HIGHLIGHTS FROM 100 YEARS OF OAT BREEDING

- First selections of oats, based at Penglais farm in Aberystwyth
- Foundation of Welsh Plant Breeding Station at Aberystwyth University
- First new spring oat varieties released for a range of soil fertility
- S17Z winter oat with high yield and very short straw: Europe’s first semi-dwarf cereal
- Oat breeding suspended due to World War II, resumed in 1946
- Peniarth released – Market leader in UK and France
- Start of long term marketing partnership with Semundo (now Senova)
- BBSRC Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research formed incorporating WPBS
- Bullion Spring naked oat added to NL
- NIAB Variety Cup awarded for winter oat Gerald
- First dwarf oats added to the NL – Hendon (naked), Buffalo (husked)
- First molecular markers identified for use in precision breeding
- 2009-2014: QUOATS Harnessing new technologies for sustainable oat production and utilisation
  Funding: BBSRC, DEFRA, Scottish Government, Welsh Government, AHDB plus industry partners
- Balado a high yielding dwarf husked oat added to RL
- 2014-2019 BBSRC-LINK project InnovOat: Developing enhanced breeding methodologies for oats for human health and nutrition with industry partners BOBMA and Senova and additional funding from AHDB
- Peloton a early high yielding winter naked oat added to RL
- S147 – breakthrough winter oat variety to combine moderate height, high yielding, quality grain spring oat with winter hardiness from Grey winter land race
- NIAB Variety Cup awarded to winter oat Powys
- WPBS moved to Gogerddan site
- Rhiannon first naked (huskless) oat
- Naked oats shown to have higher nutritional value than any other cereal
- Gerald, still popular with growers today added to RL
- Grafton winter naked oat released
- Approval of health claim for oat beta-glucan and reduction in Coronary Heart Disease in USA
- Approval of health claim in the UK on oats and reduction of blood cholesterol
- Mascani, the UK’s most popular milling oat with its consistent grain quality added to the RL
- 2004-2009 Defra-LINK project Oatlink: The incorporation of important traits underlying sustainable development of the oat crop through combining ‘conventional’ phenotypic selection with molecular marker technologies.
  Funding: Defra, SEERAD, AHDB plus industry partners.
- Conway a high quality spring oat added to RL
- Queen’s award for plant breeding
- Winter husked oat Galloway, a novel feed oat with low lignin husk. RL candidate 2019
- Winter husked oat Penrose, a milling oat RL candidate 2019

The future – oats for new markets, forage, milling, feed