



## Background

**Sovereign** kale is a medium-tall, late-flowering kale, which does not produce large thick stems like giant kales, even at lower plant densities. **Sovereign** has a very high yield potential, up to 18 t/ha, although average yields are in the 12-14 t/ha range, depending on management and environment.

**Sovereign** generally has leaf to stem ratios of about 50% leaf and 50% stem, which is a much higher leaf content than giant kales, while not quite as much as some of the shorter leafier varieties. This leaf-to-stem ratio is a strength of **Sovereign** as it does have a very high top end yield potential while maintaining good quality characteristics.

The majority of **Sovereign** sowings occur from late November through to mid-late December. Earlier spring-sowings can be used and these crops are often lightly grazed through February, a system more prevalent in the North Island.

**Sovereign** has been successfully sown from late-January to mid February providing a crop for July and August. This sowing date produces a lower yield, more similar to a rape, but very high quality, that provides excellent utilisation right through to late winter.

## Characteristics

Suggested Sowing Time	Suggested Sowing Rate (kg/ha)	Time to first grazing	Number of potential grazings	Potential yield
Late Nov to late Dec	4	18-24 wks	1	Average = 12-14 t/ha Top = 18 t/ha
Late Jan to Mid Feb	4	14-18 wks	1	8-10 t/ha
Late Oct	4	14-16 wks	2	Accumulated = 14-15 t/ha

# Agrinote



Pastures for Profit.®



- ✓ Medium-tall kale with excellent yield potential
- ✓ Late-flowering variety which maintains a leafy crop into early-September
- ✓ Good leaf-to-stem ratio with a high yield potential
- ✓ Relatively thin-stemmed variety, particular when compared with giant kales

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