

Borage

- Opportunities to earn over £600 per hectare
- Later spring sowing allows for Blackgrass control
 - Reduced slug populations
 - Excellent entry into following wheat crop
 - High value / Low volume – minimal crop movement and low storage space requirements
 - Bee friendly



PREMIUMCROPS
LEADERS IN PREMIUM & SPECIALIST CROPS

Premium Crops – a division of Cefetra Ltd
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Borage *(Borago officinalis)*

Borage (aka Starflower) is a spring sown crop grown to produce a valuable oil from the seed and used in dietary supplements, baby foods, veterinary and personal care products.

There is a real demand for HIGH Gamma Linoleic Acid (GLA) oil from UK grown crops, with a diversity of uses from food supplements to treatment of skin disorders such as; Eczema; Rosacea; Atopic Dermatitis and Cradle Cap in Infants, there is even an application pending for borage oil powder as a non-dairy creamer.

High Gross Margin Opportunity

Yields of Borage can vary significantly with the season, typically around 400kg/ha, some growers have achieved well over 750kg making Borage one of the highest potential gross margin break crops available. Figures below are based on the 'average' yield and still compete well with other spring break options....

	Yield (per ha)	Crop Value* (average per mt)	Crop Income (per ha)	Seed Cost (per ha)	Fertilisers & Chemicals (per ha)	Total Variable Costs (per ha)	Gross Margin (per ha)
Borage	0.4mt	£2500	£800	£160	£160	£320	£680

*Crop Value does vary significantly with market demand; typical range is £1800/mt to £3000/mt

Borage Agronomy in brief....

Sowing Rate:	~25kg/ha
Sowing Date:	March to end of May
Fertilisers:	Around 50kg N/ha, maintenance P&K
Herbicides:	Wide range of minor use products available
Harvest:	Approx. 100 days after sowing, swath crop prior to harvest with a pick up header.
Pests and Beneficials:	
Pigeons and slugs -	Borage is unpalatable to both pests. Slug populations may even be reduced to aid following crop establishment
Bees-	Although Borage attracts many wild pollinators, there is a contractual requirement for 2 hives per ha to ensure adequate pollination. For larger crops consider placing hives evenly, including the middle of the field. Premium Crops can provide contact details for local bee keepers

Contact Premium Crops for full details and the latest Contract Terms



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