

Agrovista
exclusive

Resolute

winter barley

One would be forgiven to think that if a variety is not on the AHDB Recommended List (RL) then there is no interest and little point in persevering.

But the RL isn't what it used to be as the protocol for acceptance has meant over time that acceptable varieties all follow a similar theme and anything out of the ordinary falls by the wayside.

Agrovista market successfully six cereal varieties that are not on the RL. All have added nuances that are not recognised by the protocol and ultimately ignored by the Recommended List Committee who hold judgement on decision day.

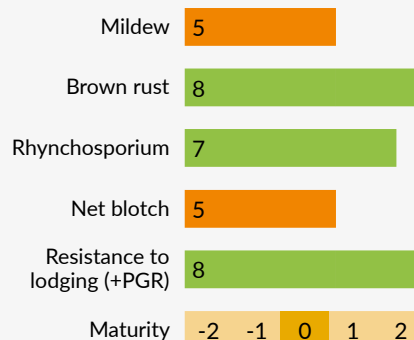


Seed crop Resolute DJK Harrison - yielded 9.0t/ha across 25 hectares as a second barley crop on chalk Yorkshire Wolds. Picture taken 23 June. Grain quality good, specific weight from 64.9–66.5 kgs/hl at 14.5% moisture. Screenings 0.4–0.6% through 2.25mm sieve.

Resolute - 2 Row

Data extrapolated from AHDB RL 5-year report 2020-2024 and breeder data

- Limited data suggests outperforms LG Caravelle and KWS Tardis on light soils and KWS Tardis in the east
- Good untreated yield helped by excellent brown rust and rynchosporium resistance combination
- Very few varieties commercially available and of the same high yield have such a robust combination of scores for these two diseases
- Good standing on par with KWS Tardis
- Excellent quality sample to maximise market eligibility for UK and export feed markets



REGION	YIELD
UK	105
EAST	(106)
WEST	(100)
NORTH	102
Untreated yield	90
Light soils	(105)
Heavy soils	(103)
Spec. weight	70

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

Resolute winter barley has better standing than LG Caravelle and higher yields than KWS Tardis. Within the agronomics of a conventional 2-row feed winter barley where it produces a high specific weight, bold grain, lower screenings and in consequence higher useable grain tonnage, Resolute also brings three other benefits to the grower.

1. Disease resistance

Resolute is the highest yielding commercially available variety that is resistant to both brown rust (7) and rhynchosporium (8). The latter is the most damaging disease of UK barley and in the most severe cases can cause yield reductions of up to 1.5t/ha with reduction in grain size too.

Resolute offers genetic diversity of Dutch origin reducing risk of infection, and increasing the safe-spraying time window to protect the crop when weather prevents application.

Looking at performance in AHDB Official trials 2022/23 there is an argument to suggest Resolute would be a safer proposition than growing a marginally higher yielding hybrid winter barley (see table below).

2. Safer bet than a hybrid barley?

Based on official trial yield results if all disease is managed correctly and yield is not compromised, then there is an opportunity of making £66/ha more from growing the hybrid SY Kingsbarn instead of Resolute. This is reduced to £35/ha when the difference in the price of seed is taken into consideration.

However, get the disease management wrong and there is a risk of losing up to £168/ha compared to growing Resolute instead.

Further benefits in growing a 2-row feed winter barley such as Resolute or Aleksandra over a 6-row hybrid:

- Reduced investment outlay in seed cost
- More flexibility in adjusting sowing rate to seedbed conditions
- Ability to be able to farm-save the seed reducing investment cost still further
- Seed quantities per unit pack can be insufficient if drilling is delayed or seedbed quality compromised. Northern growers of hybrids would need to increase rates to 240/250 seeds/m² in such circumstances making input cost excessive.
- Faster establishment and ground cover and more resilient crop coming out of the winter (see table opposite).



Seed Crop Gardner, Essex. Resolute Harvest 15 May 2025.

