Clubroot

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CLUBROOT RESISTANCE ADDS TO HIGH YIELDING DEKALB VARIETY

Clubroot resistance bred intospecific DEKALB varieties provides you with the performance protection you need for crops grown on land infected with common strains of the disease.

Secure your OSR crop with the right disease management solutions from DEKALB.

- Clubroot in rapeseed typically causes WOSR losses l of 0.3 t/ha for every 10% severity.
- Rapeseed Clubroot can persist in soil for more than 15 years in areas area with brassica species.
- The optimal solution for protecting your field from clubroot disease starts with choosing the right hybrid.

Clubroot has become noticeably more widespread in recent years across the UK with the soil-borne disease increasingly being found in fields where it had never previously been seen. Across sites and seasons, clubroot typically causes losses of 0.3 t/ha for every 10% of plants affected, with the most serious yield reductions occurring where dry summers place a particular strain on compromised root systems. Warmer, wetter autumns are thought to be the main reason for increasing clubroot problems, with modelling based on climate change predictions suggesting escalating risks in the years ahead.

The wide range of alternative hosts for the rapeseed clubroot – including most cruciferous weeds and brassica species – allows soil inoculum levels to build-up in the absence of OSR crops. The fact that resting spores are very robust and can remain dormant but viable for 20 years is a further complication.

Furthermore, there are no chemical control options and the agronomic strategies available all have a fairly limited affect.

Under these circumstances, the best way to manage this growing threat is to recognise it early, identify areas at particular risk and target them with the most integrated controls.

We have been building valuable resistance to the most common clubroot strains into increasingly high output varieties to help with this situation. Like all varieties with this resistance, they are likely to show some root damage from other strains of the disease.

While they do not yet have the performance potential of our highest output varieties where the disease is not present, varieties with our clubroot resistance significantly out-perform them on infected land, allowing economic yields to be secured from sites where they would otherwise be impossible.

Our resistant hybrids also have the sort of resilient agronomics previously only available in our other varieties, including particularly vigorous establishment and root development to provide the best tolerance of infections from strains of the disease unaffected by their resistance.

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Over-reliance on varieties which all share the same original source of resistance must be avoided if we are to safeguard this hugely valuable resource from breakdown. So, we recommend varieties with clubroot resistance are ever only be used as one element of the management programme.

Important cultural controls we advise alongside varieties with resistance include:

- Growing OSR no more frequently than once in every four years.
- Remedying any soil compaction or drainage problems.
- Checking soil pH regularly across all parts of the fields.
- Applying high calcium availability lime to maintain a pH of ≥ 7.
- Avoiding early winter rape sowing.
- Correcting boron deficiencies.
- Testing soils for clubroot in selected unaffected fields; and,
- Minimising soil movement on farm equipment.

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Clubroot varieties dekalb recommends!

DK PLATINIUM A combination of Clubroot resistance and DEKALB's pod shatter resistance. **Learn More**