



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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Barley Varieties
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Tradition Remains Top Barley Variety in North Dakota

Tradition is the top barley variety in North Dakota for 2008, for the third straight year. Tradition accounts for 37.4 percent of the 1.50 million acres planted, compared with 30.0 percent in 2007 and 25.9 percent in 2006. Lacey is the second most popular barley variety with 17.6 percent of the total acres planted. Stellar-ND is the third most popular variety with 10.6 percent of the total acres planted. Conlon is fourth in 2008 with 10.2 percent of the total acres planted. Legacy is the fifth most popular variety with 6.3 percent of the total acres planted. Robust ranks sixth accounting for 5.2 percent of the total barley acres planted. Drummond ranks seventh with 1.9 percent of the barley acres planted. The top seven barley varieties are all recommended for malting by the American Malting Barley Association (AMBA) in 2008 and account for 89.2 percent of this year's barley acres in North Dakota.

Haybet, representing 1.4 percent of the total acres planted, is the top feed variety for the sixth consecutive year and ranks eighth overall. Logan and Excel ranked ninth and tenth, respectively with 0.5 percent and 0.3 percent of the total barley acres planted.

North Dakota continues to rank first in barley acreage planted in the United States, accounting for 36 percent of the nation's 4.13 million acres. Planted acreage in North Dakota is 1.50 million in 2008, up 2 percent from last year. This is the highest acreage planted in North Dakota since 2004.

The data in this report are based on a survey of barley producers conducted during June and July by the North Dakota Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. State averages are produced from 1,123 positive reports from 4,426 respondents. The AMBA and North Dakota Barley Council provides supporting funds for the survey.