

## UK TRIALS CONFIRM DK EXALTE ROBUSTNESS

Confirming its particular robustness in a difficult season, DK Exalte is yielding just ahead of V3160L at an average 103% of controls in the first five 2016 NIAB-TAG trial sites harvested. This contrasts with a 5% performance deficit to the 2015/16 East & West Region RL leader in the advisory group's trials in the much higher-yielding 2015 season.

Importantly too, DK Exalte has shown a noticeably greater 107% average performance advantage over the controls in the two lowest yielding of this year's NIAB-TAG sites. Here, it stood second only to DK Exclaim in the 28 variety rankings.

While results have yet to come in from northern RL trials in which it is included, the variety is also showing a clear improvement in its relative performance this season in other independent trials. Average seed yields of 108% of controls – on a par with V3160L – in the first major distributor variety trials harvested, for instance, compare with an average 105% yield advantage recorded over the past two seasons – well behind the 2015/16 RL leader.

Separate trial results from other distributors involving up to 30 varieties put DK Exalte at the top of their rankings with yields of 120% and 113% of trial means, respectively.

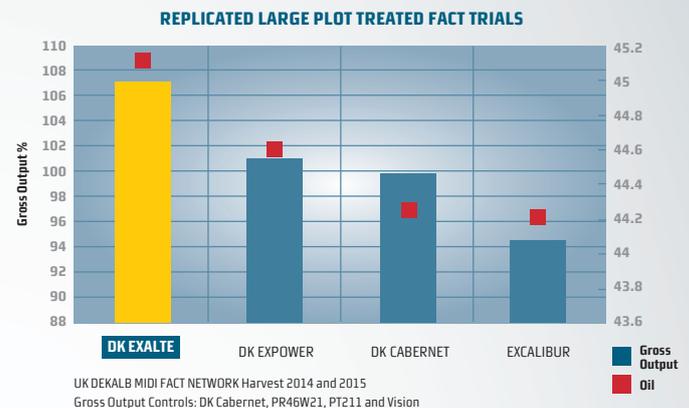
### DEKALB YIELD-PROTECTING TRAITS

Independent trial monitoring over 2015 and 2016 suggests especially high autumn vigour, speed of spring development and light leaf spot resistance ratings, together with low verticillium infection levels, as key drivers of DK Exalte's performance.

Gross Output	105%
Oil Content	44.5%
Lodging Resistance	8
Stem Stiffness	7
Pod Shatter Resistance	YES
Height	154 cm
Earliness of Flowering	6
Earliness of Maturity	6
Stem Canker Resistance	8
Light Leaf Spot Resistance	8
Autumn Development	Rapid

Source: AHDB 2016-17 Recommended List (North Candidate List) and Monsanto private trials

## PERFORMANCE



Rapid autumn development means that, as well as being suitable for the main drilling window, DK Exalte is one of the best varieties for delayed sowing or less-than-ideal sowing conditions.

Combined with relatively early spring development, this character has been found to be especially valuable in combatting flea beetle, slug and pigeon problems.

Very high cross-the-board disease resistance also gives the greatest possible flexibility in spray timing and opportunity for fungicide savings.

Experience on a number of farms affected by storms in the run up to and at harvest this season has further proved the commercial value of the variety's pod shatter resistance.



Picture: Abbey Farm, Hoo in mid-Suffolk after intense hail storm damage 10 days before harvest, devastating 3ha of a leading RL hybrid (right) while leaving 7ha of the main DK Exalte crop (left) relatively untouched

### DANISH TRIAL-TOPPING PERFORMANCE

DK Exalte topped independent Danish trials run under farm regimes with the country's most popular varieties by a considerable margin.

Yielding an average 110% of controls across the five trial sites, the RL Candidate was fully 4% ahead of its nearest rival, DK Explicit. This and a 16% yield advantage over the only Top 10 East & West Region Recommended variety in the trial set underlined its strength in a season every bit as challenging as our own.