



## Best Management Practices for the Production of Durum Wheat in Ontario

C&M Seeds has prepared the following best management practices, based on 5 years experience to help make durum wheat production a success in Ontario.

1. **Field Selection:** Hallmark Durum Wheat is best suited to high fertility clay loam and clay soils.
2. **Time of Seeding:** Durum should be the first crop seeded in the spring. It will handle cool soil temperatures, resulting in highest possible yields.
3. **Seeding Rate:** the seeding rate for durum wheat is 160-185 lb/acre (based on 2008 seed sizes). You want to aim for between 1.6-1.8 million seeds per acre, or 400-450 per meter squared. Durum wheat will not tiller as aggressively as spring wheat and generally has a slightly larger seed size than traditional spring wheat varieties.
4. **Planting Depth:** Durum wheat should be planted into a fit seedbed normally and placed into soil moisture, normally at a depth between  $\frac{3}{4}$  and 1 inch deep.
5. **Weed Control:** Durum wheat is slow growing during its early stages so early season weed control is critical to maximizing yield potential.
6. **Crop Rotation:** Durum should not follow corn in the rotation due to the possibility of *fusarium* head blight. Ideally, durum wheat should follow soybeans, canola, alfalfa or some other broadleaf crop.
7. **Nitrogen application rates:** Applying 70-90 lbs/acre should be sufficient to maximize yields.
8. **Fungicides: Early Season:** an economic advantage will be achieved most of the time. Consider Tilt or Stratego as an early season, broad spectrum disease control measure. This can be easily and economically combined with herbicide application.
9. **Fungicides: Heading:** Folicur or Proline application at early heading provides additional protection against *fusarium* and late foliar diseases i.e.) septoria, glume blotch. Proline at the highest registered rate is the product of choice to protect Hallmark from possible head disease problems.
10. **Harvest Management:** A timely harvest is critical to keeping its milling quality. Every effort should be made to harvest as soon as possible after crop maturity.

**Please call us with any questions at 1-888-RED-WHEAT**