

Wheat

Variety fact sheet – Victoria & South Australia

Ballista[®]



Variety snapshot

- Quick maturity, slightly quicker than Scepter[®], similar to Mace[®]
- AH quality classification
- Very stable yield across a range of environments and conditions
- CCN resistance equal to Scepter[®]
- An alternative to Scepter[®], Vixen[®] & Calibre[®]

Breeder's comments

Ballista[®] was released off the back of outstanding results in our yield trials over many years and continues to build upon the strength of its Mace[®] parentage.

Ballista[®] will be most closely compared with Scepter[®], Vixen[®] and Calibre[®]. Compared with Scepter[®], Ballista[®] offers higher yields across a broad range of environments and growing conditions, while carrying very similar disease resistance attributes. Versus Vixen[®], Ballista[®] has produced comparable yields in SA and western Victoria, and is not as quick to mature, giving Ballista[®] a wider and more flexible sowing window. Perhaps the most important difference between Ballista[®] and Vixen[®] is CCN resistance; where Vixen[®] is rated MSS and Ballista[®] is MRMS. Combined with better levels of sprouting tolerance than Vixen[®], Ballista[®] appears to be a reliable alternative. Compared with Calibre[®], Ballista[®] seems to offer slightly higher yields in high yield potential environments, and is shorter in plant height, which may be an advantage over Calibre[®] in more productive locations.

Over-all, Ballista[®] has been released to suit the majority of SA and western Victorian cropping areas, offering a dominant package of high and stable yield, AH quality, CCN resistance and Mace[®] type maturity.

Table 1. Specifications

Background

Tested as	RAC2598
Released	2020
EPR rate	\$3.50/tonne + GST

Performance

Grain yield	Please consult the NVT website for current data: https://nvt.grdc.com.au/
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Disease

Stem Rust resistance*	MR
Stripe Rust resistance*	MSS
Leaf Rust resistance*	S
Yellow Leaf Spot resistance*	MS
Powdery Mildew resistance*	SVS
Septoria Tritici Blotch resistance*	SVS
CCN resistance*	MRMS
Pratylenchus Neglectus resistance*	S
Pratylenchus Neglectus tolerance*	MTMI
Eyespot resistance*	S
Crown Rot resistance*	S

Plant Characteristics

Maturity speed^	Quick
Maturity habit^	Spring
Sowing window^	Main & Late
Novel herbicide tolerance^	None (conventional tolerance)
Head type^	Awned
Plant height^	Moderately short
Coleoptile length^	Short
Lodging tolerance^	MTMI

Abiotic Stress

Boron tolerance^	Carries tolerance gene
Acid/aluminium tolerance^	Carries tolerance gene

Grain Quality

Quality classification	AH
Screenings level^	White
Retentions level^	Moderate
Test weight^	Moderate
Sprouting tolerance^o	I
Black Point resistance*	MS

Legend

R	Resistant	VI	Very Intolerant	o	Rating based on Germination Index Values
MR	Moderately Resistant	(P)	Provisional rating	^	AGT ratings/data interpretation. Comprehensive AGT agronomic trait ratings and data can be found at: https://bit.ly/TraitRatings
MS	Moderately Susceptible	NA	Not Available		
S	Susceptible	/	Pathotype differences		
VS	Very Susceptible	-	Range		
T	Tolerant	,	Mixed phenotype		
MT	Moderately Tolerant	#	May be more susceptible to alternate pathotypes		
MI	Moderately Intolerant	*	NVT consensus ratings 2025		
I	Intolerant				



Seed Availability

Please contact an AGT Affiliate or your local retailer for seed. Consult the AGT website for AGT Affiliate contact details (www.agtbreeding.com.au/affiliates). AGT varieties can be traded between growers upon the completion of a License Agreement as part of AGT's Seed Sharing™ initiative (www.agtbreeding.com.au/seedsharing)

PBR and EPR

Varieties denoted by the ® symbol are protected by Plant Breeders Rights (PBR) and all production (except seed saved for planting) is liable to an End Point Royalty (EPR), which funds future plant breeding. Growers of PBR protected varieties will be subject to a Grower License Agreement that acknowledges that an EPR must be paid on all production other than seed saved for planting.

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The information contained in this brochure is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. Growers should be aware of the need to regularly consult with their advisors on local conditions and currency of information. Wherever possible, independent NVT data has been used in this publication. In the absense of NVT data, AGT data has been provided.