



# **Leaders** in the Organic Field

2025



Western Seeds, Clover Park Farm, Narberth, SA67 8EY



info@westernseeds.com



+44 (0)1834 861 904

#### Contents

Building up Your Soils Fertility	
Agri-Grant Schemes	6
Agricultural Herbage Mixtures	7-11
Why Organic Farmers Choose WS Arable Silage	12
WS Arable Silage Mixtures	13
Forage Brassicas	14
WS Cereal Blends	15
Combicrops®: Growing Your Own Concentrate	16-19
Ordering & Delivery Information	20



# Welcome to Western Seeds Ireland Ltd.

A big hello to all organic farmers in Ireland.

It was a pleasure to see so many of you last July and look at the growing crops on your farms.

Despite spending 30 days in Ireland, the rapid expansion of organic customers meant I was unable to see all of you.

I was very impressed with many of the crops I saw, both grass leys and arable, considering the poor spring and very late sowing date this caused.

With a little more co-operation from the weather, the potential for profitable organic forage and arable is second to none in Ireland.

When you read this, the 2025 growing season will be just around the corner.

I thank you for your support in past years and look forward to supplying you with your organic seed requirements in 2025.

John Faulconbridge | Managing Director





www.westernseeds.com/ireland.html

## **Building Up Your Soils Fertility**

Profitable and sustainable organic farming is based on our ability to maintain soil fertility.

Grass leys are the main fertility building crops, with cereals, potatoes etc the main fertility depleting crops.

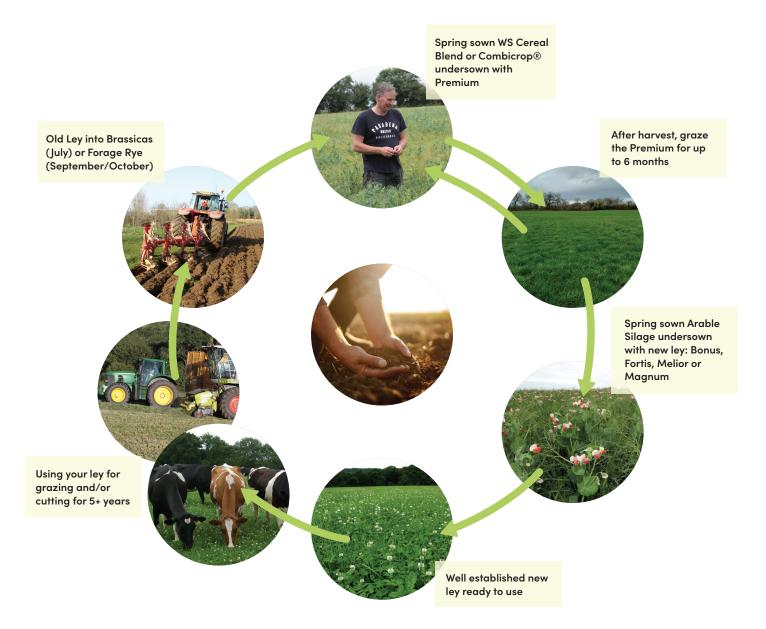
Good, effective crop rotations are the key to maintaining soil fertility and the health of your bank balance.

All organic farms are different in their potential to produce saleable products off farm.

At Western Seeds we have the proven knowledge and quality organic seed to help you establish a sustainable farm rotation that works for you:

- Combicrops®, WS Spring Cereal Blends and Arable Silage Mixtures
- Full range of herbage leys
- Soil protection/fertility building mixtures and stock forage mixtures

#### An Example of a Western Seeds Organic Rotation



Give us a call, we are happy to help you design an organic rotation that will work for you.



### The Importance of Crop Rotations for Organic Farming

An effective crop rotation is crucial for the success, profitability, and sustainability of your organic farm. Well-planned rotations avoid common organic farming challenges and maintain long-term productivity.

Relying on day-to-day decisions without a proper rotation plan often leads to serious issues in the field, ultimately lowering the overall profitability of the farm. Unlike conventional farming, organic farmers cannot rely on artificial fertilisers, herbicides, or insecticides to resolve these problems.

