

Information & Performance Guide



Earnslaw is a traditional, yellow-fleshed swede superseding the current softest swede in the market, Major Plus. Earnslaw retains the same renown characteristics of Major Plus including early maturity and a soft bulb but has the additional benefit of improved dry-rot and *Alternaria* tolerance resulting in higher yields and better winter keeping abilities. The combination of soft bulb and greater disease tolerance makes Earnslaw swede an ideal swede option for all stock classes including younger growing animals.

Earnslaw is the next generation early maturing, soft bulbed swede

- Early maturing main swede crop
- Soft bulb swede like Major Plus
- Disease tolerance to dry-rot and *Alternaria*
- Improved leaf and bulb yield over Major Plus
- Yellow-fleshed, light, purple-skinned bulb
- Pelleted seed available



Farm type



Seasons



GROWING
Spring, Summer

GRAZING
Autumn, Winter

Days to grazing



From 150-220 days

NUMBER OF GRAZING
1

Sowing rate



CONVENTIONAL SOWING
OR DIRECT DRILLING
0.8-1.5 kg/ha

PELLETED
90,000 seeds/ha

POTENTIAL YIELD
18,000 kgDM/ha

UTILISATION
80%

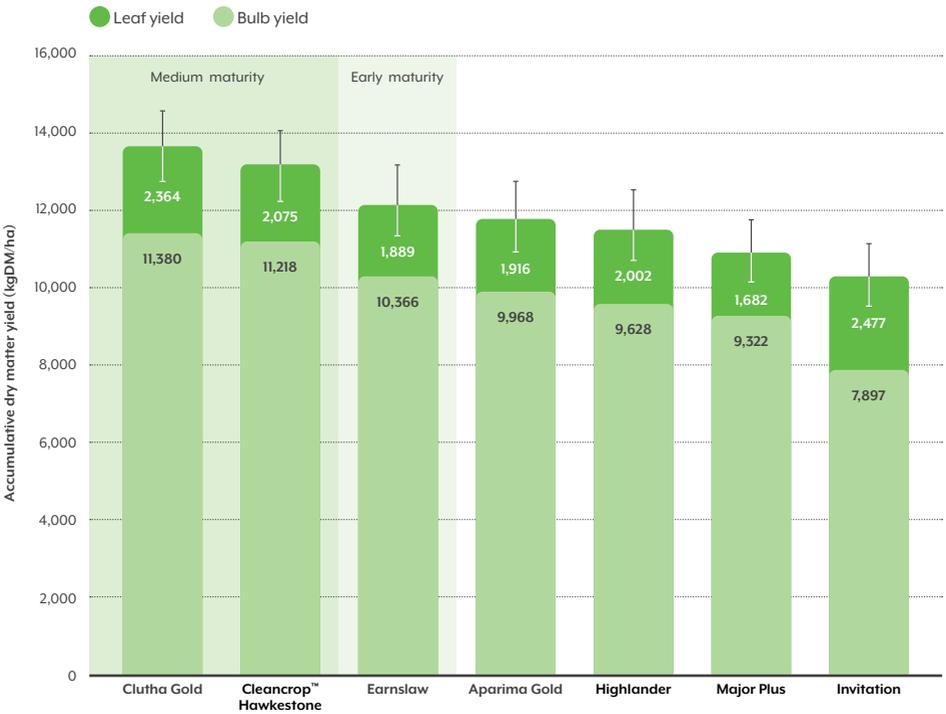
Trial results

DRY MATTER PRODUCTION

Earnslaw has undergone extensive testing including measuring crop performance at a number of sites and across years. Relative to Major Plus, Earnslaw has improved dry matter yield of 12% and this is seen for both leaf and bulb yield. For farmers wanting an early maturing swede, Earnslaw is an ideal replacement option to Major Plus. For those wanting a later maturing, higher yielding type Clutha Gold or Cleancrop™ Hawkestone is an alternative.



Average yield (kgDM/ha) of swede cultivars



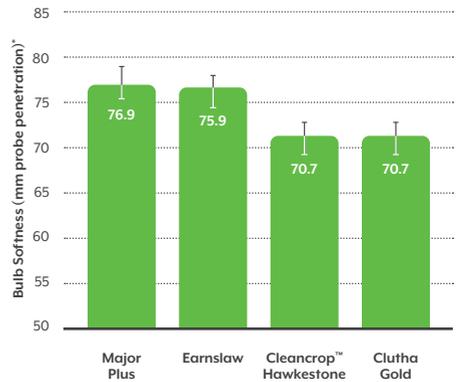
Multi-site analysis of 7 trials (Methven and Gore 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22; Waiouru 2021/22). LSD(0.05) Leaf yield 429 kg DM/ha and Stem Yield 1349 kg DM/ha.



