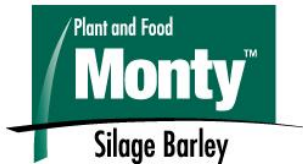


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Background

This unique barley has the visual difference (photo 1 & 2) of compressed and reduced awns which can minimise the damage conventional hard spikey awns can do to soft, sensitive mouth skin, reducing animal stress. Barley awns can remain quite sharp even in the stack.



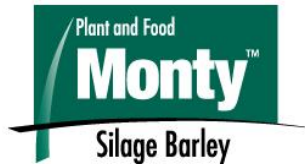
*Photo 1. Showing the hooded awned nature of **Monty** silage barley*



*Photo 2. Showing traditional barley left with the hooded nature of **Monty** silage barley right*

Monty shows very similar growth and maturity characteristics to conventional barleys, and when harvested at the optimal time, **Monty** produces silage with good levels of energy, sugars, soluble starch and digestibility.

Maturity will reflect the season but typically **Monty** will be mature for harvest in approximately 100 days in the North Island (if sown late September through into October). In Southland, with cooler summers, this could extend out to 115-120 days from a similar sowing date.



Production Data

Although yields will be influenced by a number of factors such as fertility levels, timing of sowing and on-going inputs, crop yields of 12 -14 tonnes DM/ha could be expected

Monty is a silage barley with high yield and quality that will perform in a wide range of environments. Trials show yields equal to or better than Salute and other commonly used cultivars in the Manawatu, Southland and Canterbury (figure 1). Superior straw strength is also a feature of this variety (photo 3).

Monty also has good tolerance to most leaf diseases (figure 2), but like all barleys, monitoring is the best practice to minimise disease pressure.



Photo 3. Monty showing superior straw strength vs another commercially available variety in the Wairarapa

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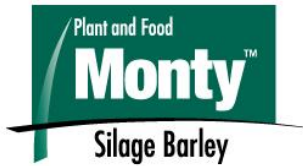


Figure 1. Whole crop cereal silage barley yields in kg DM/ha - for lower North Island and Canterbury sites

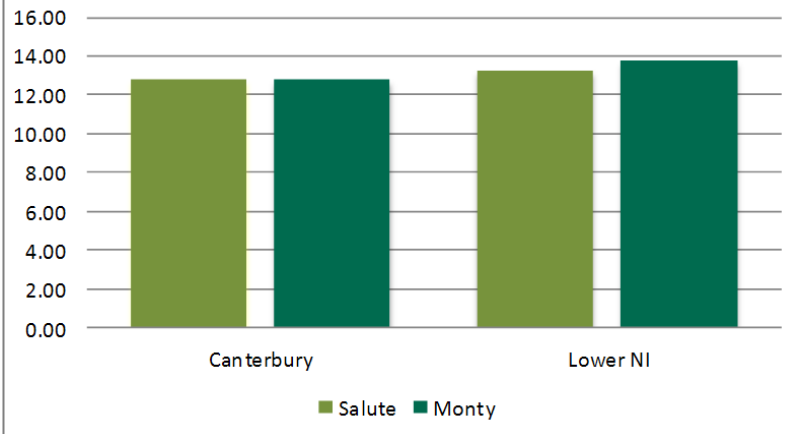
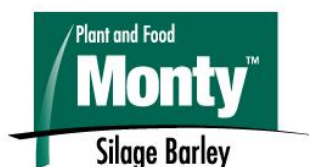


Figure 2. Whole crop cereal silage barley disease tolerance to net blotch and *Ramularia* from two sites and three sowing dates in the lower North Island





Monty Silage Barley - Management

Best results are produced by maintaining a proactive management programme rather than a reactive one, especially with a fast developing crop like barley. **Monty** should be managed similarly to other barleys.

A soil test including soil available Nitrogen (N) is essential to enable an informed decision to be made on N use, as this has a large influence on total yield.

Sowing **Monty** silage barley is typically sown during September to October in all regions but can be sown in August or November if conditions are suitable. Sow fungicide (Raxil) treated, and optionally Poncho insecticide treated, seed at approximately 150 kg/ha **at 4-5 cm depth** to establish 275-300 pl/m² with a N based fertiliser (e.g 200 kg/ha of cropzeal 16 N or DAP). 100-150 kg/ha of urea can also be incorporated before sowing or top dressed soon after sowing in intensively cropped soils where fertility may be reduced.

3-4 weeks after sowing (2 leaf stage, GS 12, weeks are a guide only)

Herbicide and Insecticide; If not using Poncho treated seed, then use an insecticide to minimise Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV). (e.g. Karate Zeon at 40 mls/ha, can be added with the herbicide). Select and apply appropriate herbicide. Weeds can affect both the yield and quality of cereal silage and can be sprayed at an early stage. Apply up to 150 kg/ha urea as a final fertilizer application (GS 22-29) mid tillering

5-7 weeks after sowing (GS 30-32, late tillering, as rows begin to close over)

Fungicide, Insecticide, Herbicide and Growth Regulator;

Apply Proline to keep the crop clean as it begins to become denser. Add final herbicide if needed for late emerging or tough perennial weeds. Include final insecticide as young plants are more sensitive to BYDV. e.g. Karate Zeon. In high yielding crops or wet and/or windy areas where lodging may be a problem during grain filling as the head weight increases include the growth regulator Moddus @ 200mls/ha.

8-9 weeks after sowing (GS 39-51 early flag leaf – ear emergence)

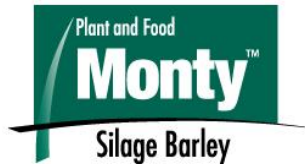
Fungicide;

Apply a final fungicide (Proline/Acanto). Check withholding periods for all chemicals.

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13-15 weeks - Harvest (can be 10-14 days longer in cooler environments) Whole crop silage should be harvested when the grain is at the “cheesy dough or putty” stage and no moisture can be squeezed from the grain. The heads will have been out for 25-35 days and they will have started changing colour from green to light green-yellow. This gives an excellent combination of yield and quality at the ideal moisture content for good compaction (35-38% dm)



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