



Press Release

3rd July 2013

BSPB launches Biogas Maize Descriptive List

A new variety descriptive list has been created for biogas producers growing and using forage maize as a feedstock.

The British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB) has launched the Biogas Maize Descriptive List for 2014 with 12 varieties listed for favourable sites and five for less favourable sites.

BSPB Forage Maize Panel chairman Brendan Paul said: “The new annual List answers the increasing demand for information on forage maize varieties suitable for biogas feedstock, and recognises that crop production requirements for anaerobic digestion differs to those of the livestock farmer.”

The area of forage maize grown as feedstock for biogas is estimated to be around 15,500 hectares in 2013, equivalent to 10% of the UK crop. Up to 4.5% of the 2012 crop was used in biogas production.

The varieties listed on the 2013 List have been nominated by the plant breeders and are all suitable for biogas production. The List aims to aid variety selection as producers can check energy output in the form of metabolisable energy (ME) and other traits such as dry matter content and yield, early vigour and standing power.

“Whilst it is not an exclusive list of potentially suitable commercially available varieties, BSPB is simplifying the variety choice process for biogas producers and delivering effective and relevant variety data that producers can understand and trust,” said Mr Paul.

Ends

Attached

- BSPB 2014 Biogas Maize Descriptive List – favourable sites
- BSPB 2014 Biogas Maize Descriptive List – less favourable sites

For further information contact:

Brendan Paul, BSPB Forage Maize Panel chairman

M: 07767 310454

E: brendan.paul@agrii.co.uk

Jeremy Widdowson, Variety Trials Coordinator, BSPB

T: 01353 653846

M: 07747 567351

E: jeremy.widdowson@bspb.co.uk

Issued by:
 Ros Lloyd, NIAB
 M: 07711 568164
 E: ros.lloyd@niab.com



Maize for Anerobic Digestion Favourable sites - 2014 List

VARIETY	Dry Matter Content at harvest (%)	Dry Matter Yield t/ha	Dry Matter Yield as % control	ME of Fresh Plant at harvest (MJ/kg dry matter)	ME Yield 1000 Mj/ha	Early Vigour 9=good 1=poor	Standing power at harvest (Root lodging) 9=good 1=poor
ATRIUM	31.1	18.3	106	11.75	215	7.6	8.2
DUALTO	30.3	18.2	105	11.54	210	7.0	8.2
FIELDSTAR	34.2	18.1	105	11.48	207	7.8	8.2
MARCO	29.3	18.5	107	11.21	207	6.7	8.2
MAS 11F	31.8	18.1	105	11.36	205	7.8	8.2
BEETHOVEN	31.9	18.2	105	11.22	204	7.3	8.0
NK BULL	30.3	17.5	101	11.59	203	7.6	8.3
DOMINATOR	31.4	18.1	105	11.08	201	7.4	8.3
ES REGAIN	34.5	17.4	101	11.48	200	7.9	8.3
ES BALLADE	32.1	17.4	101	11.26	196	7.4	8.3
ES PICKER	35.7	16.8	97	11.40	192	7.9	8.2
ES ARDENT	36.3	16.8	97	11.39	191	7.3	8.3
Trial statistics							
Mean of 4&5 year varieties	33.1	17.3	100	11.38	197	7.5	8.2
LSD (V.Cont)	1.09	0.58	3.3	0.161	-	0.33	-
SE (variety mean)	0.551	0.292	1.69	0.0813	-	0.167	-

Notes: * indicates data not calculated; ME is calculated as D-value x 0.16;
 Maturity class no longer presented



Maize for Anerobic Digestion Less Favourable sites - 2014 List

VARIETY	Dry Matter Content at harvest (%)	Dry Matter Yield t/ha	Dry Matter Yield as % control	ME of Fresh Plant at harvest (MJ/kg dry matter)	ME Yield 1000 Mj/ha	Early Vigour 9=good 1=poor	Standing power at harvest (Root lodging) 9=good 1=poor
ES ARDENT	36.4	16.2	97	11.11	180	6.9	8.3
ES PICKER	35.4	16.2	97	11.24	182	7.6	8.2
ES REGAIN	34.4	17.0	102	11.32	192	7.8	8.3
FIELDSTAR	33.8	17.7	106	11.26	199	7.8	8.2
MAS 11F	31.3	17.5	105	11.19	196	7.8	8.1
Trial statistics							
Mean of 4&5 year varieties	33.4	16.6	100	11.24	187	7.3	8.2
LSD (V.Cont)	1.28	0.58	3.5	0.174	-	0.36	-
SE (variety mean)	0.646	0.294	1.76	0.0877	-	0.184	-

Notes: * indicates data not calculated; ME is calculated as D-value x 0.16;
 Maturity class no longer presented