



Traffic and Grazing Tolerant Alfalfa

Big Wheel alfalfa is a high yielding alfalfa that exhibits much-improved yield and persistence over traditional varieties; even under wheel traffic pressure. **Big Wheel** alfalfa consists of elite varieties selected for high yield, traffic tolerance and persistence. **Big Wheel** alfalfa features tall, showy plants and a dense leafy canopy and medium dark green foliage. **Big Wheel** alfalfa has very good forage quality.

Fall Dormancy: 4 WSI: 2

Yield Performance:

Big Wheel components consistently test at or near the top of University and private company trials for yield when under traffic or not. When not under additional traffic, **Big Wheel** has exhibited a 12% increase in yield over ABI 403-T. Both components of **Big Wheel** have performed exceptionally well in University trials across the Corn-belt and NE averaging 107% over the trial mean in a combined 18 University trials.



Traffic/Grazing Ratings:

The major component has outstanding yield and persistence under traffic tests in various trials showing nearly 15% increase in yield under traffic over ABI-403-T. The minor component of **Big Wheel** alfalfa has a 90% stand after 2 years of continuous cattle/sheep grazing. In the same test, check varieties ABI Alfa-Graze and WL 325HQ had 79% and 5% stand ratings respectively.

Forage Quality:

Entry	ADF	NDF	CP	IVDDM	RFV	Milk/Acre	Yield/Acre
Big Wheel	31.1	37.6	22.1	75.2	164.9	11,931	5.8
WL 325HQ	30.5	36.8	22.9	75.6	169.1	11,595	5.5

The average of three cuts at four locations. (Not under traffic)

Diseases:

Anthracnose.....	HR
Aphanomyces Race 1...	HR
Bacterial Wilt.....	HR
Fusarium Wilt.....	HR
Phytophthora.....	HR
Verticillium Wilt.....	R

Pest Package:

Insects:	Pea Aphid.....	HR
	Spotted Alfalfa Aphid..	HR

Nematodes:	Stem.....	R-HR
	Northern Root Knot.....	MR

Management Keys:

Big Wheel alfalfa is adapted all across the U.S. and Canadian fall dormancy four production zone and fits three, four or five cut harvest systems. The brand demonstrates strong yield stability over the life of the stand when compared to many other fall dormancy four varieties that begin to thin during the second and third hay years. **Big Wheel** exhibits medium early maturity for first crop harvest. The wide crowns in **Big Wheel** alfalfa recover fast after harvest. The components of **Big Wheel** are wheel traffic and/or grazing tested and is well adapted to hay/rotational graze management systems. No known soil type or management system limitations.

TECH SHEET



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