Winter barley NL 2-year report 2022-23 extract

Benefit disease resistance Resolute over SY Kingsbarn

Year	Treated			Untreated		
	Mean	2022	2023	Mean	2022	2023
SY KINGSBARN (C)	10.85	10.66	11.14	8.31	7.61	9.00
KWS TARDIS (C)	10.23	10.32	10.43	8.83	8.44	9.21
RESOLUTE	10.45	10.52	10.50	9.33	9.11	9.55
Difference/ha	0.4t/ha x £165 = £66/ha			1.02t/ha x £165 = £168.30/ha		

SOURCE: AHDB / BSPB 2-year VL trials 2022-23

3. Vigour and establishment

AgX variety trials and feedback from growers repeatedly highlights the spring vigour of Resolute compared to hybrid varieties. From the outset the variety has been ahead of competitor varieties harvest 2026 trials.

Winter barley variety trial Lampport



Variety	Seed rate /m ²	% ground cover		
		07/11/2025	10/12/2025	13/01/2026
SY KESTREL	245	34.7	87.5	87.3
SY KINGSBARN	245	35.5	89.8	91.4
SY QUANTOCK	245	33.9	87.3	92.9
ALEXANDRA	350	34.3	90.2	94.6
LG CARAVELLE	350	41.3	92.3	95.2
RESOLUTE	350	54.5	93.3	96.1

SOURCE: AgX Winter Barley trials Lampport Harvest 2026



Resolute vigorous spring growth – March Wiltshire



Resolute is the highest yielding commercially available variety that is resistant to both brown rust (7) and rhynchosporium (8)



Resilient Resolute winter barley exceeds expectations in Essex

High yields of grain and straw across two very different seasons and two contrasting soil types in Essex have clearly demonstrated the consistency and reliability of Agrovista's exclusive two-row winter barley variety Resolute.

Ben Sell, who manages 320ha of combinable crops, rotational grass and energy crops from the family farm near Basildon has grown Resolute for seed for the past two seasons.

"We put about 60% of the harvest 2025 crop on very sandy, stony ground and 40% on very heavy clay," says Ben. "Both fields followed maize and were sown on 7 October at 150kg/ha with a combination drill into land worked with a Simba DTX."

The crop sprung out of the ground and tillered strongly going into winter. "One thing that really stands out is Resolute's vigour," he adds.

"It seems to put plenty of root down and really motored in the spring. If you can get a crop in and away like that it becomes much more resilient when it comes to disease, weather and environmental challenges. "That, coupled with its excellent disease resistance, takes the pressure off the inputs spend and makes management much easier."

No T0 was applied as the crop looked clean. T1 consisted of prothioconazole + fluoxastrobin + n to protect against rhynchosporium and net blotch. Cyflufenamid was added for mildew, along with growth regulators trinexapac-ethyl and chlormequat.

T2 included a top-up of fungicide, ethephon + mepiquat growth regulator and 3 ALO t6p, a foliar treatment that maximises seed and grain filling to optimise yield and quality. No T3 was required due to the dry weather.

"One thing Agrovista stressed was the importance of keeping a seed crop standing, which is why we stepped up the growth regulator programme," Ben recalls.

"We have a digester on farm so we put organic matter down ahead of the heavy-land crop, so we needed to play safe. We used the same growth regulator programme on the light land too. "It worked really well, but the thing that really surprised me is how much straw the variety still managed to produce despite the amount of PGR applied. It averaged over 5t/ha across the whole area which we sold for good money. That gave us a very useful uplift to the overall margin."

Despite the dry weather and at times searing heat, the Resolute was no slouch when it came to yield either. The 8ha heavy-land crop averaged 8.6t/ha over the weighbridge. The 12ha crop on light land unsurprisingly could not match that, but it still averaged 5.4t/ha, producing an overall average of 6.7t/ha. Seed quality was all it needed to be.

"We were very, very pleased with the result, give the significant drought stress our crops were under at various points in the season," says Ben.

The previous wetter season Ben's Resolute averaged 7.2t/ha across 20ha, all of it on light land. "For a variety you don't have to throw the kitchen sink at, the margins are pretty good. "I didn't need much persuading to grow the variety again this year and I'll certainly have another go next year if required.

For anyone who wants a great commercial variety with good disease resistance, great straw yield and plenty of grain to feed to their cattle, Resolute will take some beating

Ben Sell
Essex

