



Oats

Once Ireland's most widely grown crop, oats now rank as the third largest cereal produced, with approximately 25,000 ha grown annually. The crop favours the Irish climate, producing excellent grain quality and high yields. The weed suppressing ability of oats makes it the preferred choice for organic producers. The crop favours the Irish climate, producing excellent grain quality and high yields as well as being a very useful cereal break crop.

Drummonds have been assembling quality Oats for many years and have well established markets in both equine and human consumption. Our sister company in Speedicook is a leading supplier of high quality food grade oats products from traditional porridge oats to convenient porridge pots and granola bags and bars.

Winter oats is a robust crop capable of producing high yields in low soil fertility scenarios due to its Nitrogen scavenging ability. Drummonds trials to date indicate that sowing rates of up to 400 seeds/m² produces yields greater than that from 250 seeds/m². Key factors influencing oat yields and quality include seeding rate, nitrogen application rates and timings. The primary objective in oat cultivation is to maximise the number of grains per square metre, which is a crucial determinant of yield.

Oat Varieties

Husky

Winter and Spring Oat

	Husky	WPB Isabel
Yield (Relative yield)	96	104
Straw height (cm)	96.5	100.9
Resistance to lodging	6	7
Straw breakdown	5	8
Earliness of ripening	8	6
Resistance to Mildew	5	5
Resistance to Crown Rust	4	5

Source: DAFM recommended list

Key Points

✓	High yield potential and early maturing variety.
✓	Ideal for Irish climatic conditions and diverse soil types.
✓	A white-oat with high KPH and kernel content.
✓	Excellent grain quality, suitable for milling and animal feed.
✓	Short, stiff straw structure reduces lodging risk.

Winter & Spring Oats Seeding Rates

Sowing Date		Winter Oats			Spring Oats		
		Early-Oct	Mid-Oct	Early-Nov	Mid-March	Late-March	Mid-April
Target Plants/m ²		300	320	340	325	350	350
% Establishment		85%	80%	75%	85%	85%	85%
TGW		kg/ha	kg/ha	kg/ha	kg/ha	kg/ha	kg/ha
Check individual labels for TGW	29	102	116	131	111	119	119
	31	109	124	141	119	128	128
	33	116	132	150	126	136	136
	35	124	140	159	134	144	144

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TGW		st/ac	st/ac	st/ac	st/ac	st/ac	st/ac
Check individual labels for TGW	29	6.5	7.4	8.4	7.1	7.6	7.6
	31	7.0	7.9	9.0	7.6	8.1	8.1
	33	7.4	8.4	9.5	8.0	8.7	8.7
	35	7.9	8.9	10.1	8.5	9.2	9.2