

***Royal Northern Agricultural Society Media Release***

RNAS Celebrates Cereal Growers with Annual Competition

One of Scotland’s premier farming organisations has celebrated some of the best of North east agriculture thanks to its latest round of awards for cereal crops.

The Royal Northern Agricultural Society (RNAS) annual cereals competition – once again sponsored by agricultural merchants McCreath, Simpson & Prentice – was won by a crop of Kingston winter barley from AJ Duncan, Turriff. Whilst the business has grown hybrid barley for more than 15 years, the Kingston variety has been grown for the past five years due to its suitability for the land where yield this harvest averaged 4.1 tonnes per acre whilst the winning field returned 4.5 tonnes per acre.

The AJ Duncan/Duncan Arable Farms enterprise encompasses almost 7000 acres of combinable crops which are primarily used as chicken feed as well as oil seed rape, malting spring barley and oats for milling. Beans for soya replacement were introduced three years ago as part of a drive to create a carbon neutral egg for supermarkets.

Judge George Green from Daviot also chose as his reserve champion Bamford winter wheat from I&N Campbell, Kirkton, Kinellar whilst the best LFA crop was Diablo malting spring barley from Robert Murray, Tullynessle, Alford.

Commenting on this year’s competition, RNAS president Cameron MacIver said: “This annual competition, which goes from strength to strength each year, provides and important showcase for some of the excellent crop husbandry in the North East of Scotland.”

The full results are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **WINTER BARLEY** | **1** | AJ Duncan | Muirden, Turriff | Kingston |
|  |  | **2=** | J Y Middleton & Sons | Balbegno, Fettercairn | Caravelle |
|  |  | **2=** | Sandy Norrie | Woodside of Wrae, Turriff | Tardis |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** | **WINTER WHEAT** | **1** | I & N Campbell | Kirkton, Kinellar | Bamford |
|  |  | **2=** | Alex Reid | Mains of Newton, Laurencekirk | Typhoon |
|  |  | **2=** | Stuart Norrie | Cairnhill, Turriff | Byinsitor |
|  |  | **2=** | Sandy Norrie | Woodside of Wrae, Turriff | Dawsum |
|  |  | **2=** | Dave Green | Craigiewell, Woodhead, Turriff | Champion |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** | **SPRING OATS** | **1** | Robert A Murray | Scotsmill, Tullynessle, Alford | Merlin |
|  |  | **2** | James Shepherd | Murphiehowe, Drumoak | Canyon |
|  |  | **3=** | Noel Gall | Home Farm, Kininmonth | Merlin |
|  |  | **3=** | Iain Wilson | Stracathro Estate, Laurencekirk | Conway |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4** | **SPRING MALT** | **1** | James Steel | Wickerinn, Raemoir, Banchory | Laureate |
|  |  | **2=** | J Y Middleton & Sons | Balbegno, Fettercairn | Laurette |
|  |  | **2=** | Robert A Murray | Scotsmill, Tullynessle, Alford | Diablo |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **5** | **SPRING FEED** | **1** | A J Duncan | Ardfour, Turriff | Laureate |
|  |  | **2=** | J & E Forrester | Aldie, Cruden Bay | Planet |
|  |  | **2=** | Stewart Ross | Craskins, Tarland |  |
|  |  | **2=** | C & A Findlay | Turfhillock, Drummuir | Propino |

The next RNAS competition is the turnip and fodder beet competition, with entries to be submitted by November 11th while the next event on the RNAS calendar is the annual awards lunch which will take place at the Leonardo’s Hotel, Aberdeen Airport on Friday, November 1st. To find out more about either, email [secretary@rnas.info](mailto:secretary@rnas.info) or call (07593) 227847.

Notes to Editors

Details of accompanying photo(s) to be added here.

The Royal Northern Agricultural Society (RNAS) was founded in 1843 by progressive farmers and landowners in North East Scotland, an area renowned throughout the world for the quality of its livestock and the stockmanship of its farmers.  The Society aims to “improve agricultural production and the rural economy in all its branches.” It is best known for a range of activities including the acclaimed annual Spring Show, competitions for growing cereals and turnips, awards for outstanding service to agriculture and encouragement of good farming practice.  The Society has also been able to give assistance to some very worthwhile causes, particularly countryside education for young people. To find out more, visit [www.rnas.org.uk](http://www.rnas.org.uk)