

Durum

Variety fact sheet – Victoria & South Australia

# Bitalli<sup>®</sup>



- Best suited to low-medium rainfall environments
- ADR quality classification
- Very good physical grain quality characteristics with low screenings and high test weight
- Quick-mid maturity, providing good adaptation in tough finishes to the growing season
- Small improvement in crown rot resistance over most other varieties

## Breeder's comments

Bitalli<sup>®</sup> has established itself as one of the most reliable durum varieties currently available.

Bitalli<sup>®</sup> represents our breeding aim of producing a 'low risk' durum variety, combining adaptation to a range of environments and growing conditions, excellent grain quality with low screenings risk and high test weights, and suitable levels of straw strength. Most importantly however, Bitalli<sup>®</sup> has achieved our goal of developing a durum variety that produces consistent, high yields across all southern Australian durum growing environments.

Bitalli<sup>®</sup> is derived from a Saintly<sup>®</sup> cross, maturing slightly later than Saintly<sup>®</sup>, and a few days earlier than DBA Aurora<sup>®</sup>. Unlike Saintly<sup>®</sup>, Bitalli<sup>®</sup> is a fully awned variety.

The disease profile of Bitalli<sup>®</sup> is comparable with most durum varieties currently on the market, with good resistance to most foliar diseases. Bitalli<sup>®</sup> offers a slight improvement in crown rot resistance over commonly grown varieties such as DBA Aurora<sup>®</sup>. As crown rot is a major constraint on durum production, even a small improvement in this trait is likely to provide some benefit to growers.

Bitalli<sup>®</sup> has an ADR quality classification in SA/Vic and produces grain with low screenings losses, similar to DBA Aurora<sup>®</sup>.

The naming convention we use for our durum varieties is Melbourne Cup winners, with 'Bitalli' taking the cup in 1923.

Table 1. Specifications

Background

Tested as	AGTD088
Released	2019
EPR rate	\$3.50/tonne + GST

Performance

Grain yield	Please consult the NVT website for current data: <a href="https://nvt.grdc.com.au/">https://nvt.grdc.com.au/</a>
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Disease

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

Plant Characteristics

Maturity speed^	Quick-mid
Maturity habit^	Spring
Sowing window^	Main & late
Novel herbicide tolerance^	None (conventional tolerance)
Head type^	Awned
Plant height^	Moderate
Coleoptile length^	Short
Lodging tolerance^	I

Abiotic Stress

Boron tolerance^	NA
Acid/aluminium tolerance^	NA

Grain Quality

Quality classification	ADR
Screenings level^	Low
Test weight^	High
Sprouting tolerance^o	MI
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: <a href="https://bit.ly/TraitRatings">https://bit.ly/TraitRatings</a>
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](http://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](http://www.agtbreeding.com.au/seedsharing))

### *PBR and EPR*

Varieties denoted by the <sup>®</sup> 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.