HYBRID MAIZE SEED GUIDE 2022-2023

VPMAXX®

2 NEW HYBRIDS FOR 2022

Welcome to the 2022-23 VPMAXX® Seed Guide. VPMAXX® maize hybrids are specifically selected to meet the needs of growers who want to increase yield and productivity. This season we are offering seven high performing maize hybrids, including two new additions to the line-up - VP399 (89 CRM) and VP611 (111 CRM). We know what works in your area and we enjoy working alongside local growers to help maximise maize yield and quality. We like to keep it simple for our growers, so we provide hands on support from choosing hybrids to planting, growing, and harvesting your silage or grain crop. Our website (vpmaxx.nz) is worth a visit. It contains additional downloadable information on our hybrids, an easy-to-use hybrid selector tool, customer testimonials and much, much more...

This guide begins with some great stories from some of our customers who believe in our products. If you'd like to know how our Kiwi-grown VPMAXX® maize seed can work for you, please give us a call – our contact details are on the back cover.

VP399
89 CRM

VP611
111 CRM

EXCITING NEW HYBRIDS FOR 2022

We are pleased to introduce VP399 and VP611 to the VPMAXX® line-up. These exciting new dual-purpose hybrids offer high yield performance for silage or grain.

VP399 (89 CRM)

A very short maturity for upper North Island.

A short-mid maturity for lower North Island.

Delivers the next level of silage yield performance.

- A tall bulky plant with strong roots, stalks, drought tolerance and staygreen.
- Good staygreen provides harvest flexibility while producing silage with excellent digestibility.
- Delivers highly competitive grain yields with fast drydown and average test weights.
- If Northern Leaf Blight is a concern consider VP383 or VP483, depending on maturity requirements.
- Is a widely adapted hybrid in all growing regions where this maturity is required.

VP611 (111 CRM)

A full maturity for upper North Island.

Not recommended for lower North Island.

An imposing, productive hybrid with season long eye appeal.

- A tall erect leafed hybrid with very good standability and drought tolerance.
- Highly productive, stable, and widely adapted to all regions where this maturity is required.
- Has great standability, notable late season foliar health and staygreen delivering a long silage harvest window.
- Delivers grain with high test-weight and highly digestible silage with high grain content.

VP577 107 CRM | VP522 102 CRM | VP383 87 CRM

MAIZE GRAIN DELIVERS SOLID RETURNS

The closure of the family dairy unit a few years ago did not mean Waitoki's Dave and Anne Scott gave up their maize crop – in fact, it's only grown bigger.

The Scott family has farmed north of Auckland, on a 250 ha property near Kaukapakapa, for 150 years. Originally dairy farmers, Dave and Anne started contracting in the 1990's to help pay the mortgage.

"We started by buying gear we could use on our own farm and ended up doing more and more work for the neighbours," Dave says.

The milking shed was closed in 2017 after an opportunity arose to further expand their contracting business, Valley Harvesting Agricultural Services.

Today Dave and Anne, with children Rob, Steven and Andrea (Mini), are all integral parts of the consistently-expanding family business. Their contracting operation now covers ground preparation, planting, silage and grain harvesting and baling, among other services.

> When we sold the cows, we purchased a combine and switched to growing maize grain and finishing beef cattle. This has generated a return which has been as good as dairying most seasons.

Typically the Scott's grow around 150 ha of their own maize. This is the third season they have grown VPMAXX® maize on farm. Last year they grew VP647 and VP522 and this season they have around 50 ha planted in a mix of VP577, VP522 and VP383.

While most of their maize is grown for grain, each year they grow a longer maturity hybrid for silage. This is used to feed their own beef cattle, with the surplus sold to local dairy farmers.

VP522 and VP383 are harvested as grain and sold to New Zealand Starch which is around 50 km away in Auckland.

"NZ Starch is closer than the local driers and we get the crop off earlier which allows us to establish pasture for our beef cattle. It's a win-win for us."

VP522 is an ideal maturity for grain in Northland and it is a favourite for Dave.

