Catapult[®]



Variety snapshot

- The highest yielding choice for late April sowing
- Very flexible sowing window
- Safer option for sowing dry when germination date is unknown
- Wide adaptation, will fit the front end of most growers' cropping programs
- Excellent choice for wheat on wheat situations
- Very good physical grain characteristics with an AH quality classification
- A great alternative to Trojan[®], Cutlass[®] and Yitpi[®]

Breeder's comments

Sometimes in breeding, you get unexpected but very exciting results. Out of a standard Mace[®] cross, Catapult[®] (tested as RAC2484) has emerged as an exceptionally unique combination of features that we believe will help growers increase productivity, while providing flexibility that has not been available previously.

Growers are continually looking for earlier sowing options that don't compromise on yield, to compliment high yielding main season varieties like Scepter® so that an increase in over-all farm yield is achieved. Catapult® may be viewed as a 'longer season' Scepter®, allowing growers to achieve Scepter®-like yields when sown in late April. When sown around ANZAC day, Catapult® has consistently out-yielded Trojan®, Cutlass® and Yitpi® (and other varieties used in this sowing window). This very high yield potential relative to other varieties has been recorded across a large range of growing conditions and environments, highlighting Catapult's® suitability for most cropping programs.

These days, much of the wheat crop is planted dry. In many instances germination of dry sown crops may be delayed considerably if the arrival of the break in the season is unknown, and therefore variety choice for these situations is very important. A variety like Catapult[®] is a great choice for dry sowing because it maintains its high yield over a wide range of germination dates, including well into May where it remains competitive with the benchmark variety Scepter[®].

Catapult[®] is also one of the best choices for use in wheat on wheat rotations. Apart from Catapult[®], there are no other wheat varieties that combine this maturity type with CCN resistance, yellow leaf spot resistance and AH quality. It's this unique combination that supports Catapult's[®] use as a second wheat in a rotation, a practice very common in low rainfall or Mallee type environments.

Catapult^{\circ} is very closely related to Scepter^{\circ} and shares its physical grain quality characteristics of high test weight, low screenings and AH quality classification.

Seed Availability

Commercial quantities of Catapult[®] may be available through AGT Affiliates, or your local retailer. Please consult the AGT website for AGT Affiliate contact details. Catapult[®] is able to be traded between growers upon the completion of a License Agreement as part of AGT's Seed Sharing[™] initiative.

PBR and EPR

Catapult[®] is protected by Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) and all production (except seed saved for planting) is liable to an End Point Royalty (EPR), which funds future plant breeding. Catapult[®] growers will be subject to a Growers License Agreement that acknowledges that an EPR of \$3.25/tonne + GST has to be paid on all production other than seed saved for planting.

Maturity & Sowing Window

Catapult[®] offers a uniquely wide sowing window, highlighted in Figure 1. When sown towards the end of April, Catapult[®] has taken longer for heads to emerge relative to Trojan[®] and Scepter[®], but has quickened up when sown into May. In most environments we expect that you should be able to plant Catapult[®] a week earlier than you would plant Scepter[®], with this planting window extending well into the back end of May, offering great flexibility to growers.





Yield

Catapult[®] has shown a significant yield improvement over currently grown varieties that are used at the front end of growers' cropping programs. It is particularly suited to plantings towards the end of April (Figures 2 and 3). When sowing was delayed until May and June (Figure 4), the yield advantage of Catapult[®] was maintained over other early sowing choices like Trojan[®] and Cutlass[®], and was only a little lower than Scepter[®]. Maintaining high and consistent yield across a range of germination dates makes Catapult[®] a safer choice for dry sowing, when the likely germination date is unknown and therefore variable.



Figure 2 Predicted yield of Catapult⁽⁾ across planting windows

Figure 3 EARLY SOWN TRIALS: Predicted yield of Catapult[®] across SA/Vic/sNSW environments



Source / NVT long term MET analysis, EARLY SOWN TRIAL SERIES 2014-2018 *Yield prediction based on one year of data.

Figure 4 MAIN SEASON TRIALS: Predicted yield of Catapult[®] across SA/Vic/sNSW environments



Source / NVT long term MET analysis, MAIN SEASON TRIAL SERIES 2014-2018 *Yield prediction based on one year of data.

Figure 5 Disease resistance ratings for Catapult $^{\circ\star}$



*Provisional ratings

Table 1 Variety comparisons

	Catapult ^{®*}	Cutlass [⊕]	Trojan⊕	Scepter ⁽⁾	Yitpi⁰
Quality Classification	AH	APW	APW	AH	AH
Stem Rust	MR	RMR	MRMS	MRMS	S
Stripe Rust	MRMS	MS	MR	MSS	MRMS
Leaf Rust	S	R	MR	MSS	S
Yellow Leaf Spot	MRMS	MSS	MSS	MRMS	SVS
CCN	MR	MR	MS	MRMS	MR
Septoria tritici Blotch	MSS	MSS	MS	S	MSS
Black Point	MSS	MS	MRMS	MS	MS

R Resistant

MR Moderately Resistant VS Vo

MS Moderately Susceptible

S Susceptible VS Very Susceptible

* Provisional ratings

Source / NVT and AGT data

Dan Vater, Marketing Manager, SA Rob Harris, Marketing Manager, Vic James Whiteley, Marketing Manager, Southern NSW James Edwards, Wheat Breeder Adam Norman, Wheat Breeder End Point Royalty Office

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