

CEREAL AND OILSEED CROPS



Preparing soil

Sowing cereals

Controlling disease

Harvesting crops

IT'S A FACT!



- Oilseed rape is a heavy nectar producer, which provides many of our UK bees with the nectar they need to produce honey
- Wheat is a good source of carbohydrates and protein and contains many vitamins and minerals important for good health
- 42 per cent of the UK cereal crop is used to feed animals including pigs, chickens and cows
- The NFU holds the record for making the world's largest bowl of porridge made from oats, weighing almost 60 kilos and enough to feed 600 people

DID YOU KNOW...

Three quarters of Britain is farmland and one third of that is used for crops harvested with a combine (also called arable land).

Britain's arable farmers work hard to provide the quantity, quality and variety of cereal crops used to produce the foods we all enjoy, while caring for the environment and countryside. They also produce energy crops that can help combat global warming.

Crops have lots of uses and these are just some of them...

Oilseed Rape	Wheat	Barley
Vegetable Oil	Wheat Flour	Beer, Whisky
Bio-diesel Fuel	Breakfast Cereal	Breakfast Cereal
Animal Feed	Bio-ethanol Fuel	Animal Feed

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE

Arable farmers recognise their responsibility to the countryside and regularly spend their time conserving traditional landscapes, enhancing natural habitats and protecting wildlife.

The average farmer spends almost 100 hours every year managing hedgerows.



Margins around the outside of arable fields create habitats for invertebrates, small mammals and birds, and protect watercourses from sprays and fertilisers.

The favourite habitat of the brown hare is arable farmland.

ON THE FARM



• cereals

There are many different types of cereal crops grown in the UK including wheat, barley, oats and maize. Cereals are fantastically versatile and can be found in thousands of food products including bread, pasta, biscuits and breakfast cereals.



Oilseed rape crop

• oilseeds

Oilseed rape is a crop that has traditionally been farmed in the UK to produce a type of heart-healthy vegetable oil that provides essential fatty acids.

• Energy Crops

As well as providing food, crops can be grown to produce biofuels that can be used to power motor vehicles.

Oilseed rape can be grown to produce biodiesel and wheat grown to produce bioethanol.

Using biofuels is more environmentally friendly than fossil fuels because the amount of carbon absorbed from the atmosphere when the crop is grown compensates for the release of carbon when it's burnt. This helps reduce the build up of harmful greenhouse gases.



A field of oilseed rape the size of a football pitch will produce enough bio-diesel to fuel the average family car for a year



Whole wheat grains are milled into flour

Wheat: Around 1/3 of the UK wheat crop is milled for human consumption.



1/3 of UK barley goes through a malting process to produce malt, used to make drinks like beer and whisky

Barley: The UK grows 5.1 million tonnes of barley every year – that is equivalent to the weight of 66 million people!

CEREAL AND OILSEED PRODUCTS



RED TRACTOR



The Red Tractor logo tells us that foods have been farmed and packed in the UK to high standards of food safety, animal health and welfare, all the way from the farm to your shopping basket.