

Replanting Winter Cereal Crops ?



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www.teagasc.ie/tillagecon24

Management Decisions

- **Assess crop viability**
 - Establish plant numbers
 - Consider sowing date, tiller numbers, soil fertility & field conditions



Agronomic Strategy

- Set up agronomic strategy based on crop assessment:
 - **Normal** – Normal strategy based on achieving target yield
 - **Altered** – Yield potential reduced therefore reduced inputs to match potential yield
 - **Replant** – Threshold where crop not capable of economic return

Crop Assessment

Winter Cereal Plant Count /m²

*Agronomy	Wheat	Barley (2 row)	Barley (6 row)	Oats
Normal	200+	250+	170+	275+
Altered	90 – 200	150 – 250	100 – 150	150 - 275
Replant ?	< 90	< 150	< 90	< 90

* Based on relatively even plant distribution

Garrus Nov 2018: 60 - 80 plants/m²

**Garrus
achieved
85% of
control
yields**



Winter Cereals: Sub-optimal Plant Counts

- Tailor P & K inputs to potential yield
- Use crop offtakes

Winter cereal	10t/ha	7.5t/ha
P offtake	38 kg/ha	28 kg/ha
K offtake	98 kg/ha	74 kg/ha
Compound	495 kg/ha 12-8-20 (4 bags/ac)	334 kg/ha 12-8-20 (2.7 bags/ac)

*Straw removed; Saving €45/ha on P & K; Use soil analysis for build up.

Re-sowing winter cereals with spring crops

	Winter wheat	Sp. Wheat	Winter Barley	Sp. Feed Barley	Sp. Malting Barley	Sp. Oats	Sp. Beans *	Sp. Peas*
Tot Var. Costs (€/ha)	1711	1679	1629	1568	1555	1545	1314	1271
Breakeven yield (t/ha)	8.1	8.0	8.1	7.8	5.8	8.1	5.3	4.9

Spring crops var. costs include winter cereal seed and re-sowing

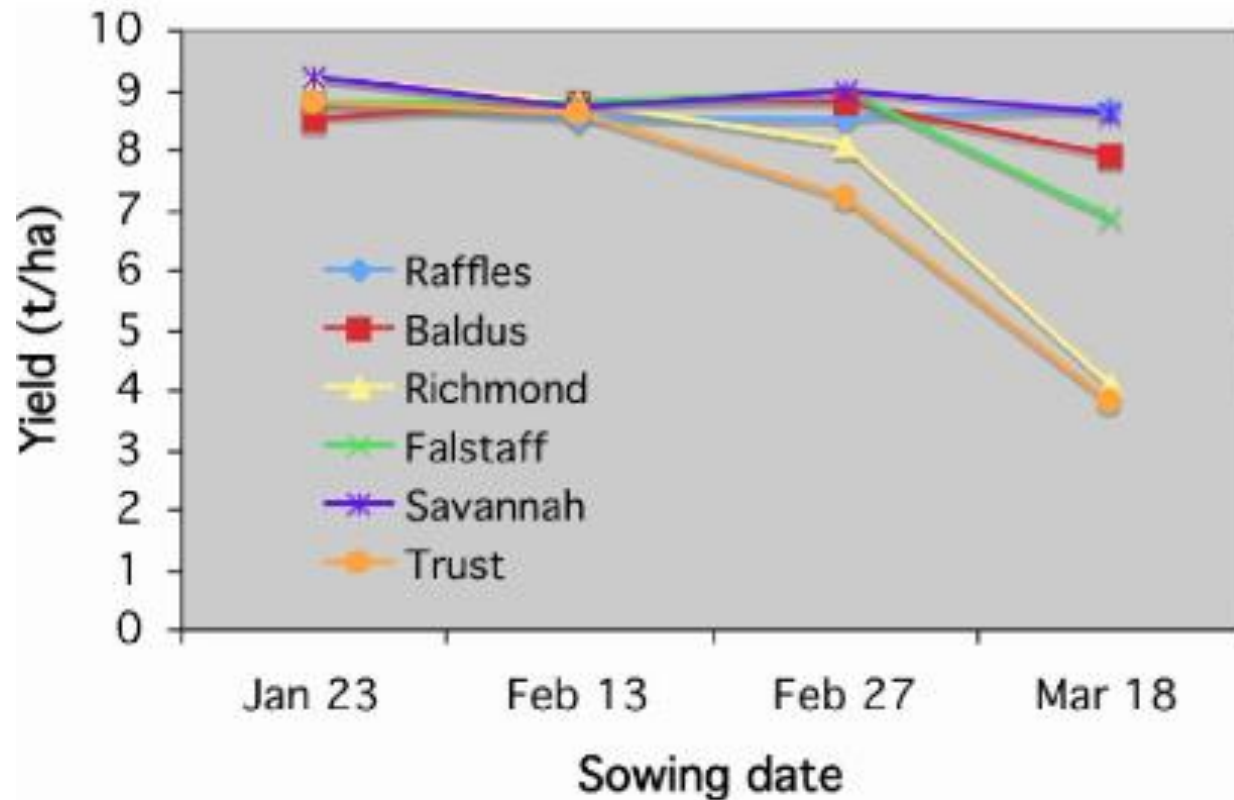
* Assumes no rotation or herbicide issues and protein payment of €400/ha