### How Crop Rotation Benefits Soil Fertility

In organic farming, crop rotation works as a method to build up soil fertility before using this fertility to grow a cash crop – such as cereals – then repeating the cycle.

The goal is to ensure that soil nutrients are available to your cash crops when they need them most. Timing is key. If you plough up a grass ley in the spring and immediately plant a spring cereal crop there may not be enough readily available nutrients in the soil for the cereal to thrive. This can result in the need to apply valuable animal manures, reducing the nutrients available for other areas of the farm, such as your grass conservation areas.

In addition, the old sward is likely to contain pests such as leatherjackets and wireworms, which then cause significant plant losses in the cash crop.

### Timing the Breakdown of Old Leys for Maximum Nutrient Release

To avoid these issues, it's beneficial to plough the old ley in July or August and plant a cover crop, like brassicas or forage rye, which can be grazed over autumn or winter. This approach gives the old ley time to decompose, allowing the built-up nutrients to be released back into the soil while starving out insect pests.

By the time you plough and sow again in spring, the new cereal crop will have access to all the nutrients it needs to give high yields, without requiring additional slurry or farmyard manure.

#### **Reliable Grass Reseeding**

Since grass plays a vital role in building soil fertility, when it is time to sow a new ley it is important to follow good reseeding practices. A poorly established ley will not only struggle to suppress persistent weeds, but it will also fail to contribute the necessary nutrients to support future rotational cropping.

We recommend sowing your new ley under one of our WS Arable Silage mixtures (see page 33).

## Agri-Grant Schemes

The Government in the Republic of Ireland have introduced financial grants which will aid the purchase of cereals, pulses, brassicas and herbage mixtures for your farm.

Western Seeds have worked very hard to produce a range of grass and cereal mixtures proven to be suitable for farmers and growers in Ireland.

By studying your national herbage recommended list you will notice we are using varieties at the very top the list.

The grass growing potential in Ireland is second to none. Therefore, it makes financial sense to enhance that potential by using the very best herbage varieties available to you for 2025.

The government grant aid schemes can change from year to year, and we are currently waiting for confirmation of 2025 specification requirements from TEAGASC.

If the grant aid requirement is changed in any way for 2025 we will be pleased to adjust the mixture to meet the new grant aid requirement.

When purchasing seeds under grant aided schemes it is important to verify with the ministry that the mixture is suitable for the grant before purchase.

If you need more information, we are always happy to help.

### MAGNUM Red and White Clover Silage Ley

Unique to Westerns Seeds, organic MAGNUM is a mixture of red and white clover blended with proven quality high D-value grasses.

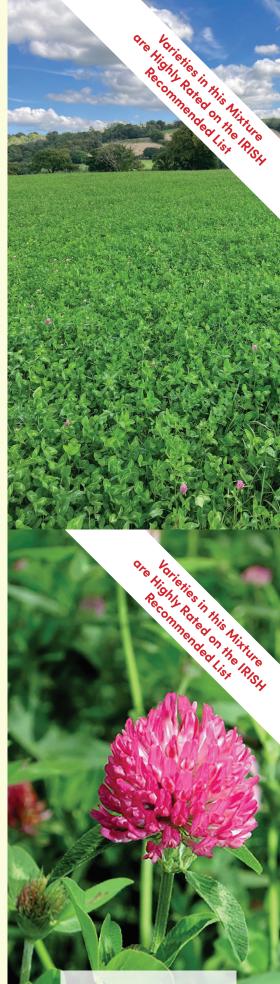
MAGNUM will give you at least four cuts of high quality forage a year – over five years with good crop management.

70% Organic MAGNUM contains		Kilos
Organic ABERCLYDE Tetraploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		2.00
Organic ABERSPEY Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		3.00
Organic ABERCHOICE Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		3.00
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		1.80
Conventional ABERCLARET Red Clover		3.00
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover		1.20
Avaialble in 1 Acre (14 Kilo) bags	Total:	14.00

### MAGNUM PLUS Red and White Clover Silage Ley

MAGNUM PLUS has all the benefits of MAGNUM but contains 4 Kilos of red clover. MAGNUM PLUS was suitable for the Red Clover Silage Measure (RCSM) reseeding grant in 2024, but please see page 6 about Agri-grant schemes in 2025.

