

# Sungold

## Spelt

Sungold is a food grade spelt with excellent baking qualities. Excellent standability and winter survival. Sungold is easily distinguishable from Oberkulmer, Champ, and Maverick as it has medium brown chaff.

Straw is becoming increasingly valuable and spelt provides some of the best straw available. Spelt straw is very fine and extra absorbent as a bedding. Yields of up to 100 bales per acre are common.

The major disease to worry about in spelt is Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus. Plant after the fly free dates to avoid this. It is also susceptible to most diseases that affect wheat. If it is impossible to avoid planting spelt after a small grain or grass, clean tillage is essential.

### Soil Adaptation

Wet – Difficult because wet areas may exacerbate winter-kill problems and interfere with harvesting

Drought – Fair. Productive during fall and spring, which tends to reduce drought risk.

pH Range –6.0 and above

### Cutting Management

Harvest is later than wheat. Cut or graze at flag leaf stage before head has emerged for forage use. Leave a 2-4” residual height. Can be grazed lightly in fall before dormancy, but be sure that crowns are not destroyed.

For grain, it is fully mature when heads “cane” and turn downward.

## At A Glance:

- ◇ Food grade, excellent for baking
- ◇ Tall with good standability
- ◇ Earlier heading than Oberkulmer and Comet
- ◇ Brown chaff
- ◇ Smaller seed size than most other spelt

### Best Uses:

Grazing, Haylage, Baleage, Dry Hay, Grain

### Establishment:

Planting Dates: Early fall, Same as winter wheat seeding dates.

Seeding Rate: 125lbs/Acre

Seeding Depth: 1”-1<sup>1/2</sup>”