"VP522 is a good all-rounder which delivers consistent results regardless of the season," Dave says. "We've had acceptable yields off VP522 in poor seasons and outstanding yields in the good ones."

Helensville-based VPMAXX® Account Manager Joe Heng has known the Scott's for 25 years. Dave values his support which starts in the winter when cropping areas are being planned and continues right through until grain harvest.

"It's great to be working with someone we trust who understands the crop and the industry so well. Joe is always willing to go beyond the call of duty and give us a hand whenever we need it."

VP647

114 CRM

MAIZE SILAGE KEEPS CONDITION ON COWS

When maize silage is an essential part of your farm system, it is imperative that your crop doesn't just survive, but thrives.

Te Awamutu dairy farmers Chris and Jude Stacey's VPMAXX® maize crop is doing just that – yielding a massive 30 tDM/ha.

The Stacey's family-owned farm, Riddings Farms Ltd, milks 430 cows on a 155 ha milking platform and produces around 190,000 kgMS annually.

Maize silage is a central part of the farm system, fed to cows almost year-round. The Staceys have a long history of growing maize on farm, with the crop first planted 16 years ago.

Three years ago they made the shift to VPMAXX® maize seed when they saw the potential to grow an even more successful crop.

They planted VP647, designed for use in the upper North Island, and have been rewarded with very competitive silage yields.

"I liked the yield VP647 could give us," Chris says. "It is a long-maturity hybrid, with harvest reached in 150-160 days, which means we can maximise our yield every season."

"The price point was competitive as well."

VP647 creates a huge plant with excellent staygreen traits and good drought tolerance, for a wide harvest window.

"We can get quite dry in the summer so VP647 is ideal for us," Chris says.

The Staceys, who took out Best Waikato Farm Performance, Lowest Environmental Impact and Runner Up Supreme Award in the 2018 Dairy Business of the Year, feed around 5 kgDM of maize silage per cow almost year-round, with a break from October to December.

In summer, maize silage is invaluable to keep condition on cows during the dry weather, and in winter, it keeps cows well-conditioned to be able to cope well with calving and mating.

> Maize silage is a crucial tool to keep cows in good condition.

"Cows in good condition give us the opportunity to extend our lactation and get more days in milk, increasing profitability."

Chris says with maize silage being an essential part of their farm system, their crop needs to perform well.

"I've been very impressed with our VPMAXX® maize crop every season we have grown it so far, and I'll use it again next season."

VP647

114 CRM

VPMAXX® DELIVERS HYBRID PERFORMANCE, CUSTOMER SERVICE

A superior product delivered in conjunction with exceptional customer service is an opportunity that should be taken with both hands – and Papamoa dairy farmers Dave and Nicky Hurst are doing just that.

The couple, who have been milking cows in the Bay of Plenty for over 30 years, are pleased at how their crop of VPMAXX® maize is performing on farm, and the support provided by VPMAXX® Account Manager Barry Smallridge.

The Hurst's maize crop, harvested as silage, is fed between the home farm and another family farm in Rotorua with the objective of increasing cow condition in autumn so the herd is well-prepared for a successful calving and mating.

The Hurst's 20 ha maize crop yields an average of 22 tDM/ha, but Dave says they are expecting an even better yield this season.

They have grown maize on farm "on and off" for a long time, but have had a crop of VPMAXX® maize in the ground for the last three seasons.

Dave and Barry settled on VP647, a hybrid designed for use in the upper North Island. VP647 is a long-maturity hybrid, with full maturity reached in 150-160 days.

VP647 creates a huge plant with excellent staygreen and good drought tolerance, for a wide harvest window.

"We chose a longer maturity hybrid to secure a top-end yield," Barry says.

"We used a slightly lower population, but the longer maturity means the ME and starch content of the maize is maximised".

"Because Dave is growing maize silage for use in his own business, we were really chasing quality," says Barry.

Dave cites Barry as the reason behind the move to VPMAXX® three seasons ago.

