

Delaying cereal seed germination

Coating autumn sown cereal seed to delay germination to reduce the risk of delayed drilling in fields under threat from annual grass-weed

Readiness for use: 

Efficacy: 

How it works

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- Delayed drilling of autumn sown cereals is a very effective method to reduce grass-weed populations in crop
- The later the crop is drilled in the autumn, the higher the risk of adverse weather stopping drilling or poor crop establishment
- Coat cereal seed with polymer, similar to those used with sugar beet which will delay germination.
- De-risks delayed drilling as seed is sown earlier in autumn (2 – 3 weeks earlier).
- Avoids seed not being drilled.
- Cereal germination occurs when there is enough moisture to break down the coatings.
- After drilling but before the cereal seed germinates, still a period for use of non-selective herbicides to remove weeds.

Photo: Rothamsted

