

Invitation is a late maturing, yellow-fleshed swede, with high bulb and leaf yield. It provides excellent winter feed for sheep, cattle and deer.

High yield & disease tolerance

Invitation produces excellent total DM yields with good dry rot tolerance and resistance to club root and powdery mildew. *Invitation* is not recommended as a second crop.

Total DM yield, dry rot tolerance and club root infection level.

Cultivar	Total DM yield*	Dry rot tolerance**		Clubroot***
	(Trial mean =100)	% of bulbs not infected	% bulbs badly infected	% of bulbs not infected
<i>Invitation</i>	112 a	57 a	5 a	97 a
<i>Winton</i>	106 ab	49 a	21 a	100 a
<i>Aparima Gold</i>	104 b	36 ab	11 a	100 a
<i>Highlander</i>	101 bc	7 c	58 b	7 c
<i>Keystone</i>	100 bd	NT	NT	17 bc
<i>Major Plus</i>	95 cd	10 bc	56 b	18 bc
<i>Dominion</i>	91 d	6 c	71 b	23 b
Trial mean	11.7 t DM/ha	21%	41%	60%

*From 6 Southland trials, from 2006/07 to 2010/11. **From a Southland trial in 2008/09 under moderate to high dry rot pressure in a 2nd crop paddock. *** From a Southland trial in 2010/11 under moderate to high club root pressure in a 2nd crop paddock. NT = Not tested. Statistical significance lettering given for 5% LSD level, cultivars with same letter are not significantly different.

Good leaf yield

Invitation produces high leaf yields showing a significantly higher leaf percentage than other cultivars in trials. This lifts the overall protein level of the crop and is helpful when introducing swedes into an animal's diet, particularly for younger stock.

Bulb & leaf keeping ability

Invitation has shown high bulb keeping ability and leaf retention in trials, helping maintain its feed quality and quantity through to the end of winter.

Late flowering

Invitation is late flowering, making it a good option for feeding into spring (due to reduced risk of SMCO poisoning).

Using *Invitation*

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
	Sow			Graze						
Maturity Date:	170-250 days									
Typical yield:	10-16 t DM/ha									
ME:	12-14 MJ/kg DM									
Sowing rate:	0.5-0.8 kg/ha ridged 0.8-1.5 kg/ha drilled									