HARVEST YIELDS 2017

• Winter Barley 7.68
• Winter OSR 3.52 (confirmed)
• Winter Wheat 10.25
• Spring barley 6.05
• Spring beans 3.94
• YEN?

Data taken from yield monitor on combine.
REVIEW

• No records and no disasters!
• Yields in line with expectations.
• OSR, difficult establishment autumn 2016.
• Winter wheat tolerated the drought in April.
• Spring barley lodged 2 days after our June launch event! Harvested around 14 days after ideal time. Down graded to feed. Huge numbers of whole heads on the ground.
• Spring beans. Although grown on light soils thrived in the drought!
LESSONS

• OSR. Best established following winter barley. Consistent drilling depth = even germination = less damage by CSFB?

• Spring beans can be grown successfully on light soil (with a little luck)

• Spring barley. One of ‘those’ seasons?

• Cannot budget for the weather!
Weather

• August 2017
  • 69 mm. Rainfall recorded 19/31 days.
• August 2016
  • 47 mm. Rainfall recorded 10/31 days.

• September 2017
  • 62.5 mm. Rainfall recorded 17/30 days.
• September 2016
  • 47 mm. Rainfall recorded 11/30 days.
Harvest 2018

• OSR. 24 ha. Dariat and Extrovert.

• Winter barley. 17 ha. Cassia and Libra.

• Winter wheat. 50 ha. Skyfall, Graham, Revelation and Dickens.

• Spring barley. 38 ha.

• Spring beans. 27 ha.
Establishment

OSR. Direct drill, Cousins V Form/micro wing legs.

Grass, shallow min till.

Winter barley, plough.

Winter wheat, most non plough. Plough after grass and maize.

All power-harrowed pre and rolled post drilling.
Changes (from the plan, what plan?)

Contractor for FYM spreading. Speed and accuracy Vs cost.
Unable to establish cover crops.
Reduced OSR area.
Reduced Winter wheat area.
Increased spring barley area.
No pesticide trial plots (taken to harvest).

Increased contract work. 77 ha mixed farm, including 27 ha arable.
Projects for 2018

• Modify OSR drill to achieve consistent drilling depth.

• Additional land drainage, to enhance earlier work, plus two extra areas.

• Changes to grain store.

• $64,000 dollar question. Mobile grain dryer Vs combine harvester???
Biggest frustration of harvest 2017?

(Excluding the weather)
Not being allowed to trim hedges in August!