

AGRONOMIC GROWING GUIDE

Elsoms
The Seed Specialists



The UK's only primed hybrid OSR.

- High yielding
- Low risk
- TuYV and Phoma resistance

TENNYSON
Winter Oilseed Rape

THE UK'S ONLY PRIMED HYBRID OSR

Tennyson is an exciting variety that puts the grower in a stronger position against environmental challenges whilst still delivering on yield and oil content.

With polygenic resistance to Phoma and confirmed marker resistance to TuYV, Tennyson is a flexible variety suited to a range of drilling situations with a high Verticillium tolerance. Making this a high value, but low-risk variety.

KEY FEATURES

- A top agronomic score among varieties on the recommended list for East and West.
- Bred with quantitative resistance to Phoma.
- Tennyson has displayed a consistent ability to grow away from potential cabbage stem flea beetle damage.
- TuYV resistance.
- High tolerance to Verticillium.
- Excellent spring and autumn vigour.

PROFILE

	Maturity	5
	Flowering	6
	Stem Stiffness	7
	Lodging	8
	Stem Canker	9
	Light Leaf Spot	7
	Yield (East and West)	104
	Phoma resistance	✓
	TuYV resistance	✓
	High Verticillium tolerance	✓

VARIETY: Tennyson **PEDIGREE:** Hybrid-Complex cross
NATIONAL LISTING: Recommended for the East and West

YIELD

Primed OSR trials have generated yields of 5 t/ha in harvest 2022. These trials were consistent with results from 2020 where an increase in yield of primed seed has been generated.

DISEASE

Tennyson is a top performing OSR variety with an AHDB score of 9 for phoma, based on its polygenic resistance. This gives growers peace of mind against Phoma versus other varieties based on Rlm7 and RlmS which is slowly deteriorating in the U.K. TuYV resistant, light leaf spot score of 7 and very good verticillium tolerance gives Tennyson one of the best agronomic merit ratings of any variety available for the East and West.

AGRONOMY

Tennyson's strong disease profile, combined with its good early autumn vigour, makes it a variety to keep onside. If challenging autumn establishment conditions continue to persist, then primed seed gives the crop the best chance of successful establishment.

INPUTS

An on farm Tennyson basic fungicide package has consisted of 2 sprays of Tubosan along with 3 splits of N25 plus some DoubleTop applied between February and April. Tennyson has proven successful at altitude with a single spray of Tebuconazole at 0.6l/ha in the autumn and just one spray of Tebuconazole + Fluoxastrobin applied in May at early yellow bud.



The priming process helps seed to develop a superior root structure that penetrates deeper in to the soil. This increases secondary root hairs that enhance water and nutrient uptake helping the plant to survive and develop in stressful conditions. In our 2022 trials, this advantage remained visible during spring and into flowering, producing large robust canopies that out-performed the unprimed seed.

GROWING CONSIDERATIONS

1 CONSIDER ROTATION CHOICES

- Maintain a broad rotation of no more than 1 year in 5.
- Consider block cropping to isolate your new crop from old stubbles.
- Look at sacrificial headlands (e.g. turnip rape) to limit pest movement.
- Leave rape volunteers in neighbouring fields to act as a diversionary food source.

2 AVOID GREEN ON BROWN IN THE AUTUMN

- Drill into tall straw (>20 cm), chaff or into green cover.
- Camouflage the crop and confuse the flea beetle using companion crops. These appear to discourage the pest, reduce egg laying and overall larval numbers.
- Buckwheat is the most widely tested, but vetches and berseem clover can be used. These scavenge for phosphate and release it back to the growing crop.

3 DELAY DRILLING FOR ADEQUATE MOISTURE

- If there is no moisture it is best to delay drilling. Adequate moisture is needed for both normal and primed seed.
- Use minimal soil disturbance to conserve moisture.
- Early drilled crops cope better with adult flea beetle damage but carry higher larval numbers.
- Avoid drilling too early otherwise other pests can attack the crop like Cabbage Root Fly.

4 VARIETY, SEED RATES AND TREATMENTS

- Tennyson is a fast-developing variety particularly in the autumn.
- Use normal seed rates as higher seed rates can often be counterproductive.
- Tennyson trialling has been conducted at 50 seeds/m² which is a good starting point, further seed rate trials are taking place this year.
- Primed seed is compatible to use along with Integrol Pro. It will also help to control low levels of Cabbage Stem Flea Beetle and act as a biostimulant.

5 SOIL CONDITIONS AND CROP NUTRITION

- Check soil conditions are optimal for early growth with adequate levels of macro and micro nutrients, including boron and molybdenum.
- Tennyson has responded well to seed bed nitrogen and / or specialist starter fertilisers.
- Alternatively use organic manures like chicken manure or digestate to give the crop an early boost.
- If cultivation methods are used, a fine seed bed is of high importance to reduced soil clods that CSFB can live under. The beetle is known to only feed every 4 to 5 days and therefore spraying will have minimal affect on the beetles under the soil.

6 FOLIAR BIOSTIMULANTS AND CROP PROTECTION

- Apply a foliar mix of macro and micro nutrients at the two leaf stage to boost the crop further.
- Tennyson is a relatively straightforward variety to grow using standard canopy management guidelines and disease control programmes.

