Cabbage,
to crop in the autumn
'Buscaro' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by Elsoms Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid. Dark-red, oval-round, solid heads. Very short core, with fairly thin petioles. Plant spread to 90cm. Average diameter of trimmed heads 14cm across × 17cm deep.
Attractive dark-red, oval-round, well filled heads. Stands well.
Available in one retail catalogue.

'Castello' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by and available from Shelley Seeds. Also offered by Thompson & Morgan Ltd as young plants.
Hybrid. Versatile cabbage, with dense, round heads and medium-short core. Ready from the end of August and standing well to the end of September. Plant spread to 55cm. Average diameter of trimmed heads 17cm.
Spread of maturity is useful to the gardener. Cut and cooked when just ready, it will have a little yellow at the centre and good flavour, or can be left to fully mature for dense white cabbage that shreds well.
Widely available.

'Consulate' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid, semi-Savoy. Dark-green, round, dense heads, with short core and creamy internal colour, cropping from late September. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed heads 15cm.
Attractive dark-green, dense heads, with good flavour, for late autumn cropping.
Available in one retail catalogue.

'Embassy' AGM (H4) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H4) 2008.
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid. Solid, lightly blistered, round head with creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed heads 18cm.
Versatile, lightly blistered cabbage with sweet flavour. Stands well.
Available in one retail catalogue.
'Hotspur' AGM (H3) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H3) 2001.
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid. Dark-green, dense heads with white internal colour and a shorter core. Plant spread to 50cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm.
Attractive dark-green, dense heads with a good wrap. Its upright habit is ideal for the garden. Would suit closer spacing.
Available in one retail catalogue.

'Minicole' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by and available from D T Brown & Co. Also offered by Thompson & Morgan Ltd.
Hybrid. Compact plants produce solid, round, dark-green heads with creamy-white internal colour. Medium length core. Plant spread to 55cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 17cm.
Good early-autumn cultivar with attractive round heads. Could be spaced at 15” × 15” (38 × 38cm).
Widely available.

'Noelle' (syn. Holly) AGM (H4) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H4) 1998.
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid. January King type with flattened-round heads and dark-green leaves, flushed purple. Creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm across × 12cm deep.
Attractive January King type with flattened-round heads and dark-green leaves, flushed purple.
Available in three retail catalogues.

'Picador' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by and available from S E Marshall & Co Ltd.
Hybrid. Good quality, dense, round, green heads with white internal colour and a shorter core. Plant spread to 55cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 17cm
Good quality, round heads. Flexible; can be sown from February to May for July to November cropping.
Available in two retail catalogues.

'Providence' AGM (H3) 2009.
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.
Hybrid. Mid-season Savoy. Dark-green heads are well filled, have a short core and creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 15cm.
Attractive, mid-season Savoy with good flavour.
Available in one retail catalogue.
'Red Jewel' AGM (H3) 2009.  
Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.  
Hybrid. Solid, round-headed, red cabbage, with upright foliage and a short core. Plant spread to 80cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 16cm.  
Attractive, round-headed, red cabbage. Could be grown at a closer spacing.  
Available in three retail catalogues.

'Redcap' AGM (H4) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H4) 2008.  
Sent by and available from Thompson & Morgan Ltd.  
Hybrid. Solid, round-headed, red cabbage with a small stalk and thin ribs. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 16cm.  
Smaller red cabbage, bred for high density planting and baby heads of 750g-800g. Could be spaced 12" × 12" (30 × 30cm) for 250g-500g heads.  
Available in one retail catalogue.

'Robin' AGM (H4) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H4) 2001.  
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.  
Hybrid. January King type with flattened-round heads, dark-green leaves and creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm across × 14cm deep.  
Attractive January King type. Solid heads with good sweet flavour.  
Widely available.

'Rodeo' AGM (H3) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H3) 1996.  
Sent by and available from Mr Fothergill's Seeds.  
Hybrid. Dense, oval-headed, red cabbage. Plant spread to 75cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 17cm across × 21cm deep.  
Good quality, dense, oval, dark-red, heads with a short core.  
Available in two retail catalogues.

