

# Variety Description

## Variety

**HELGA**

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| <b>Species</b>                           | Summer rapeseed      |
| <b>Botanical name</b>                    | Brassica napus       |
| <b>Ploidy</b>                            | diploid              |
| <b>Seeding rate for fodder</b>           | 8-12 kg/ha           |
| <b>Seeding rate for green manure</b>     | 15-20 kg/ha          |
| <b>Distance between rows</b>             | similar to cereals   |
| <b>Sowing period (German conditions)</b> | 20 Aug. - late Sept. |
| <b>Sowing depth</b>                      | 2-3 cm               |
| <b>Agronomic figures*:</b>               |                      |
| Erucic acid content                      | 1**                  |
| Glucosinolate content                    | 1**                  |
| Development after sowing                 | 7                    |
| Inclination to flower                    | 2                    |
| DM-yield                                 | 7                    |



### Clarification of figures\*:

1: very early, very low / 5: medium / 9: very late, very high

1\*\* = with erucic acid and glucosinulates content

\* **Source:** Bundessortenamt [Federal Plant Variety Office] 2024

### Variety description

HELGA is a summer rapeseed variety that does not contain erucic acid or glucosinulates. It is a leafy, nutritious fodder plant providing large quantities of protein-rich, highly digestible feed. HELGA's impressive characteristics also include strong performance in years when summer drought hampers fodder production and a high nutrient load when harvested as a precursor crop, thanks to its fast early development. The variety's stability is also highly rated. Due to the low tendency to flower, volunteer plants in subsequent rotations are not an issue. HELGA can also prove valuable as a late-seeding catch crop to be used as green manure, since it enriches the ground with organic material and achieves good soil cover while improving soil structure.

### Most important characteristics

does not contain erucic acid or glucosinulates  
rapid early development  
solid fodder yields

### Usage

Summer rapeseed establishes itself quickly and grows well for fodder and green manure applications. It reliably dies back in winter. When sown after the days have begun to shorten (after 20 August under German conditions), summer rapeseed remains in its vegetative phase, ensuring that flowers are not formed and volunteer plants do not become a problem in future rotations. When harvested as a green manure, summer rapeseed can actively help protect groundwater with its nutrient acquisition capacity.

