mindful brings the drilling window forward into late September allowing growers to spread their workload during that busy period.

Where conditions require, however, Mindful also performs well later drilled which when coupled with its early maturity and high specific weight, ensures yield is not compromised.

## Mindful

Group 4 Hard

- Best mildew score of any AHDB RL variety/candidate
- Outyields Dawsum in east and Champion in north
- Good early drilling yields - 105 over two years, third highest overall (including Dawsum/Champion) in 2022
- Compliments Sartorial with earlier drilling window and differing genetics to reduce disease pressure on farm
- Has equivalent specific weight to Dawsum through same Costello parent
- Performs well as a second wheat and on heavy land
- Mindful appears to have inherited from its parent Evolution the latter's good scavenging capability, with competitive yield both early and late-drilled



REGION	YIELD
UK	104
EAST	104
WEST	104
NORTH	(103)
Untreated yield	91
First cereal	104
Second cereal	(104)
Light soils	(101)
Heavy soils	105
Spec. weight	79.3

At its inception in 2023 Mindful's presence in the AHDB 5 year early sown trials where all sites were drilled before the 25th September placed its performance in the top 10 varieties out of 56.

Where drilling is delayed or following first-lift break crops Mindful also offers high yield opportunity. Again, its high specific weight (coming from the Costello parent) helps to maintain good sample quality and consistent yield.

### Winter wheat RL early sown trials 3 year (adjusted from 5yr treated)

Name	Type	Mean	% Cont	Count	Angus	NYorks	Nrthum	MLoth	Camb	Fife	Nrthum	MLoth	NYorks	Camb
Year					2021	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023
LSD 5%		0.53	4.60		-	0.68	0.87	0.69	0.52	0.67	0.69	0.49	0.37	0.50
Sowing date					22 Sep	18 Sep	13 Sep	13 Sep	11 Sep	10 Sep	13 Sep	15 Sep	13 Sep	09 Sep
Soil type					L-sand	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	L-sand	Medium	Medium	Shallow	Medium
<b>MINDFUL</b>	<b>Hard</b>	<b>11.77</b>	<b>103.4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10.03</b>	<b>13.12</b>	<b>12.26</b>	<b>12.95</b>	<b>13.08</b>	<b>12.37</b>	<b>13.02</b>	<b>9.76</b>	<b>11.71</b>	<b>12.22</b>
GLEAM (C)	Hard	11.71	102.8	34	10.47	13.12	12.25	12.68	12.84	12.01	13.61	9.72	12.18	12.05
LG SKY- SCRAPER (C)	Soft	11.58	101.7	24	10.38	13.05	11.99	12.45	12.97	10.96	13.47	9.48	12.40	11.89
KWS EXTASE (C)	Hard	11.50	101.0	13	10.06	13.46	-	-	-	-	12.71	9.41	12.68	12.00
KWS BARREL (C)	Soft	11.23	98.6	34	9.63	12.28	11.53	11.69	12.80	10.76	12.56	10.07	11.75	11.04
SKYFALL (C)	Hard	10.92	95.9	34	10.33	12.47	10.84	11.24	12.07	10.55	13.43	8.79	11.33	11.78

(C) = yield control

SOURCE: Part AHDB winter wheat RL Early sown trials 2023 – valid sites, - locations represented to show geographical spread per year. Mindful compared against all controls.

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*The most important point for me is Mindful's specific weight. It generally flies through the plant, and we get a really bold good quality sample out the other end*

**Claire Vergette**

Seed Production and Site Manager, Agrovista

### 3-year yield and specific weight across sowing dates

Variety		MINDFUL		DAWSUM		CHAMPION		SKYSCRAPER	
		Yield (t/ha)	Spec weight	Yield (t/ha)	Spec weight	Yield (t/ha)	Spec weight	Yield (t/ha)	Spec weight
Harvest 24	Oct sown	11.07	75.5	10.79	77.7	10.4	67	10.4	64
	Nov sown	11.51	80	-	-	10.76	77	-	-
	2nd wheat	10.69	67	10.23	72	9.47	67	10.48	64
	Scotland	10.01	-	9.99	-	-	-	9.66	-
Harvest 23	Oct sown	10.52	74	10.87	74	-	-	11.57	72
	Nov sown	10.6	71	10.77	72	-	-	10.92	71
	Scotland	12.78	78	12.94	79	-	-	12.14	77
Harvest 22	Sept sown	14.6	-	14.76	-	15.1	-	14.29	-
	Oct sown	12.37	-	12.75	-	12.48	-	13.26	-
	Nov sown	15.44	-	14.13	-	14.71	-	15.61	-
	2nd wheat	11.4	82	-	-	-	-	11	80
	Scotland	11.5	82	11.5	83	11.9	79	11.02	80

SOURCE: Agrovista AgX trials / Agrovista screening trials / supplementary data trials SAC

Giles Western of G. Western & Partners, Brundish, Suffolk grew Mindful for seed across three different years. Harvest 22 he drilled early, following fallowed land prior to which was late-lifted sugar beet. The crop achieved a respectable 12t/ha.

This compared favourably with KWS Dawsum following early-lifted sugar beet at 11.1 tonnes per hectare. Such was the performance of Mindful that Giles grew the variety a second year with 22 hectares in a second wheat position and a further 35.5 hectares as a first wheat, spread over a range of dates – early drilled following oilseed rape and late drilled after sugar beet.