70% Organic MAGNUM Plus contains	Kilo	s
Organic ABERCLYDE Tetraploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass	1.0	0
Organic ABERSPEY Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass	3.0	0
Organic ABERCHOICE Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass	3.0	0
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass	1.8	0
Organic MILVUS Red Clover	1.0	0
Conventional ABERCLARET Red Clover	3.0	0
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover	1.2	0
Available in 1 Acre (14 Kilo) bags	Total: 14.	00



**Disclaimer:** Before ordering seed for grant schemes please see page 20.



### MELIOR White Clover Silage Ley

Organic MELIOR is an outstanding herbage mixture unique to Western Seeds and contains high D-value grasses with white clovers. It will give at least four cuts of high-quality forage a year, over five years with good crop management. It can also be used as a grazing ley, giving an early bite for cows, cattle and sheep.



#### **Controlling Eelworm**

Alternate sowing of organic MAGNUM with organic MELIOR works well to minimise red clover eelworm buildup in the soil.

70% Organic MELIOR contains			
Organic ABERCLYDE Tetraploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		3.10	
Organic ABERWOLF Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		2.50	
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		3.50	
Conventional ABERGREEN Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		1.90	
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover		1.00	
Conventional DUBLIN White Clover		1.00	
Available in 1 Acre (13 Kilo) bags	Total:	13.00	

### BONUS Long-Term Dual-Purpose Ley

One of our most popular mixes because of its all-round versatility. Each year, only the very best perennial ryegrass herbage varieties are selected for our organic BONUS.

70% Organic BONUS Plus contains		Kilos
Organic ABERCLYDE Tetraploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		1.50
Organic ABERSPEY Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		2.50
Organic ABERCHOICE Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		2.50
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		2.60
Conventional GALGORM Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		1.40
Conventional COMER Timothy		0.50
Conventional ABERHERALD White Clover		1.00
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover		1.00
Available in 1 Acre (13 Kilo) bags	Total:	13.00

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### PRIMUS Long-Term Grazing Ley for Wet Conditions

Organic PRIMUS, with its mixture of timothy meadow fescue and white clover, is proven over many years to produces a ley that will persist on problem, wet fields.

70% Organic PRIMUS contains	Kilos
Organic LAURA Meadow Fescue	5.00
Organic WINNETOU Timothy	2.00
Conventional COMER Timothy	1.00
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover	1.00
Conventional ABERHERALD White Clover	1.00
Available in 1 Acre (10 Kilo) bags	Total: 10.00

### SALVUS Rejuvenation Mixture

Organic SALVUS has been specifically formulated by us to quickly restore damaged leys to full production without the need to plough them up.

Broadcast or direct drill at 5 to 10 Kgs/Acre, depending on the original grass condition.

70% Organic SALVUS contains		Kilos
Organic ABERCLYDE Tetraploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass		3.00
Organic ABERCHOICE Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		3.00
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass		4.50
Conventional ABERECHO Tetraploid Hybrid Ryegrass		2.50
Conventional ABERHERALD White Clover		1.00
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover		1.00
Available in 15 Kilo bags	Total:	15.00



### PREMIUM Undersowing Mixture

This mixture has been specifically designed as a cover crop for undersowing spring-sown cereals as part of your cereal tillage crop rotations.

Used under a spring WS Cereal Blend (see page 13) or under a Combicrop® (see page 14) organic PREMIUM will improve the soil structure and capture any residual nitrogen and other plant nutrients, thus increasing soil fertility.

The carefully selected grasses used in organic PREMIUM will not grow through the cereal crop and so will not cause problems at harvest.

PREMIUM increases the productivity of your farm by providing you with worm-free grazing from autumn (after the cereal is harvested) until the following spring (when you plough for the next cereal crop or reseed).

Sow at 4 to 5 kilos per acre.

