



Chopper[®] triticale

A high yielding, short season, grain-only triticale.

Chopper (tested as TSA0219) is a very early maturing, fully awned spring triticale. It has a semi-dwarf plant height, significantly shorter than any other currently available triticale varieties.

Chopper is a replacement for Speedee, a useful short season variety for:

- Delayed sowing as part of an integrated weed management program used to incorporate a double knock tactic.
- Delayed sowing due to seasonal conditions or for logistics, filling a later sowing window.
- Short season environments where spring conditions require a quick maturing variety.

Characteristics of Chopper

- High yielding across a wide range of environments.
- Very early maturing; a genuine short season genotype regardless of sowing time.
- Maturity is 3–4 days earlier than Speedee or 7–15 days earlier than Tahara.
- Rated MR-MS for both Jackie and WA strains of stripe rust
- Semi-dwarf

- Short straw length—under very high yielding conditions, Chopper will not lodge to the extent of normal 'tall' or 'moderately tall' triticale varieties.

Grain yield

The very early maturity and genuine short season phenology of Chopper means that it excels in short seasons (e.g. late sowing or drought escape in a sharp finish) and low yield potential environments (e.g. drought stressed).

Chopper has a significant yield benefit, between 15 and 30%, over Speedee, the variety it is replacing.

Growing Chopper triticale

Chopper should be sown at the end of the main wheat sowing window, from the end of May through June. It can also be sown successfully in July.

Seeding rate should target 120 plants per m² and be increased slightly as sowing date is delayed.

Chopper should be managed very similarly to wheat with adequate fertiliser and effective weed control.

Full guidelines for growing triticale and the use of triticale as stockfeed are available from your local Waratah Seed Co Ltd member or visit our website at www.waratahseeds.com.au

Table 1 Varietal characteristics of Chopper and other grain only triticale varieties

	Straw strength	Maturity	CCN	Stem rust	Leaf rust	Stripe rust	
						Tobruk ^R	Yr17-27 ^R
Chopper[®]	very good	very quick	R	MR	R	MR-MS (MS-S)^S	MR
Berkshire [®]	good	quick/mid	-	MR	R	MS	MS
Hawkeye [®]	good	mid	R	MR-R	R	MR (MS) ^B	MR
Jaywick [®]	good	quick/mid	R	MR-R	R	MR (MS) ^B	MR
Speedee	mod-good	very quick	S	MR	R	S-VS	MR
Tahara	mod	quick/mid	R	R	R	MS	MR
Tobruk	very good	quick	-	R	R	MS-S	MR

Disease resistance: S-susceptible; MS-moderately susceptible; MR-moderately resistant; R-resistant.

^R stripe rust strain or pathotype

^B some plants are more susceptible, noted in brackets

Table 2 Predicted average yield in New South Wales, 2004-10 for main season trial.

	Predicted grain yield ^Y (t/ha)		
	NE NSW	NW NSW	SE NSW
Chopper[Ⓛ]	4.29 (5)	3.31 (3)	4.17 (11)
Berkshire [Ⓛ]	4.82 (6)	3.68 (4)	4.71 (14)
Hawkeye [Ⓛ]	4.62 (7)	3.60 (5)	4.64 (17)
Jaywick [Ⓛ]	4.89 (7)	3.61 (5)	4.61 (17)
Speedee	3.36 (6)	2.88 (4)	3.31 (10)
Tahara	4.23 (8)	3.32 (6)	4.12 (21)
Tobruk [Ⓛ]	4.55 (8)	3.61 (6)	4.48 (21)

^Y The number of experiments is shown in brackets. The more trials, the greater the reliability of the data.

Table 3 Predicted average yield in Victoria, 2004-10 for main season (north east and Mallee) and long season (south west) trials.

Variety	Predicted grain yield ^Y (t/ha)		
	North east	South west	Mallee
Chopper[Ⓛ]	2.80 (6)	4.00 (6)	2.47 (5)
Berkshire [Ⓛ]	2.93 (8)	4.38 (6)	2.59 (4)
Hawkeye [Ⓛ]	2.85 (10)	4.33 (16)	2.58 (8)
Jaywick [Ⓛ]	2.84 (10)	4.28 (10)	2.53 (8)
Speedee	2.27 (4)	na	2.03 (8)
Tahara	2.57 (12)	3.79 (20)	2.39 (10)
Tobruk [Ⓛ]	2.82 (10)	4.18 (22)	na

^Y The number of experiments is shown in brackets. The more trials, the greater the reliability of the data.

Table 4 Predicted average yield in South Australia, 2004-10 for main season trials

Variety	Predicted grain yield ^Y (t/ha)					
	South east	Mid North	Murray Mallee	York Peninsula	Upper Eyre Peninsula	Lower Eyre Peninsula
Chopper[Ⓛ]	4.31 (3)	3.68 (3)	1.59 (3)	2.26 (3)	2.04 (6)	2.97 (6)
Berkshire [Ⓛ]	4.83 (3)	na	na	na	2.16 (4)	3.23 (4)
Hawkeye [Ⓛ]	4.61 (5)	3.47 (5)	1.66 (5)	2.28 (5)	2.11 (9)	3.09 (10)
Jaywick [Ⓛ]	4.64 (5)	3.46 (5)	1.66 (5)	2.30 (5)	2.08 (9)	3.05 (10)
Speedee	na	2.84 (5)	1.39 (5)	1.93 (5)	1.76 (9)	2.48 (8)
Tahara	4.17 (6)	3.21 (6)	1.56 (6)	2.17 (6)	2.04 (11)	2.82 (12)
Tobruk [Ⓛ]	4.79 (6)	3.47 (3)	na	2.28 (3)	2.08 (3)	2.92 (6)

^Y The number of experiments is shown in brackets. The more trials, the greater the reliability of the data.

website www.waratahseeds.com.au or email info@waratahseeds.com.au

For more information or seed supply contact your local Waratah Seed Co. Ltd. member:

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