Rafaela is a conventional 6-row winter barley with Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus tolerance (BYDV), a unique genetic trait which will become increasingly important with the loss of neonicotinoid insecticide seed treatments such as clothianidin - Deter. It is a high tillering variety with strong plant vigour in the autumn, combined with rapid spring development, and early maturity. These characteristics combined with strong disease resistance, and high yields make Rafaela an exciting prospect.

Very early spring development, a large plant canopy and early maturity make Rafaela an interesting prospect for AD plants. Early trials suggest that the variety has similar plant growth attributes to Triticale, making it an interesting alternative.

Rafaela has also excelled in a blackgrass situation as it is able to out-compete the emerging weeds, significantly reducing blackgrass plant and ear size and limiting the amount of seed return to the soil.

Rafaela is a tall strawed variety and like a hybrid barley, has a large biomass/crop canopy. LG recommend a PGR programme is implemented on Rafaela to ensure a good standing crop for harvest.

In comparison with many UK winter barley varieties, Rafaela has a very early ear emergence, combined with early ripening, giving growers the opportunity for an earlier harvest; an additional cultural control of blackgrass and future field entry into winter oilseed rape.

Rafaela has resistance for BaYMV strain 1

May 2019. Data from LG UK and French Arvalis Trials.
In three years of UK trials, Rafaela has been very clean for disease and in untreated trials has never shown signs of threat. In French trials, the variety has shown very strong resistance for all key diseases, however Rhynchosporium may require monitoring due to the UK’s more erratic, wetter climate.

Although Rafaela is a BYDV tolerant variety, LG recommend that foliar insecticides may still need to be applied to reduce the impact of the virus on the growing crop, ensuring both maximum yield potential and protecting the longevity of the genetic resistance.

Limagrain are evaluating the genetics and associated benefits for on farm performance, working with external organisations on both natural and inoculated trials of aphids with BYDV. Testing the variety in both untreated and foliar insecticide treated trials.

**Drilling date:** End of September to end of October

**Seed rate:** 250 seeds /m² – 300 seeds /m²

BYDV TOLERANCE

**Aphid Inoculated Insecticide Trails 2019**

In partnership with AGRII

May 2019. Data from LG UK and French Arvalis Trials.