

Invitation is a late maturing, yellow-fleshed swede, with high bulb and leaf yield. It provides excellent winter feed for sheep, cattle and deer.

High yield & disease tolerance

Invitation produces excellent total DM yields with good dry rot tolerance and strong resistance to powdery mildew. *Invitation* is not recommended as a second crop.

Total DM yield (trial mean = 100%), dry rot tolerance and mildew resistance.

Variety	Total DM yield* (kg DM/ha)	Dry rot tolerance** (% of bulbs not infected)	Mildew resistance*** (score)
<i>Invitation</i>	111 a	72 b	8.9 a
<i>Winton</i>	104 ab	47 bc	6.5 c
<i>Aparima Gold</i>	103 ac	43 cd	5.6 d
<i>Highlander</i>	100 bd	50 bc	5.7 d
<i>Major Plus</i>	99 bd	45 bd	6.5 c
<i>Dominion</i>	92 cd	67 bc	4.9 e
<i>Keystone</i> ◇	91 cd	100 a	7.0 bc
Trial Mean	10,052	56%	7.1

*Total DM Yield over 5 trials in Southland, South Otago & Canterbury from 2006/07 to 2008/09.

**Dry rot tolerance data from Southland trial in 2008/09 under moderate to high dry rot pressure.

***Mildew resistance score from two Southland trials during 2007 & 2009 under moderate to high mildew pressure (Scored on basis of 9 = high resistance, 1 = very susceptible).

◇Note: Keystone has only been in 2/5 yield trials and 1/2 mildew resistance trials.

Statistical significance lettering given for 5% LSD level, varieties with same letter are not significantly different.

Good leaf yield

Invitation produces high leaf yields, which is helpful when introducing swedes into an animals diet, particularly for younger stock.

Bulb and leaf keeping ability

Invitation has shown high bulb keeping ability and leaf retention in trials, helping maintain its feed quality through to the end of winter.

Using *Invitation*

Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sow							Graze		
Maturity Date:		170 - 250 days							
Typical yield:		10 - 16 t DM/ha							
ME:		12 - 14 MJ/kg DM							
Sowing rate:		0.5 - 0.8 kg/ha ridged 0.8 - 1.5 kg/ha drilled							