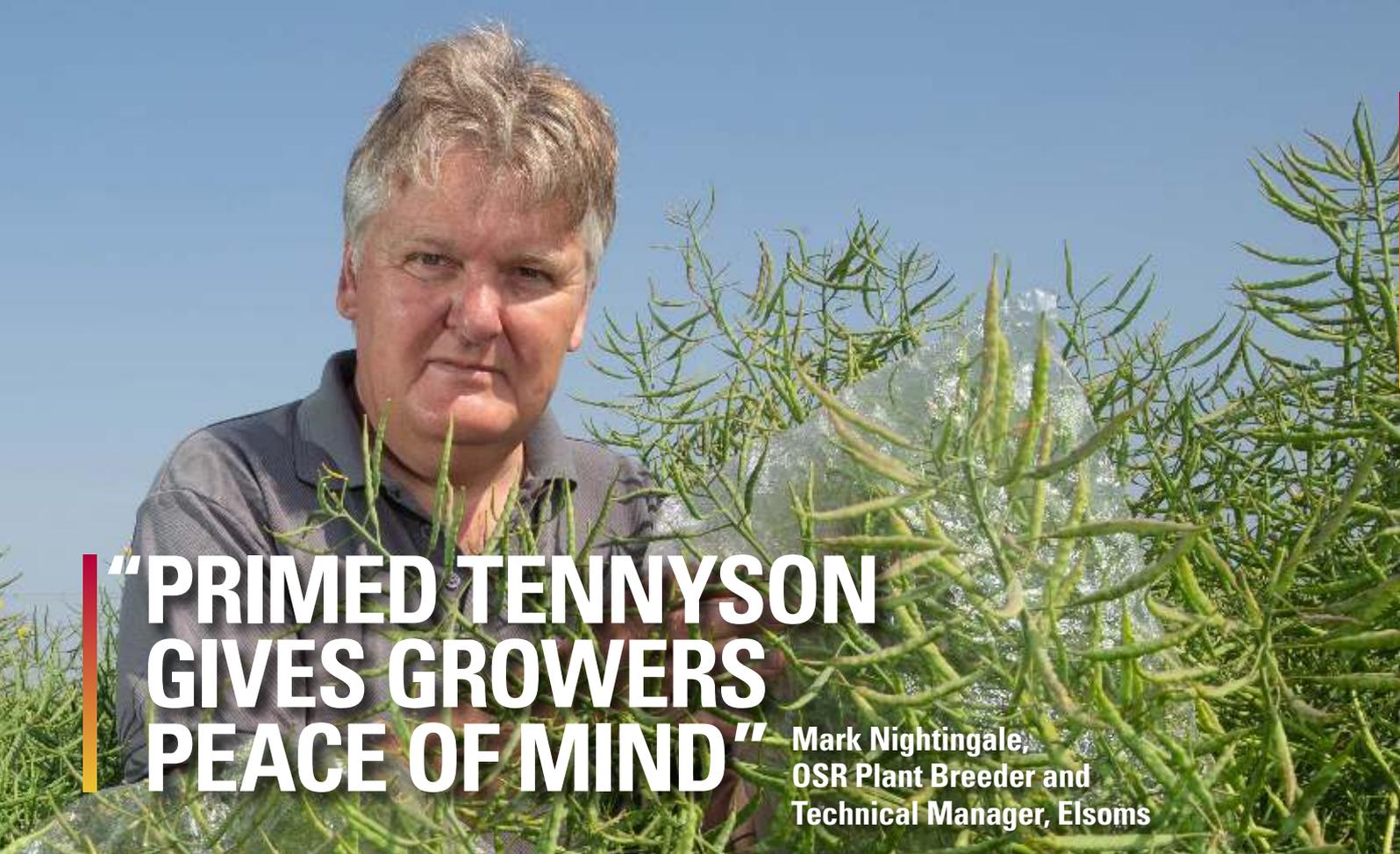
7 MONITOR CROPS AND USE SPRAY THRESHOLDS

- Check for shot-holing and use yellow traps to assess pest pressure.
- Foliar insecticides provide only a weak tool against pests like CSFB.

8 AIM TO DRILL PRIMED SEED IN THE YEAR OF PURCHASE

- The over-yearly viability of the seed is not affected but the benefit of seed priming will be lost (ie. faster germination).
- Primed seed should be stored in dry and cool conditions kept off the floor and out of direct sunlight. Once WOSR has been primed the effects of priming can last up to 9 months if stored correctly.





"PRIMED TENNYSON GIVES GROWERS PEACE OF MIND"

Mark Nightingale,
OSR Plant Breeder and
Technical Manager, Elsoms

“ The priming process speeds up germination, so it is good for drier conditions as the seed has already imbibed much of the moisture it needs to germinate. Therefore, primed seed can germinate two to three days faster than non-primed seed. Farmers see flea beetle as a massive risk, and early drilling to limit this risk puts the oilseed rape crop under pressure from a lack of moisture, so primed seed could help. ”

Speak to the specialists

For any questions about our Winter Oilseed Rape varieties or to discuss the portfolio, contact the team today:

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