

Durum

Variety fact sheet – Northern NSW & Queensland

AGT- Banker[®]



- The new yield benchmark for durum varieties in northern durum growing regions
- Elite yielding alternative to Westcourt^Φ, DBA Mataroi^Φ, DBA Lillaroï^Φ and other varieties
- Excellent rust and yellow leaf spot resistance
- Good performance in crown rot affected yield trials relative to other varieties
- Improved black point resistance compared with Westcourt^Φ
- ADR quality classification with very high test weights

Breeder's comments

AGT-Banker[®] has been released on the back of exceptional yield performance in the north, setting a new yield benchmark across all northern growing regions.

We regard AGT-Banker[®] as an excellent replacement for all currently grown durum varieties in the north including Westcourt[®], DBA Mataroi[®] and DBA Lillaroï[®].

AGT-Banker[®] offers a package of attributes that northern durum growers will value: high and stable yield, high relative yield in the presence of crown rot, excellent stem, stripe and leaf rust resistance, excellent yellow leaf spot resistance, good black point resistance, and good physical grain quality.

AGT-Banker[®] takes its name from the winner of the Melbourne Cup in 1863.

Table 1. Specifications

Background

Tested as	AGTD173
Released	2025
EPR rate	\$4.30/tonne + GST

Disease

Stem Rust resistance*	RMR (P)
Stripe Rust resistance*	MR (P)
Leaf Rust resistance*	RMR (P)
Yellow Leaf Spot resistance*	MRMS (P)
Septoria Tritici Blotch resistance*	MR/S (P)
Pratylenchus Thornei resistance*	NA
Pratylenchus Thornei tolerance*	NA
Crown Rot resistance*	NA

Plant Characteristics

Maturity speed [^]	Mid
Maturity habit [^]	Spring
Sowing window [^]	Main & late
Novel herbicide tolerance [^]	None (conventional tolerance)
Head type [^]	Awned
Plant height [^]	Moderately tall
Coleoptile length [^]	Short
Lodging tolerance [^]	MII

Abiotic Stress

Boron tolerance [^]	NA
Acid/aluminium tolerance [^]	NA

Grain Quality

Quality classification	ADR
Screenings level [^]	Moderate
Test weight [^]	Very high
Sprouting tolerance ^{^o}	MII
Black Point resistance*	NA

Legend

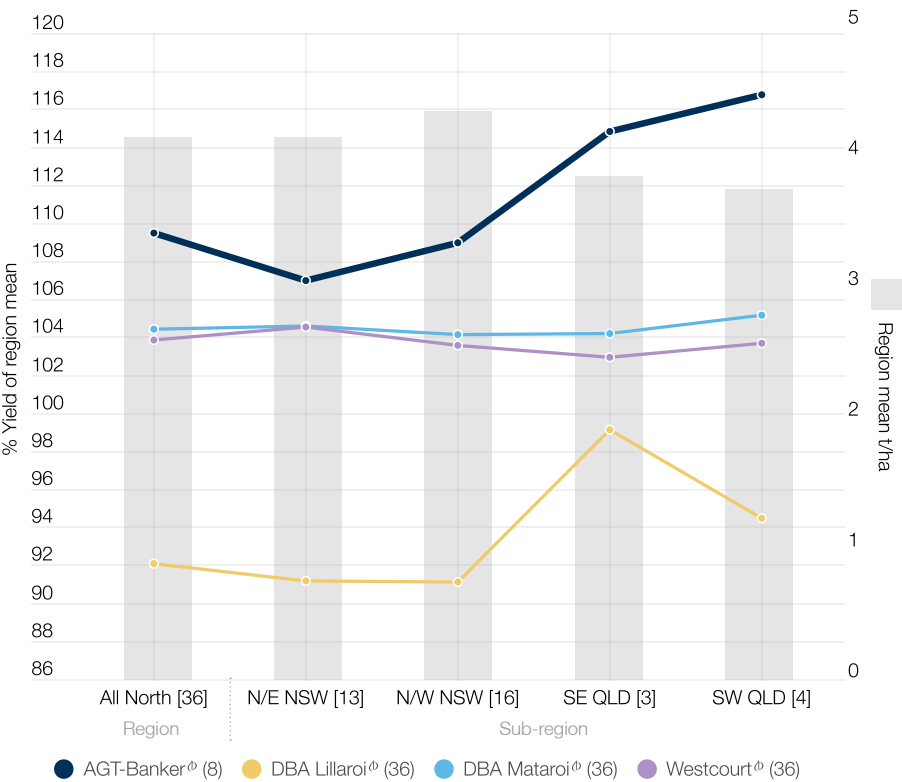
R	Resistant	VI	Very Intolerant	o	Rating based on Germination Index Values
MR	Moderately Resistant	(P)	Provisional rating	^	AGT ratings/data interpretation. Comprehensive AGT agronomic trait ratings and data can be found at: https://bit.ly/TraitRatings
MS	Moderately Susceptible	NA	Not Available		
S	Susceptible	/	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				

Grain yield

AGT-Banker[®] has set a new yield benchmark in northern durum growing regions (Figure1), out-classing all other established varieties.