The two have a long-standing close working relationship, with Barry's dedication to his customer evident in its longevity.

"Barry provides good support throughout the season, and regularly monitors the crop from planting until harvest time," Dave says.

> "He is always available to talk to if I need any crop advice or support during the season."

Barry says Dave is an astute businessman with a good understanding of what it takes to achieve top results, and his loyalty as Barry's long-time customer "speaks volumes about the mettle of the man."

Dave says he is happy with the way his VPMAXX® maize crop has performed, contributing to his goal of maintaining cow condition in the autumn so the herd can head into calving, and subsequently mating, healthy and happy.

SEED GUIDE 2021-2022

VP383

87 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	85-105K
SILAGE	95-115K

A very short maturity for upper North Island

124-137 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

A short-mid maturity for lower North Island

134-148 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Excellent
Root Strength	Very Good
Staygreen	Excellent
Early Growth	Very Good
Grain Drydown	Very Good

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★☆
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★☆
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★★☆
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★★
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★★
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆

NEW

VP399

89 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	85-105K
SILAGE	95-115K

A very short maturity for upper North Island

126-140 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

A mid maturity for lower North Island

136-150 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Good
Root Strength	Good
Staygreen	Very Good
Early Growth	Very Good
Grain Drydown	Very Good

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★☆☆
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★☆
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★☆☆
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★☆
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★★
More than Optimum Pop	★★★☆☆

VP483

98 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	80-100K
SILAGE	95-110K

A short maturity for upper North Island

132-147 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

A mid-full maturity for lower North Island

144-156 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Excellent
Stalk Strength	Good
Root Strength	Good
Staygreen	Very Good
Early Growth	Good
Grain Drydown	Excellent

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★★
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★☆
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★☆☆
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★☆
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★★

VPMAXX®

VP522

102 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	80-100K
SILAGE	95-110K

A mid maturity for upper North Island

136-150 DAYS (for silage)

Estimated from planting to harvest

A full maturity for lower North Island

148-160 DAYS (for silage)

Estimated from planting to harvest

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Very Good
Root Strength	Good
Staygreen	Very Good
Early Growth	Very Good
Grain Drydown	Good

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★☆
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★☆
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★☆☆
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★☆
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆

VP577

107 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	80-100K
SILAGE	90-105K

A full maturity for upper North Island

139-155 DAYS (for silage)

Estimated from planting to harvest

Not recommended for lower North Island

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Very Good
Root Strength	Good
Staygreen	Very Good
Early Growth	Good
Grain Drydown	Very Good

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★★
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★☆
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★★★
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★★
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆

NEW

VP611

111 CRM

Recommended established population (plants/ha)

GRAIN	80-95K
SILAGE	80-105K

A full maturity for upper North Island

144-160 DAYS (for silage)

Estimated from planting to harvest

Not recommended for lower North Island

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Very Good
Root Strength	Very Good
Staygreen	Excellent
Early Growth	Good
Grain Drydown	Average

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★★☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★★
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★★
Delayed Harvest - Grain	★★★★☆
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★★
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★★
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★★

VP647

114 CRM

Recommended established population
(plants/ha)

GRAIN	not rec
SILAGE	85-100K

The longest maturity for upper North Island

150-165 DAYS (for silage)
Estimated from planting to harvest

Not recommended for lower North Island

AGRONOMY TRAITS

Drought Tolerance	Very Good
Stalk Strength	Excellent
Root Strength	Good
Staygreen	Exceptional
Early Growth	Good
Grain Drydown	Average

RECOMMENDATIONS

Higher Input Management	★★★★★
Lower Input Management	★★★☆☆
Maize after Maize	★★★★★
No Till/Limited Tillage	★★★★★
Delayed Harvest - Grain	not recommended
Harvest Window - Silage	★★★★★
Silage Use	★★★★★
Less than Optimum Pop	★★★★★
More than Optimum Pop	★★★★☆

FOLLOW OUR TEAM TO ACHIEVE YOUR DREAM

Whether you are chasing a high yielding maize grain crop or top-quality maize silage, the VPMAXX® field team can help you achieve it. This season we have extended our field support with the addition of Waikato Account Manager, Alan MacDougall.

