

# Swedes

## Introduction

Swedes are a high yielding, slow maturing winter crop, used as a single graze option typically between June and August. They are normally sown in late spring or summer in cool, summer moist climates, and are widely used in southern and inland areas of New Zealand.

They typically yield 10-16 t DM/ha with higher feed quality than kales; typical ME values are 12+. Swedes maintain their bulb quality better than turnips, especially in frosty conditions. They are most often strip-grazed and cultivars have a range of maturity dates. They can be grazed by a variety of stock types in a range of farming systems.

Swedes are generally not recommended for double cropping because of the risk of disease.

## Cultivar descriptions

### *Invitation*

*Invitation* is a late maturing, high yielding, leafy, yellow-fleshed swede with good dry rot tolerance and powdery mildew resistance. Information to date indicates *Invitation* has good club root tolerance. *Invitation* has shown high bulb keeping and leaf retention ability, and is late flowering making it a good option where feeding into spring.

### *Aparima Gold*

Medium maturing yellow-fleshed cultivar with club root and dry rot tolerance. Offers a high proportion of top with high overall yield.

### *Ceres Dominion*

*Dominion* is an early maturing high yielding yellow-fleshed main crop cultivar. *Dominion* has average leaf retention and is susceptible to dry rot.

### *Highlander*

Later maturing cultivar with white flesh and high proportion of leaf. Offers good overall yield, but is susceptible to dry rot and club root.

### *Keystone*

A medium maturing white-fleshed swede that offers high dry rot tolerance but is susceptible to clubroot.

### *Major Plus*

*Major Plus* is a yellow-fleshed cultivar with good overall yield. It is early maturing and produces an average proportion of top. Susceptible to dry rot and club root.

### *Winton*

Medium maturity white-fleshed cultivar with good overall yield. Produces a high proportion of top with good disease resistance.