Due to its exceptional grain yield, AGT-Banker[®] may require the application of additional nitrogen during the growing season (above what has normally been applied to lower yielding, older varieties) so that appropriate grain protein content is achieved.

Figure 1. Predicted grain yield of AGT-Banker[®] versus comparators across Northern regions



Source: NVT long term MET analysis, main season trial series 2020-2024

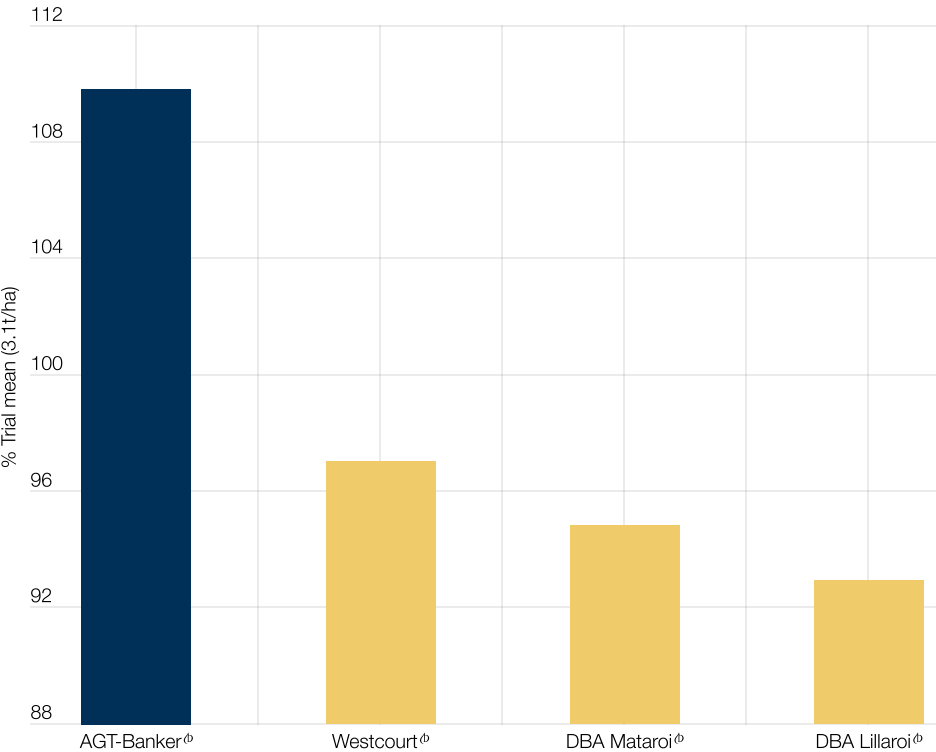
[] : Total number of trials per region

() : Number of trials that each variety was present in across the dataset

Grain yield in the presence of crown rot

Long term crown rot trials show that AGT-Banker[®] has demonstrated an ability to maintain yield in the presence of crown rot, offering over 12% higher yields than Westcourt[®] (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Grain yield of AGT-Banker[®] versus comparators in AGT crown rot yield evaluation trials