Alan, who lives in Cambridge farmed bulls at Te Akau before moving into a technical field representative role 15 years ago. He worked in the rural supply chain and for a fertiliser company before jumping at the chance to join VPMAXX® in 2021.

"I grew to love maize in my technical field representative roles" he says. "The Waikato offers the perfect combination of sunshine and rainfall and I've seen it produce incredible yields in a relative short growing season".

Alan believes that maize is the key to developing a profitable and sustainable dairy farm system. "It's got a massive future because it's environmentally sustainable, cheap to grow and it is a really great fit for dairy farmers".

Alan joins Joe Heng and Barry Smallridge who have been part of the VPMAXX® team for several seasons.

Barry, who resides in Pongakawa in the Western Bay of Plenty has been involved in the maize industry for nearly 30 years. He's passionate about providing top notch technical support for his growers.

Joe, who is based in Helensville is well known to most locals. He has worked in the agricultural sector since 1991. When he's not in a maize crop you can find Joe on his trail bike or playing Presidents Grade Rugby for Helensville.

For any advice on getting the most from your maize, give Alan, Barry or Joe a call or flick them an email.

	VP383 87 CRM	VP399 89 CRM	VP483 98 CRM
Days to Silage Maturity			
Upper North Island	124 - 137	126 - 140	132 - 147
Lower North Island	134 - 148	136 - 150	144 - 156
Disease Ratings			
Northern Leaf Blight	Good	Average	Good
Common Rust	Very Good	Good	Good
Head Smut	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Fusarium Ear Rot	Average	Average	Below Average
Diplodia Ear Rot	Good	Good	Average
Gibberella Ear Rot	Excellent	Average	Average
Anthracnose Stalk Rot	Good	DP	Average
Characteristics			
Plant Height	Tall	Massive	Tall
Ear Height	Average	Medium	Average
Flex	Very Good	Very Good	Good
Husk Cover	Medium	Medium	Medium
Test Weight	Very Good	Good	Average
Grain Appearance	Very Good	Good	Good
Flowering for Maturity	Average	Good	Late
Black Layer for Maturity	Average	Average	Late

VPMAXX Trait Table

9-1 score	Agronomic Traits	Plant Height	Ear Height	Husk Cover
9	Exceptional	Massive	Lofty	Long & Tight
8	Excellent	Very Tall	Very High	Long
7	Very Good	Tall	High	Protective
6	Good	Medium	Medium	Medium
5	Average	Average	Average	Average
4	Below Average	Below Average	Below Average	Below Average
3	Fair	Short	Low	Fair
2	Marginal	Squat	Very Low	Short
1	Poor	Dumpy	Squat	Poor
DP	Data Pending			

VP522 102 CRM	VP577 107 CRM	VP611 111 CRM	VP647 114 CRM
136 - 150	139-155	144 - 160	150-165
148 - 160	–	–	–
Good	Very Good	Very Good	Good
Average	Good	Good	Very Good
Very Good	Below Average	Average	Marginal
Below Average	Average	Good	Average
Average	Good	Good	Average
Good	Average	Average	Average
Average	Good	DP	Average
Very Tall	Medium	Massive	Massive
Medium	Average	Medium	Average
Very Good	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Average	Medium	Very Good	Average
Good	Average	Very Good	Very Good
Good	Good	Very Good	Average
Average	Average	Good	Good
Average	Average	Good	Late

Management Recommendations (star rating)

Excellent	★★★★★
Very Good	★★★★☆
Good	★★★☆☆
Average	★★☆☆☆
Fair	★☆☆☆☆
NR	Not Recommended
DP	Data Pending

Hybrid Recommendations

www.vpmaxx.nz

FOR ALL YOUR MAIZE SEED REQUIREMENTS, GIVE US A CALL

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VPMAXX®

High-performing, Kiwi-grown maize hybrids.