

*Keeping up on crop care when the weathers right,
Because more than likely rain is insight!*

The new season will soon be upon us, and now with all the beetroot drilled in the fields, the rain is welcome to help them grow and become bigger. (As long as we don't receive another 70mm, in only a few days, like last week!)

This year's beetroot drilling has been very long and drawn out. The cold spring did little to help early drilled beetroot, which seemed to stay at the same size for a long time. Continuous rain throughout the last few months, made drilling main crop beetroot difficult, certain fields we had to leave unfinished, due to being rained off. We then return at a later date, when the conditions were right to finish drilling the field.

We grow beetroot on a range of soils and our drilling programme certainly didn't go to plan this year. Lots of driving about was required, from stronger soil types to lighter ones once the rain had arrived.

Beetroot drilled in May time, got the best of the weather with warm muggy temperatures and good soil moisture, they chitted faster and seem to grow daily, which is always a nice sight, it keeps my father happy and a little less stress as well.

As the seasons pass by, you realise that one year, is never the same as the last. Last year it was fairly dry and the winds were so strong, it would blow the top soil and small beetroot plants from the ground, even with a cover crop of barley as protection. This year with it being wet, we have struggled at times to even travel on the ground.

June is our month for maintenance. Its only time in between old and new season we aren't grading beetroot. The washing plant and grading line receive a total overhaul and washing down. All bearings and rollers are replaced, ensuring as smooth as possible start to the new season.

Kind Regards

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