Winter Wheat or Replacement Spring Barley?

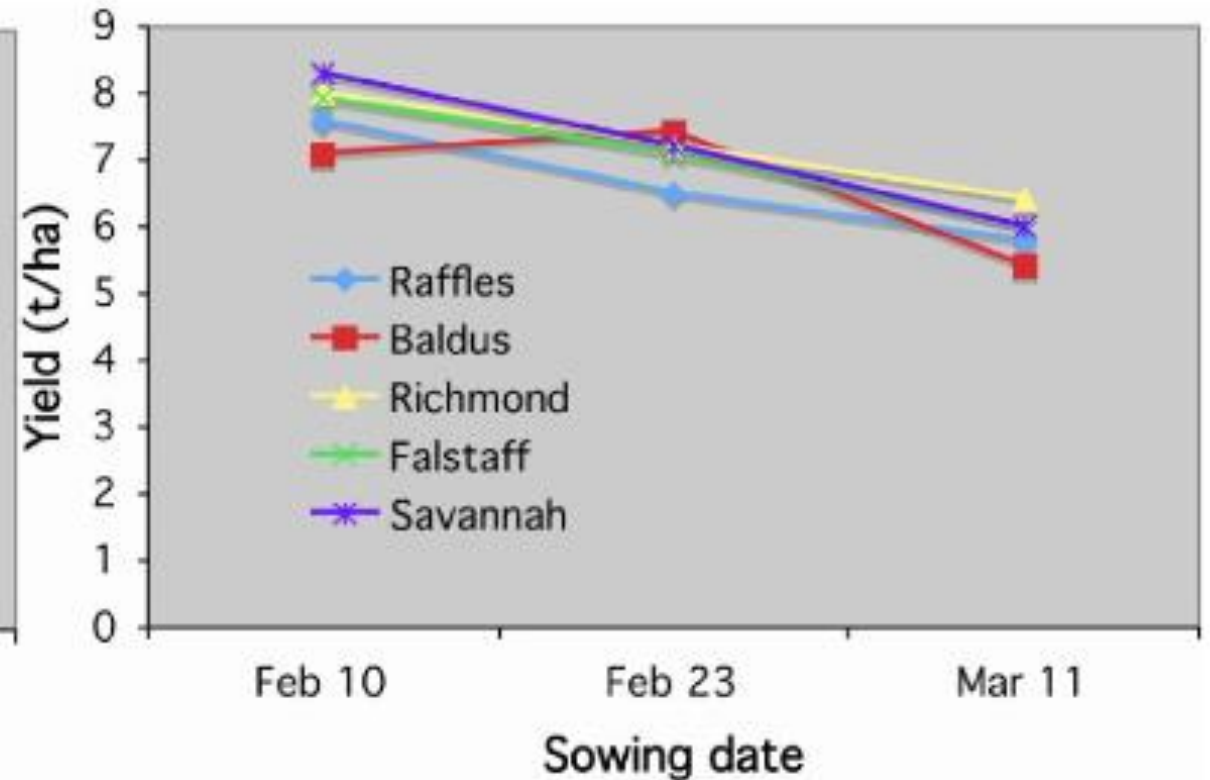
	Winter Wheat 10 t/ha	Winter Wheat 7.0 t/ha	Spring Barley 7.5 t/ha
Total variable costs	1711	1711	1318
Establishment cost of winter wheat			+233
Reduced establishment costs			(108)
Winter wheat seed			+125
P & K savings	0	(53)	
Nitrogen savings	0	(66)	
Fungicide savings (80% of standard)	0	(49)	
Total costs	1711	1543	1568
Costs per tonne	171	220	209

Winter wheat how late can you drill?

Year 1



Year 2



Old data but clear message: Risk increases after mid February

Take home message ?

- Assess your crops carefully before committing to re-sowing
- Little difference in some cases financially but extra work
- Re-drill based on economics not aesthetics!!