#### Why Choose Organic PREMIUM?

- » Improved sustainability of spring cereal cropping
- » 6 months of clean worm-free grazing (from September to March)
- » Winter cover for wildlife
- » Improved soil structure/texture
- » Reduced soil erosion over winter
- » Increased soil fertility

70% Organic PREMIUM contains	Kilos
Organic ABERCHOICE Diploid Late Perennial Ryegrass	10.50
Conventional ABERWOLF Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass	3.50
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover	1.00
Available in 15 kilo baas	Total: 15.00

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### HARMONY Dual-Purpose Herbal Ley

There is an ever-growing interest in the environmental benefits of herbal leys, with government environmental schemes promoting their use.

Intensive arable farms are now using herbal leys to control blackgrass, improve soil structure and boost soil organic matter.

Herbal leys are also being used to create more diverse grassland from existing intensive grassland and converting fields from arable to permanent grass.

HARMONY is a specialist herbage mixture that may be suitable for the Irish Multispecies Sward Measure Agri Grant scheme. Please see page 6 about Agri-grant schemes as we are waiting for confirmation from TEAGASC.on scheme requirements for 2025.

It will provide highly palatable, harvestable herbage over the summer months as well as enhancing the structure and texture of the soil.

With good sward management, HARMONY will retain a thick sward that will reduce weed-build up in the sward.

70% Organic HARMONY contains	k	(ilos
Organic ABERGAIN Tetraploid Late Perennial Ryegrass	:	3.60
Organic ABERSPEY Diploid Intermediate Perennial Ryegrass	:	3.00
Organic MILVUS Red Clover		1.50
Organic WINNETOU Timothy	(	0.30
Conventional COMER Timothy	(	0.40
Conventional ABERHERALD White Clover	(	0.75
Conventional ABERSWAN White Clover	(	0.75
Conventional PUNA II Chicory	(	0.70
Conventional AGRI TONIC Plantain		1.00
Available in 1 Acre (12 Kilo) bags	Total:	12.00



**Disclaimer:** Before ordering seed for grant schemes please see page 20.

## Why Organic Farmers Choose WS Arable Silage Mixtures



A well-established, productive ley is important for organic farmers: providing quality forage for their stock whilst rejuvenating and enriching the soil.

WS Arable Silage mixtures are specially developed for U.K. organic farmers who want a reliable way to establish a strong and healthy new ley in the spring, irrespective of the weather conditions.

#### WS Arable Silage mixtures are unique and should not be confused with wholecrops being marketed as "Arable Silage".

Wholecrop is harvested at the cheesy stage (typically 15-16 weeks post-sowing). Having the wholecrop on your new re-seed for this length of time results in the valuable grass being lost due to lack of light. The thin, weedy ley that is left then doesn't perform well.

WS Arable Silage is ready to harvest in just 9 to 10 weeks, allowing the newly sown grass ley to thrive.

#### Why Choose WS Arable Silage?

- » Reliable Establishment of New Ley: Proven, whatever the weather, to produce a good a thick, worm-free, weed-free ley in as little as 9 to 10 weeks, allowing your fields to be productive sooner.
- » Contains Forage Peas: Bulk up quickly, increasing the yield and protein content of the arable silage.
- » No Grain in the Bales: Less attractive to rodents.
- » High Yields: Achieve 6+ large bales of arable silage per acre (approximately 600 kilos each), making up for any loss of herbage when sowing grass in spring.
- » Fixes Nitrogen: The forage peas fix nitrogen to kick-start your new ley
- » Enhanced Clover Growth: Provides better conditions for the successful establishment of clover, particularly red clover.

### 70% Organic DUET Arable Silage

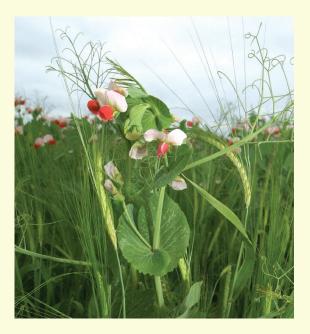
- Organic Spring Barley Blend
- Spring Forage Pea Blend

Sowing rate: 50 kilos per acre

### 70% Organic TRIUMPH Arable Silage

- Organic Spring Oats Blend
- Spring Forage Pea Blend

Sowing rate: 50 kilos per acre





### New: 70% Organic DUET PLUS and 70% Organic TRIUMPH PLUS

If you suffer with pigeons or crows, then DUET PLUS or TRIUMPH PLUS is the answer.

