

Borage

- ⬡ **Opportunities to earn over £1000 per hectare**
- ⬡ **Later spring sowing allows for Black-grass control**
- ⬡ **Reduced slug populations**
- ⬡ **Excellent entry into subsequent wheat crop**
- ⬡ **High Value/Low Volume - minimal crop movement and low storage space**
- ⬡ **Bee friendly**



'Grow for a Market'

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

There is a real demand for HIGH grade UK produced borage oil, 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.

To meet this demand Technology Crops are recruiting grower partners to develop long term relationships, share best practice and offer practical support to maximise profit for all concerned.



Borage

Excellent Gross Margin Opportunity

Borage is probably the most profitable arable spring sown crop available, with opportunities to earn around £900/ha gross margin.

Spring Crops	Yield T/Ha	Crop £/T	Prem £/T	Crop Income £/Ha	Seeds £/Ha	Ferts £/Ha	Chems £/Ha	Total Vari £/Ha	Gross Margin £/Ha
Borage	0.40	£3000	-	£1,200	£160	£50	£110	£320	£880.00
Peas	3.25	£300	£30	£1,073	£100	£100	£110	£310	£762.50
Malting barley	6.00	£150	£20	£1,020	£75	£130	£150	£355	£665.00
Spring Linseed	1.90	£400	-	£760	£85	£90	£95	£270	£490.00
Spring beans	3.50	£185	£20	£718	£60	£80	£110	£250	£468.00
Spring wheat	5.00	£155	£15	£850	£65	£170	£150	£385	£465.00
Spring oats	5.00	£140	-	£700	£65	£100	£80	£245	£455.00
Spring HEAR	2.10	£295	£60	£746	£90	£180	£85	£355	£390.50
Spring "00" rape	2.20	£295	£15	£682	£60	£180	£85	£325	£357.00

Source: Technology Crops Ltd.

Above are lists of potential gross margins given normal situations of production. It is presented in good faith as a guide to the most profitable cropping for spring 2014 however there may be changes to some crops with the use of home saved seed, seed production contracts, specialist buy back contracts etc. Spot prices for sale of crop and inputs will vary.

■ Break crops

■ Cereal crops



Borage Agronomy

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.

Full Agronomic support is available from Technology Crops experts.

Pests and Beneficials

Borage is unpalatable to pigeons and slugs.

Slug populations may even be reduced to aid following crop establishment

Bees

Although Borage attracts many wild pollinators it is necessary to contact a local beekeeper to put hives on the farm. 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.

Technology Crops can provide contact details for local bee keepers and farmers.