'Roulette' AGM (H4) 2009, reconfirming AGM (H4) 1998.  
Sent by and available from Tozer Seeds Ltd.  
Hybrid. Dutch white x January King. Medium sized, round, green heads with creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 65cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 17cm.  
Some January King in the breeding. Cooks well. Good, sweet flavour.  
Available in two retail catalogues.
'Savoy Serve' AGM (H3) 2009.  
Sent by and available from D T Brown & Co.  
Hybrid. Early autumn Savoy. Bright-green, well filled heads with medium length core and creamy internal colour. Plant spread to 70cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 17cm. **Attractive Savoy with good flavour, for early autumn cropping. Available in two retail catalogues.**

'Sherwood' AGM (H3) 2009.  
Sent by and available from S E Marshall & Co Ltd. Also offered by Tozer Seeds Ltd.  
Hybrid. Flatter, round-headed cabbages are dense with a short core. Dark green with white internal colour. Plant spread to 60cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm. **Attractive flatter, round-headed, solid, dark-green heads. Flexible; can be sown from February to May for July to November cropping. Widely available.**

'Stallion' AGM (H3) 2009.  
Sent by and available from Unwins Seeds Ltd.  
Hybrid. Savoy cross with dense, round, dark-green heads, a shorter core and thin leaves. Plant spread to 65cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm. **Very uniform, solid, round, Savoy cross with a shorter core and thin leaves.**  
**Available in two retail catalogues.**

H3 = plants hardy outside in some regions or in particular situations or which, whilst usually grown outside in summer, need frost-free protection in winter.  
H4 = plants hardy outside throughout the British Isles.

The following entry cannot receive the AGM recommended to it until queries on availability have been resolved. It is the responsibility of the sender to inform the Trials Office at Wisley that all queries have been resolved.

**SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY**

'Sky Ace'. Sent by Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd.  
Hybrid. Solid green cabbage with white internal colour. Plant spread to 55cm. Average diameter of trimmed head 18cm. **Dense heads with a very short core and thicker petioles.**  
**Not yet available in retail catalogues.**
Sources of seed for these cultivars vary from year to year. Please see the Royal Horticultural Society's leaflet *Award of Garden Merit* Vegetables for current stockists.

This leaflet is available on the web at [http://www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/Plant-trials-and-awards/Plant-awards/AGM-plants](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/Plant-trials-and-awards/Plant-awards/AGM-plants)

A copy can also be obtained by sending an A4 sized, self addressed envelope with two first class stamps to: 'AGM List', Botany Department, Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB

A full listing of vegetable seeds suppliers is also available on the RHS website at [www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers](http://www.rhs.org.uk/vegseedsuppliers)

**Trial Notes**

**Objectives:**
- To assess a range of autumn-cropping cabbage cultivars.
- To recommend the Award of Garden Merit [AGM] to outstanding cultivars for garden use.
- To demonstrate the cultivation of cabbages, including reds that are grown for autumn use.

**Entries:**
There were 47 entries in the trial submitted by various seed companies in the UK, Europe, USA and Korea.

**Cultivation:**
The site was manured, then rotavated in spring. Seed was sown under glass on 11 May into seed pans of peat-free sowing compost, covered with medium vermiculite, watered with Aliette (a fungicide) and germinated at 20°C. The seedlings were later pricked out into P40 modules of peat-free compost and grown on at 15°C until ready to harden off from 1 June. Environmesh covers were kept in place from the time of sowing until planting out to prevent pest damage and the young plants were sprayed with Amistar to control downy mildew.

The plot was cultivated and raked using small, tractor-mounted equipment. It was then covered with landscape fabric prior to planting out in the last week of June. Plants were spaced 45cm apart, through the fabric to prevent root fly damage and weed growth, with 60cm between rows. A dilution of ammonium nitrate was applied with the watering. Three half rows (3.6m long) of each entry were grown and nets were used to protect the trial from bird damage. The plants were regularly inspected and a spray was used to control insect pests when necessary.

**Judging:**
The Vegetable Trials Assessment Panel inspected the trial at intervals throughout the growing season. They assessed and tasted cut heads on 26 August, 30 September and 21 October 2009 for the Award of Garden Merit [AGM].