It's easy to forget when analysing results the growing conditions that the crops endured in any one year.



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*The performance of Mindful drilled in ideal conditions early season and its resilience to equally perform late-drilled, or in compromised conditions whether in trials or commercially on farm, reflects the flexibility of the variety*

**Stuart Cree**  
Seed Technical Manager

Harvest 23 was a case in point following one of the wettest autumns and spring weather patterns. Crops suffered from difficult and later drilling conditions, many subsequently had rooting close to the surface when dry weather finally arrived followed by a wet harvest.

“The Mindful drilled in December achieved just under 10t/ha” commented Giles, pleased on the 23rd August that all was finally in the shed. Of that yield he had 4 metres around the headland that had looked terrible all season drilled during a frost.

The 35ha of first wheat Mindful averaged 9.71t of collected tonnage for use as seed with specific weights ranging from 72 to 78 kg/hl and TGW up to 48gms.

Just north of Giles bordering into Norfolk Simon Pretty, GLA Farms harvested his first crop of Mindful, trying it for the first time to see what it could do. “Due to it being so wet we really mauled it in following late-lifted sugar beet and were pleased to see it achieve 9.84t/ha” said Simon. GLA now have 29 hectares Mindful as a second wheat and a further 50 hectares following sugar beet for seed production harvest 25.







"The performance of Mindful drilled in ideal conditions early season and its resilience to equally perform late-drilled, or in compromised conditions whether in trials or commercially on farm, reflects the flexibility of the variety" concludes Stuart Cree Seed Technical Manager Agrovista. "By incorporating Evolution as a parent, the breeder has widened the variety's sowing window of opportunity, giving growers confidence that Mindful will deliver performance even in difficult conditions".

## Disease resistance

Mindful has Evolution as a parent, a Danish variety with a three-way parent cross pedigree. Costello is a second parent from which it gains its high specific weight. Genetic diversity is essential in today's environment with some 70 varieties of winter wheat present in the market from a relatively small number of UK-active breeders. 2024 proved to be a high-disease year for winter wheat and some trial locations had significant pressure from septoria tritici, yellow and unusually brown rust.

At our AgX trial site in Cambridgeshire, drilled on 2nd October on fenland, key feed wheat varieties were put to the test. Mindful performed better than some varieties such as Typhoon which are generally recognised as highly resistant varieties.

This emphasises the importance of spreading risk by growing more than one variety and checking pedigree to diversify parentage.

## Yield (t/ha at 15% moisture content) **AgX**

Variety	Type	Untreated t/ha	Treated t/ha	Increase t/ha
MINDFUL	Hard 4	6.04	11.63	+ 5.6
LG REBELLION	Hard 4 candidate	7.30	12.24	+ 4.9
KWS DAWSUM	Hard 4	7.17	11.85	+ 4.7
LG TYPHOON	Hard 4	5.79	11.51	+ 5.7
CHAMPION	Hard 4	6.07	11.33	+ 5.3
LG BEOWULF	Hard 4	5.18	9.70	+ 4.5

SOURCE: AgX trial Cambridgeshire

## Specific weight (kg/hl)

Variety	Type	Untreated t/ha	Treated t/ha	Increase t/ha
MINDFUL	Hard 4	63.9	74.57	+10.7
LG REBELLION	Hard 4 candidate	65.2	72.80	+7.6
KWS DAWSUM	Hard 4	68.2	76.87	+8.7
LG TYPHOON	Hard 4	61.4	73.00	+11.6
CHAMPION	Hard 4	58.8	67.10	+8.3

SOURCE: AgX trial Cambridgeshire

## We donate 10% of our Mindful seed sales profit to our partner charities

### FCN | THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

"There are many varieties of seed on the market with incredibly imaginative names but "Mindful" encapsulates a caring and understanding approach to our farmers and one that we fully encourage within the agricultural community whether that is being mindful to ourselves or others. It is a commendable step for Agrovista to reinforce the message of awareness by naming a variety of wheat Mindful and with this, raising vital funds for the charity for which we are incredibly grateful."

The Farming Community Network (FCN) is a voluntary organisation and charity that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of people in farming and provide support at times of difficulty and change. In addition to local groups of volunteers, FCN runs a confidential national helpline (03000 111 999, open 7am-11pm every day of the year) and e-helpline (help@fcn.org.uk).

**Georgina Lamb**  
Senior Partnerships Manager at FCN

### RSABI

"Our thanks to the Agrovista team for coming up with innovative idea of supporting the farming community through the launch of the Mindful wheat variety," said Carol McLaren, CEO of Scottish agricultural charity, RSABI.

"We are delighted that, along with the Farming Community Network, RSABI will benefit from 10% of the profits of the sale of Mindful seed. However, bigger picture, the initiative has been helping to raise awareness of the importance of mental health in farming and reminds people to look after themselves and look out for others who may be struggling.

The PR and social media coverage which accompanied the launch of Mindful has also helped raise awareness of RSABI's 24/7 Helpline - 0808 1234 555 – and the practical, financial, and emotional support available."

**Carol McClaren**  
Chief Executive at RSABI