



Grainseed Ltd.



UNIT 3, AIRFIELD INDUSTRIAL PARK, LANGTON GREEN, EYE, SUFFOLK, IP23 7HN

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F A X M E S S A G E

DATE: 22/09/2014

TIME: 18:12:13

TO:

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FROM: NEIL GROOM

RE: Farmers Weekly Maize Dry Matters Week 4

CC:

Number of pages including cover sheet:

Message

Maize harvest full swing in good conditions

Site	Drill date	Ht above sea level (m)	Crop dry matter 17 September	Increase from last week
Petworth, Sussex	22 April	50	Harvested	
Harleston, Norfolk	24 April	30	28.7	+ 1.3
Crediton, Devon	23 April	118	33.2	+ 4.6
Ticknall, Derbyshire	4 May	67	28.5	- 0.1
Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire*	16 May	32	24.4	+ 2.1
SRUC, Dumfries, Scotland PLASTIC	23 April	45	27.4	+ 2.6
SRUC, Dumfries, Scotland*	23 April	45	21.0	+ 0.5

* Variety Es Picker, all other sites are Es Ballade. Variety under plastic Es Marco.

Maize harvest is progressing well in the South and East with growers poised to start chopping in the Midlands, Cheshire and under plastic in the North and West reports Neil Groom Technical Director of Grainseed Ltd.

“It’s the best season for maize this year following an good spring, hot summer and warm autumn and growers are able to chop in good conditions with no disruption to the local community” comments Mr Groom.

The crops are very big, both physically and the large cob size, with a high grain content and this is really making the harvesters work hard. Ensure you assess the chop length of the silage as it comes into the clamp, with modern grain processors the chop length can be lengthened to 20mm to give some structural fibre for cattle feeding since the processor bruises or cuts each grain.

Maize for AD plants should be chopped shorter, ideally 4-6mm to increase the surface area for the bugs to digest the fibre within the plant, this will shorten retention times.

The Farmers Weekly site in Devon and Norfolk both expect to harvest this week and Hugh McClymont at SRUC also intends to harvest some early drilled fields under plastic.

“Crops are fully mature in the cob and still green so it will make good silage. During this dry period I want to get some maize clamped and then I can reseed with Italian ryegrass to utilise nutrients and prevent soil erosion” comments Hugh.