BULB SOFTNESS

A key attribute that has been retained in Earnslaw is bulb softness. To measure this bulb softness, an Instron probe is used and the relative difference in bulb softness is noted by the depth the probe penetrates the bulb. Earnslaw registers a similar bulb softness to Major Plus, which is known as the softest bulb swede on the New Zealand market, verifying it as an early maturing swede. In contrast, Clutha Gold and Cleancrop™ Hawkestone are slightly harder bulbs but with later maturing types, they have higher yield potential.

Swede bulb softness



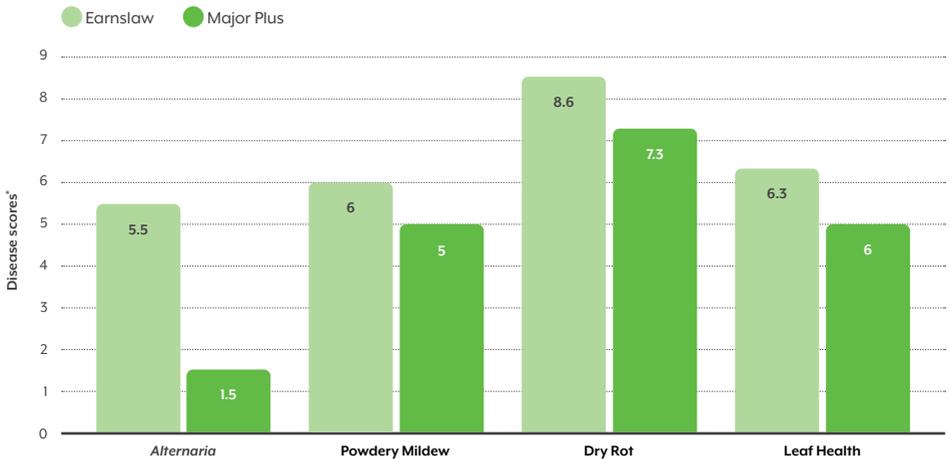
*Higher value = softer bulbs

Average swede bulb softness results from 3 years of testing at Plant & Food Research Lincoln (2020, 2021 & 2022). LSD 5% = 3.2. Differences between cultivars must exceed LSD to be statistically different.

DISEASE SCORES

Earnslaw across sites has shown superior disease tolerance to *Alternaria*, Powdery mildew and Dry Rot compared to Major Plus, so in addition to improved yield users of Earnslaw can expect healthier crops.

Disease scores from Gore (*Alternaria* and powdery mildew) and Methven (dry rot and leaf health) 2021/22



*Higher value = softer bulbs

Disease scores were taken from two sites in 2021/22, Gore for *Alternaria* and Powdery Mildew and Methven for Dry Rot and Leaf health. LSD (0.05), *Alternaria* 1.3, Powdery Mildew 1.7, Dry Rot 0.9, Leaf Health 1.1.





Swede overview

Swedes are a spring sown, single graze option providing winter feed suited to cool, moist environments.

Swedes can be divided into two categories: soft bulbed, early maturing cultivars (e.g. Major Plus) or later maturing types (e.g. Clutha Gold or Cleancrop™ Hawkestone).

Swedes are more susceptible to diseases including clubroot and dry rot, so should only be considered as a first year cropping option.

WHEN TO SOW?

In environments where crops can be exposed to very cold conditions post-sowing, followed by increasing temperatures, swedes should be sown no earlier than 20 November.

Earlier sowing combined with cold weather conditions can cause 'vernalisation' which means the plant believes it has been through winter and subsequently produces a seed head.

	High yield and early maturity	High yield and medium maturity	Moderate yield and early maturity	High yield, medium maturity and Telar® herbicide resistance
				
Potential yield (tDM/ha)	18	18	16	18
Days to grazing	150-220	170-250	150-220	170-250
Bulb softness	★★★★	★★	★★★★	★★
Flesh colour	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Clubroot tolerance	★	★★	-	★★
Dry rot tolerance	★★	★★	-	★★
Leaf keeping quality	★★	★★	★	★★

STAR CHART KEY

— = None | ★ = Moderate | ★★ = Good | ★★★ = Very good

Note: a difference of one ★ means that there is statistically significant difference.



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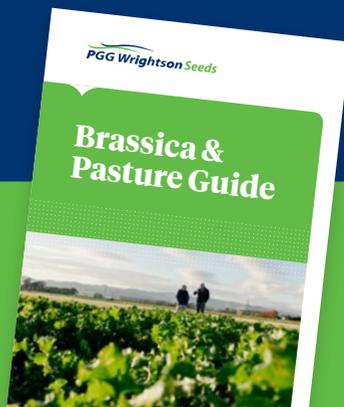
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FURTHER INFO:

Refer to the Brassica and Pasture Guide on our website for more information or email us with your details and we'll send you a copy.



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