

Information on 'Aber' Grass and Clover Varieties Spring 2007

This report has been produced to provide details on the current and future supply of grass and clover varieties bred at IGER Aberystwyth that are included on the NIAB recommended list. Comments in this report relating to pricing of seed mixtures refer only to wholesale conditions and will not necessarily reflect the pricing structure of individual seed merchants.

Some of the new varieties that have only recently gained list status are fairly limited – with seed of the new Italian AberMario or the new hybrid 'AberEve' not available until 2008.

The new Italian AberEpic is available in limited stocks and the latest red clover AberRuby is widely available in both conventional and organic forms.

Generally supplies of hybrids and Italians maybe limited by late summer and these limited supplies are likely to push prices up.

Supplies of organic status seed tend to come under pressure through the year as the majority of organic reseeding takes place in early season – in particular the hybrids are expected to be in short supply by the summer.

Category	Variety	Conventional		Organic	
		Current availability	Late season	Current availability	Late season
Italians					
	AberEpic	Limited availability			
	AberMario	No seed available until 2008			
Hybrids					
	AberEcho (t)	Limited	Should improve after May	Limited	-
	AberExcel (t)	Limited	Maybe limited	Limited	-
Early perennials					
	AberTorch	Plenty	Plenty	None	
Intermediate perennials					
	AberDart	Plenty	Plenty	Reasonable	Maybe limited
	AberStar	Plenty	Plenty	None	None
	AberGlyn (t)	Plenty	Plenty	Plenty	Plenty
Late perennials					
	AberAvon	Good	Good	None	
	AberZest	Good	Good	None	

White clover					
	AberAce	Plenty	Plenty	None	
	AberPearl	Plenty	Reasonable	None	
	AberDai	Plenty	Plenty	None	
	AberConcord	Plenty	Plenty	Plenty	Good
	AberHerald	Plenty	Plenty	None	
Red Clover					
	AberRuby	Plenty	Plenty	Good	Good

This year there is also a limited amount of intermediate 'AberSilo' and late tetraploid 'AberCraigs' available.

The prices of most of the clovers and perennials are unchanged on 2006, pressures on supplies of hybrid may see their price rise, and prices of Italians may well increase. Organic seed prices are generally unchanged on 2006.

Aberystwyth varieties are produced for Germinal Holdings Ltd and marketed in the UK through British Seed Houses Ltd. British Seed Houses supply a number of distributors across Wales – please contact them on 0117 9823691 for this year's seed catalogue and for details of your local supplier. Also visit their web site for further information on products www.britishseedhouses.com

Some seed companies may have access to a limited selection of Aber varieties, but only British Seed Houses can supply the full range.