DUET PLUS and TRIUMPH PLUS contain vetch as well as the forage peas, so even if crows or pigeons eat some of the peas, the arable silage will still perform.



Sowing rate: 50 kilos per acre



## FORAGE BRASSICAS

Forage brassicas provide the ideal cover crop to utilise in the autumn/ winter before reseeding a field in the following spring with a grass mixture sown under a WS Arable Silage mixture.

### 70% Organic RAPID Rape/Kale/Stubble Turnip mixture

RAPID is a first-class blend of forage rape and leafy stubble turnip. It is fast to establish and produces a very palatable high-protein crop for all stock.

- Direct drill at 3 kilos per acre
- Broadcast at 4 kilos per acre

#### 70% Organic RAPID

- 70% Organic SAMPSON Stubble Turnips
- 25% Conventional HOBSON Forage Rape
- 4.7% Conventional INTERVAL Forage Rape
- 0.3% Conventional KESTREL Kale

Available in 12 kilo bags

### 70% Organic RAPID PLUS Rape/Kale/Stubble Turnip & Vetch Mixture:

Our RAPID PLUS mixture has all the benefits of RAPID, with the additional benefits of added vetch which:

- Improves the palatability of the feed
- Increases soil nitrogen availability for future cropping in the spring
- Gives the possibility of grazing the vetch in spring, before ploughing

#### 70% Organic RAPID PLUS Contains

70.0%	Organic EBENA Vetch
12.0%	Conventional HOBSON Forage Rape
9.7%	Conventional VOLLENDA Stubble Turnip
4.0%	Conventional SAMPSON Stubble Turnip
4.0%	Conventional RONDO Stubble Turnip

0.3% Conventional KEEPER Kale

Direct Drill or Broadcast. Available in 10 kilo (1 Acre) bags.

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## WESTERN SPRING CEREAL BLENDS

Our Western Spring Cereal Blends produce reliable, high yields with minimal disease and are a proven leap forward in modern-day organic farming.

### 100% Organic OVATION – Spring Wheat Blend

OVATION is a mixture of wheat varieties selected by us specifically for organic growers. These varieties ripen at the same time and have good disease resistance to cereal fungal diseases.

Sow at 125 Kgs/Acre

### 100% Organic ADVANCE – Spring Barley Blend

The barley varieties used in ADVANCE have been specifically selected for organic growers. These varieties make ADVANCE more resistant to variable yearly conditions in weather, fertility and field.

ADVANCE is suitable to combine dry, crimp or for wholecrop for animal feed. It is not suitable for malting.

Sow at 100 Kgs/Acre

### 100% Organic CONCERT – Spring Oat Blend

CONCERT oat blend has consistently outperformed single oat plantings, meaning organic farmers can now achieve commercial standards with their oat crop.

CONCERT is suitable to combine dry, crimp or wholecrop for animal feed. It is also particularly liked by millers due to its high-quality grain sample.

Sow at 75 Kgs/Acre



### **COMBICROP®**

#### Meeting the Growing Demand for Organic Meal in Ireland

As the number of organic farmers in Ireland continues to rise, so does the demand for locally produced organic meal. To ensure self-sufficiency and reduce reliance on imported animal feed, it is vital for Irish growers and tillage farmers to step up production.

Growing quality starch and protein sources is essential for formulating organic meal mixtures that support livestock across all sectors—dairy, beef, sheep, pigs, and poultry.

One proven solution is to grow Combicrop®.

Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a unique, registered product developed by the R&D team at Western Seeds that has earned the trust of both organic and conventional farmers in Ireland for over two decades.

Unlike imitators with similar names, Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a reliable, proven solution for modern organic farming.

Combicrop<sup>®</sup> consistently delivers high-protein and high-starch feed ideal for a variety of livestock. It also provides a robust foundation for creating poultry feed blends on-farm.

