

### How winter hardy is Swift (a rape/kale hybrid)?

Swift is a hybrid between Forage Rape and Kale. Therefore it has a good winter hardiness score. It is capable of growing at temperatures of 4°C which is very low for any plant and is frost tolerant. It also has a regrowth potential. The crop currently has a DM yield of 6-7tDM/ha and if strip grazed and back fenced would potentially produce a regrowth of 1-2tDM/ha in February/March. This may not seem a great deal but it would be significant during these months before grass and clover has started.

### What has or is damaging the leaves of the Stubble turnips?

Sawfly is the culprit currently eating this crop. The stubble turnips were seed treated and have successfully beaten the flea beetle but they were now been eaten by black caterpillars of the Sawfly. They are capable of decimating a crop and action needs to be taken immediately. Spraying is the only sensible option and there is product derogation for organic farms. Always follow instructions on the product labels. As for Agri- environment schemes all brassica crops are unsprayed and permission should be sought via the project officer. What has or is damaging the leaves of the Swedes?

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