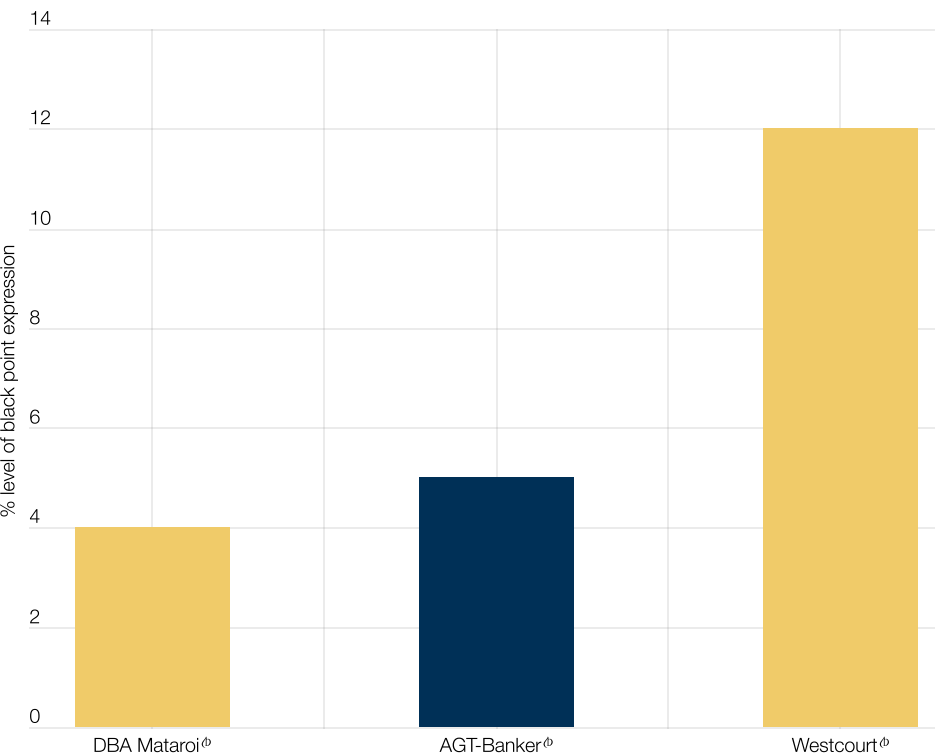
Source: AGT MET analysis, crown rot yield trials, Narrabri NSW 2020-2024

Note: Average PreDicta B[®] level recorded at trial locations across years = 4.6 (log Fusarium DNA/g soil). A level above 2.0 is considered high.

Black point

Five AGT trials in 2022 (a high black point expression season) showed that AGT-Banker[®] had significantly lower levels of black point expression than Westcourt[®] (Figure 3). An official black point rating is likely to be given to AGT-Banker[®] ahead of the 2026 season.

Figure 3. Level of black point expression in AGT-Banker[®] versus comparators



Source: AGT black point observations, 5 trials in 2022

Variety comparisons

AGT-Banker[®] has an ADR quality classification in the northern region, and produces grain with moderate grain size similar to DBA Lillaro[®] and DBA Mataro[®], and very high test weight similar to Westcourt[®].

AGT-Banker[®] is a mid maturing variety, reaching head emergence a little quicker than Westcourt[®] and a little slower than DBA Lillaro[®] and DBA Mataro[®].

AGT-Banker[®] offers excellent rust and yellow leaf spot resistance, similar to other durum varieties.

Table 2. Variety comparisons

		AGT-Banker [®]	DBA Lillaro [®]	DBA Mataro [®]	Westcourt [®]
Disease	Stern Rust resistance*	RMR (P)	RMR	MRMS	RMR
	Stripe Rust resistance*	MR (P)	MRMS	MRMS	MR
	Leaf Rust resistance*	RMR (P)	RMR	MR	RMR
	Yellow Leaf Spot resistance*	MRMS (P)	MRMS	MRMS	MRMS
	Septoria Tritici Blotch resistance*	MR/S (P)	S	MSS	S
	Pratylenchus Thornei resistance*	NA	RMR	RMR	MR
	Pratylenchus Thornei tolerance*	NA	MT	MI	MTMI
	Crown Rot resistance*	NA	SVS	SVS	VS
Plant Characteristics	Maturity speed^	Mid	Quick-mid	Quick-mid	Mid
	Maturity habit^	Spring	Spring	Spring	Spring
	Sowing window^	Main & late	Main & late	Main & late	Main & late
	Novel herbicide tolerance^	None (conventional tolerance)	None (conventional tolerance)	None (conventional tolerance)	None (conventional tolerance)
	Head type^	Awned	Awned	Awned	Awned
	Plant height^	Moderately tall	Moderate	Moderate	Moderately tall-tall
	Coleoptile length^	Short	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
	Lodging tolerance^	MII	I	MTMI	MI
Abiotic Stress	Boron tolerance^	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Acid/aluminium tolerance^	NA	NA	NA	NA
Grain Quality	Quality classification	ADR	ADR	ADR	ADR
	Screenings level^	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Very low
	Test weight^	Very high	Low	High	Very high
	Sprouting tolerance^o	MII	MI	MII	MI
	Black Point resistance*	NA	MS	MS	MSS



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 absence of NVT data, AGT data has been provided.