#### Sustainable Crop Rotations Are Key

A well-planned rotation is critical for maintaining soil fertility and sustainable production. A Grass – Combicrop<sup>®</sup> – Milling Oats – Grass rotation has proven highly effective in maintaining fertility on farm.

#### Ready to Try Combicrop®?

If you haven't grown Combicrop<sup>®</sup> before, now is the time to explore its potential. Get in touch with our seed specialists at Western Seeds and we will give you all the informatio0n you need.

#### 100% Organic PRIME Combicrop®

PRIME Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a precise blend of spring wheats and combinable peas. It will give you a total crop yield equal to, and in many cases higher, than straight wheat.

- Combine dry to produce a feed concentrate meal that is high in starch with 14 – 18% protein
- Combine crimped to produce a high-quality starch and protein concentrate for dairy cows, followers and fattening/finishing cattle.
- Wholecrop fermented harvested at 25% to 45% dry matter to feed on its own, or with grass silage to stock
- Wholecrop fermented/preserved harvested at 50% to 70% dry matter for feeding with other conserved forage.

Sow at 100 - 120 Kgs/Acre

#### 100% Organic HERALD Combicrop®

HERALD Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a precise blend of spring barleys and combinable peas. It will give you a total crop yield equal to, and in many cases higher, than straight barley.

- Combine dry to produce a feed concentrate meal that is high in starch with 14 – 18% protein
- Combine crimped to produce a high-quality starch and protein concentrate for dairy cows, followers and fattening/finishing cattle.
- Wholecrop fermented harvested at 25% to 45% dry matter to feed on its own, or with grass silage to stock
- Wholecrop fermented/preserved harvested at 50% to 70% dry matter for feeding with other conserved forage.

Sow at 100 Kgs/Acre



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#### 100% Organic CROWN Combicrop®

CROWN Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a precise blend of spring oats and combinable peas. It is best sown as your last combining crop in your tillage rotation as it will yield better than other Combicrops<sup>®</sup> in lower fertility situations.

CROWN will give you a total crop yield equal to, and in many cases higher, than straight oats.

- Combine dry to produce a feed concentrate meal that is high in starch with 14 – 18% protein
- Wholecrop fermented harvested at 25% to 45% dry matter to feed on its own, or with grass silage to stock

Sow at 75 Kgs/Acre

#### 100% Organic MORGAN Combicrop®

MORGAN Combicrop<sup>®</sup> is a precise blend of spring oats, spring barleys and combinable peas. Sales of MORGAN are increasing year on year and it is rapidly becoming the favoured choice amongst successful organic farmers.

- Combine dry to produce a feed concentrate meal that is high in starch with 14 – 18% protein
- Combine crimped to produce a high-quality starch and protein concentrate for dairy cows, followers and fattening/finishing cattle.
- Wholecrop fermented harvested at 25% to 45% dry matter to feed on its own, or with grass silage to stock

Sow at 100 Kgs/Acre

## CEREAL & BEAN COMBICROPS®

Farmers in Ireland are being financially encouraged to grow combination crops of cereals and beans as both forage crops and to combine dry.

The government target is to increase the production of protein in Ireland due to the ever-increasing cost of importing organic and conventional soya into the Republic of Ireland.

FORWARD and BOOSTER comply with the protein farmer payment schemes operating in the Republic of Ireland in 2024. Please see page 6 about Agri-grant schemes as we are waiting for confirmation from TEAGASC on scheme requirements for 2025.

A problem with beans sown as a sole crop is a leaf disease called Chocolate Spot. Since organic farmers cannot use fungicide, the entire crop can be at risk in certain cropping years.

The varieties used in our 100% Organic FORWARD and BOOSTER have been carefully selected for disease resistance, yield and standing power from a large source of different cereal and bean varieties available in the U.K. which have been found to grow very well in all areas of Ireland.

By growing cereal and beans together as a Combicrop<sup>®</sup>, research and experience have shown that the risk of Chocolate Spot in beans can be reduced.

### 100% Organic FORWARD Combicrop®

FORWARD is a precise blend of spring wheats and a spring bean formulated to work well together.

FORWARD needs a good fertile soil to yield well and so works best when it is used as the first cereal in your farm rotation.

