

"The Next Step in Kale Genetics"

- Medium-tall kale
- Late flowering variety that maintains leaf into mid-September
- Very high total leaf yield
- High total yield for intermediate kale

SUGGESTED SOWING TIME	SUGGESTED SOWING RATE (kg/ha)	TIME TO FIRST GRAZING	NUMBER OF POTENTIAL GRAZINGS	POTENTIAL YIELD (t DM/ha)
Late October	4	14-16 weeks	2 (sheep only for first grazing of leaf only)	Accumulated = 14-15*
Late November to late December	4	18-24 weeks	1	Average = 10-14 Top = 18+
Late January to mid February	4	14-18 weeks	1	8-10

*Depending on number of grazings

Background

SovGold is a modern New Zealand bred kale that combines excellent quality with a high yield potential. **SovGold** has a very high top end yield potential, although average yields are around 10-14 t DM/ha, depending on management and environment. **SovGold** will be well suited to all cattle grazing systems and sheep systems that sow late to control crop height for utilisation by sheep.

Some of the key points that set **SovGold** apart are;

1. **SovGold** produces a very high leaf yield which converts to a high leaf to stem ratio
2. **SovGold** has been bred with stem quality in mind.
3. **SovGold** is a later flowering kale

Additional Data

Table 1. Highlighting the potential of SovGold vs Sovereign for total yield over a multi-site analysis

	NUMBER OF TRIALS	TOTAL YIELD (t/ha)
Sovereign	13	13.2
SovGold	13	14.3

Mean of 13 trials at multiple locations

Kimihia (2013, 2015, 2016), Hinds (2013, 2014, 2016), Gore (2013, 2014, 2015), Lincoln (2013, 2014, 2016) and Manawatu (2015).

Key Tips

- Kale is traditionally sown between late November and early December. The only reason to sow earlier is if it is being sown in very dry conditions or lambs are being used to graze the crop in February/March. Early sowing of kale may produce higher drymatters and therefore possibly higher yields by late autumn, however this is associated with older plants with more lignin and lower quality stems. This can make utilisation harder and often leads to more stem left in the paddock complicating future management.
- January or early February sown **SovGold** is a genuine alternative to sowing rape at this time. The benefits are that **SovGold** will hold leaf for longer and the stem will maintain its quality for longer. A great option for young cattle and sheep grazing.