

WEED OF THE season

Avena fatua is an extremely costly arable weed found in many countries of the world. An annual grass, which looks similar to a narrow-leafed variety of cultivated oat, it can reach 1.7 m high when mature.

It has cream or grey seeds with tufts of hair at the base, and a long bristle that becomes twisted when the grain is ripe.

One plant can shed as many as 200 seeds, which in turn can remain viable for up to 10 years. Germination typically occurs in autumn/winter and young seedlings suppress cereal yields almost immediately.

Yield losses range from 10 – 85%, even when wild oats are removed at 2-3 leaf stage, so pre-emergence control is essential.

Incorporating **Avadex® Xtra** pre-plant will prevent emergence and establishment and will provide 6-8 weeks control of wild oats.

An ideal time for this treatment is the changeover from winter feed brassicas to spring crop.

Avadex Xtra is the most cost-effective control option available.

It must be applied before wild oats germinate. Pre-plant incorporate soon after final cultivation and within 3 weeks prior to sowing the crop.

Farmers should incorporate with a light set of harrows, working to approximately 5 cm deep, immediately after application.

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