FORWARD will yield a high-quality protein production ration when whole cropped or combined dry.

Sow at 120 Kgs/Acre

### 100% Organic BOOSTER Combicrop®

BOOSTER is precise blend of spring oat varieties together with an early ripening bean.

BOOSTER will yield better in less fertile growing conditions than Combicrop<sup>®</sup> FORWARD, so can be used as the second cereal onwards in your farm rotations.

BOOSTER will yield a high-quality protein production ration when both whole cropped or combined dry.

Sow at 100 Kgs/Acre

**Disclaimer:** Before ordering seed for grant schemes please see page 20.

### Ordering & Delivery Information

To guarantee the delivery of your organic/conventional seed requirements in good time and at the lowest possible price in early spring 2025, your collaboration would be appreciated.

You can help us by:

- Estimating what Cereals/Combicrops®/Grasses/Forage Crops for 2025 you need for your farm
- Calling or emailing us with your **provisional** seed order as soon as possible
- We will then process and hold/reserve this **provisional** seed order for you
- We will contact you to confirm your final seed requirements before dispatching your order

You can, of course, amend or cancel your provisional order at any time.

We need your help because to export from Wales to Ireland our quality certified seed must go through many additional testing and certification procedures to comply with E.U. regulations. These additional requirements take up considerable expertise and time. By placing your **provisional** order early, we can complete these procedures in good time, so enabling us to guarantee delivery of your seed when required.

Bulking up your seed order requirements (for spring, summer and autumn) will save you a considerable amount of money in delivering your order to your farm in early spring.

Your confirmed seed will be fully certified to the highest standard and delivered on one or more pallets via our depot in Newry, Northern Ireland.

To order, or for expert advice from one of our seed professionals, please contact our customer support team:

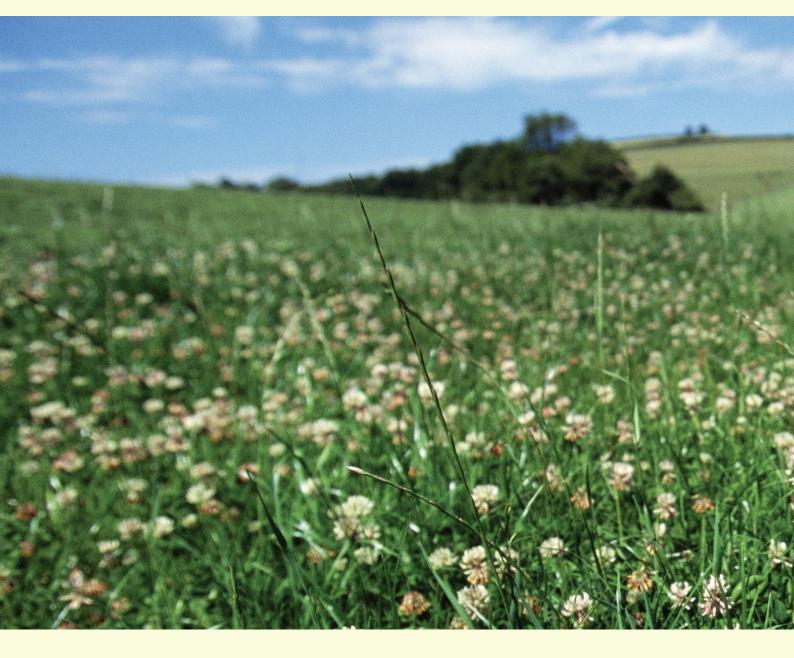
Tel: +44(0)1834 861 904

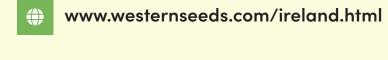
Email: sales@westernseeds.com

Please Note: Due to the additional testing and certification procedures required, any changes/ amendments you make after your order has been confirmed will cause significant delays in the delivery of your seed.

**Disclaimer:** Grant scheme information correct at time of publishing. We cannot accept any liability for the information provided and recommend you check with your governing body for any changes to scheme requirements **before** purchasing seed.









Western Seeds, Clover Park Farm, Narberth, SA67 8EY



