

A New High Quality June-bearing Strawberry from The East Malling Strawberry Breeding Club

- **High % Class 1**
- **Good fruit size**
- **Sweet flavour with high Brix levels**
- **Slightly earlier than Elsanta**

Fruit Quality

Excellent overall fruit quality. Berries are firm and attractive with very regular shape and excellent flavour. Brix and shelf life scores have been similar to Elsanta, although berries of Malling™ Centenary appear to retain their gloss and shine better after storage. In the AHDB Horticulture-funded substrate grown strawberry variety trial (SF 128), Malling™ Centenary achieved excellent scores for appearance, flavour, firmness and shelf life (Table 1).

Season

Malling™ Centenary had a similar 50% harvest date to Elsanta in the EMR 2008 main crop and 2009/10 60-day trials. In 2010 and 2011 main crop trials it was slightly earlier than Elsanta.

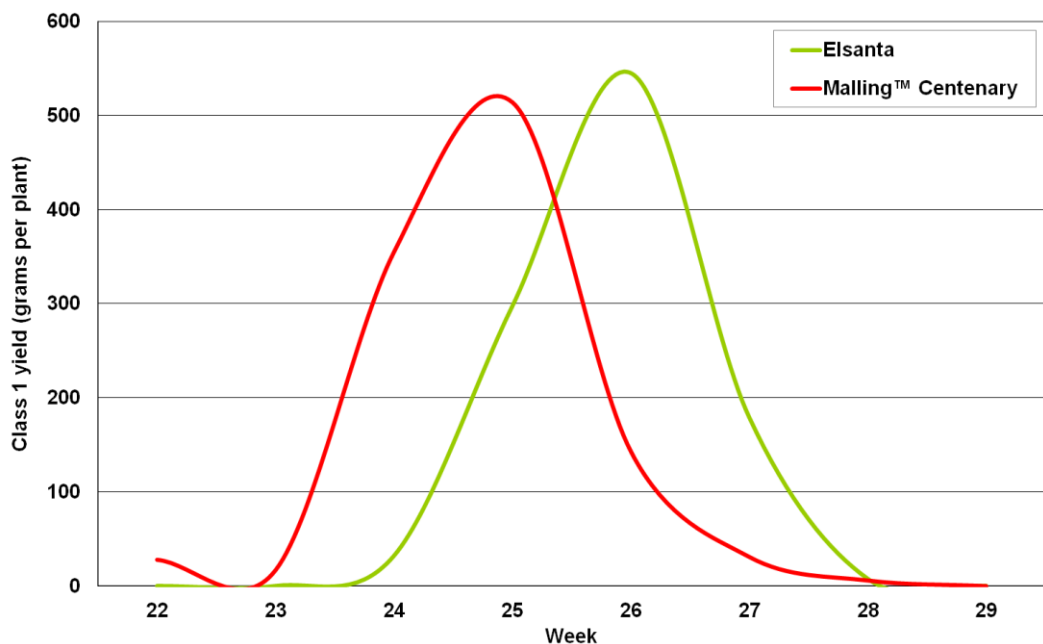


Figure 1. Cropping patterns of Malling™ Centenary and Elsanta in trials at EMR.

Yield and Fruit Size

Good fruit size (average 76% large) and percentage Class 1 (average 93%) across all trials at EMR. In the AHDB Horticulture-funded substrate grown strawberry variety trial (SF 128), Malling™ Centenary produced the highest 60-day Class 1 yield of all varieties tested, including 22% more than Elsanta (Table 1). Malling™ Centenary produced a very high percentage of Class 1 fruit, with 63% of this being large (35-45mm) sized berries compared to 43% for Elsanta.

Table 1. Malling™ Centenary and Elsanta yield and fruit quality results, 60-day crop 2011, AHDB Horticulture trial SF 128.

Variety	Class 1 Yield (g/plant)	% Class 1	Flavour (1 = poor, 9 = excellent)	Firmness (1 = poor, 9 = excellent)	Appearance (1 = poor, 9 = excellent)	Shelf Life (1 = poor, 9 = excellent)
Malling™ Centenary	440	96.8	7.5	7.5	8.5	8.5
Elsanta	360	86.0	6.5	5.0	5.0	7.5

Plant Characteristics

Nice plants with similar vigour to Elsanta, but with bigger leaves. Fruit is very well displayed.

Pest & Disease Resistance

Although preliminary tests from EMR suggest that Malling™ Centenary does not have any strong resistance to common diseases, no problems have been reported from trial sites or nursery beds.

Plant Availability

Malling™ Centenary is protected under Community (EU) Plant Variety Rights (grant no. 40671). The propagation or sales of plants, or parts of plants, of the variety without a licence is prohibited. The Malling™ Centenary licensed plant propagators are listed below:



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R W Walpole & Partners, King's Lynn, NORFOLK

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