They considered the following criteria:

maturity : health : quality : colour : shape : internal quality
head weight and density : shape : uniformity of size

**Findings:**
The trial had been planted out through black landscape fabric to keep down the chickweed, which was thought to harbour/encourage white fly, a known problem on the Trials field. There had been no need to spray for white fly and the fabric had also protected the plants from cabbage root fly (collars had been used on the front block of plants, but those
protected only by the fabric were also free from damage). A few cabbages were damaged by cabbage root fly getting into the heads. This is a problem that is usually worse in a hot, dry season and unfortunately there is no control. The trial had been sprayed fortnightly with Dipel (a product containing Bacillus thuringiensis var kurstaki), but there had still been considerable caterpillar damage. Previous AGM winning cultivars were included in the trial for comparison and they were assessed along side the newer entries. The Panel found 'Ruby Ball' had been superseded in quality and so its award was not reconfirmed. Some cultivars were ready for cutting earlier than expected and this was taken into consideration, however 'Candisa', 'Caramba', 'Red Rookie' and 'Surprise' matured too early for theparameters of the trial from the May sowing. The Panel noted that maturity was variable within the rows of some entries. They commented that a little irregularity in the cropping of acultivar could be an advantage to the gardener, who would not want a glut of cabbages. The Panel also noted that many of the cultivars produced heads that were too big for thegardener. 'Winnigstadt', a very old, open pollinated, pointed-head cultivar from the 1850s,was known to cook well and have a good flavour, but it made very large, untidy plants. Smaller cultivars, (e.g. 'Minicole' and 'Redcap' that were bred for high density planting) and the use of closer spacing would produce more useful heads of around 500-750g. The Panel recommended that for future cabbage trials the spacing be no greater than 18" × 18" (45 × 45cm), or even as small as 15" × 15" (38 × 38cm).

### Trial Entries:

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**STA** = subject to availability

**Addresses of Senders:**

Bakker Brothers, Oostelijke Randweg 12, 1723 LH Noord-Scharwoude, Netherlands.

D T Brown & Co, Bury Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7PQ.
[www.dtbrownseeds.co.uk](http://www.dtbrownseeds.co.uk)

Dobies of Devon. Samuel Dobie & Son, Long Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7SX.
[www.dobies.co.uk](http://www.dobies.co.uk)

Elsoms Seeds Ltd, Pinchbeck Road, Spalding, Lincs. PE11 1QG.

Johnsons Seeds, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB.
[www.johnsons-seeds.com](http://www.johnsons-seeds.com)

Kings Seeds, E W King & Co Ltd, Monks Farm, Coggeshall Road, Kelvedon, Essex CO5 9PG.
[www.kingsseeds.com](http://www.kingsseeds.com)

Mr Fothergill's Seeds, Gazeley Road, Kentford, Newmarket, Suffolk CB8 7QB.
[www.fothergills.co.uk](http://www.fothergills.co.uk)

Nong Woo-Bio Co Ltd, 1197-4 Maetan 2-Dong, Yeongtong, Suwon, Kyonggi, 443-372 Korea.
Pro-Veg Seeds Ltd, 6 Shingay Lane, Sawston, Cambridge CB2 4SS.
S E Marshall & Co Ltd, Alconbury Hill, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 4HY.
www.marshalls-seeds.co.uk
Sakata UK Ltd, Spalding Road, Sutterton, Boston, Lincs. PE20 2EW.
Shelley Seeds, 5 Speedwell Close, Huntington, Chester CH3 6DX.
Suttons Consumer Products Ltd, Woodview Road, Paignton, Devon TQ4 7NG.
www.suttons.co.uk
Thompson & Morgan Ltd, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU.
www.thompson-morgan.com
Tozer Seeds Ltd, Pyports, Downside Bridge Road, Cobham, Surrey KT11 3EH.
www.tozerseedsdirect.com
Unwins Seeds Ltd, Alconbury Hill, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 4HY.
www.unwins.co.uk
Western Hybrid Seeds Inc, P O Box 1169, Hamilton City, CA 95951, USA.

Source: Trials Office, The RHS Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB

e-mail: trials@rhs.org.uk
More information about RHS Trials and other trials reports can be found on the RHS Website: http://www.rhs.org.uk/trials