



Introduction to Malting Barley in the Great Lakes



Dr. James DeDecker Michigan State University dedecke5@msu.edu

Overview

- Barley background
- The craft beer boom
- Barley in Michigan
- Challenges to growth
- 2019 MSU barley survey

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• Acknowledgements



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What is Malting Barley?

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• An annual cereal grain

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- Livestock feed uses
- Preferred malting varieties
 - Spring and winter types
 - 2 row vs. 6 row
- The source of fermentable sugars used in making beer
 - Water, barley, yeast, and hops
- Quality is everything
 - High management High risk





What is Malting Barley?



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Supply Chain From Farmer To Malthouse To Brewer & Distiller

(1) Certified Seed is preferred by most farmers because the potential for disease in the field is greatly diminished.

(2) Local farmers seed and grow maiting barley seed according to their own cultural practices.

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(3) Harvest for both winter and spring malting barley varieties happens between july and August.

(4) A quality malting barley grain meets the minimal requirements established by organizations like the American Malting Barley Associa-

> (5) Depending on the conditions at the time of harvest, malting barley may need to be dried and stored to establish "dormancy.

(10) Ales and Spirits are on tap at breweries and distilleries all over New York State

> (9) Brewers and Distillers use different fermentation vessels and processes for the creation of been and spirits.

> > (8) The finished malt is cleaned and bagged for distribution to the brewers and distillers.

(7) Malting barley grain is processed into malt with a controlled germination technique in the malthouse.

(6) Grain is typically delivered to the malthouses in 1 Ton "super totes."

http://farmhousemalt.blogspot.com

The Malting Process Germination Steeping Kilning water spray H_2O barley steeped green malt seeds barley malt air H₂O air warm air ≈12% H₂O ≈45% H₂O ≈45% H₂O ≈4% H₂O enzyme raise induction, drying, flavor moisture development cell wall content digestion

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The Malting Process





Historical U.S. Brewery Count





Historical U.S. Brewery Count



Recent U.S. Brewery Count

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017 to 2018 % Change
Craft	3,814	4,628	5,539	6,490	7,346	+13.2
Regional Craft Breweries	135	178	186	202	230	+13.9
Microbreweries	2,076	2,626	3,251	<mark>3,933</mark>	4,522	+15.0
Brewpubs	1,603	1,824	2,102	2,355	2,594	+10.1
Large/Non-Craft	46	44	67	106	104	BA
Total U.S. Breweries	3,869	4,672	5,606	6,596	7,450	+12.9 BREWERS

"Craft Brewer" is defined as < 6M bbls annually, and < 25% non-craft ownership

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The Mad Fermentationist, 2019

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The Mad Fermentationist, 2019



OVERALL BEER MARKET \$114.2 BILLION

CRAFT BEER MARKET \$27.6 BILLION 7% DOLLAR SALES GROWTH



IMPORT 18.4% SHARE (35,660,588 BBLS)

OTHER DOMESTIC 68.5% SHARE (132,985,234 BBLS)

SOURCE: BREWERS ASSOCIATION, BOULDER CO

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Craft Beer Value Chain

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- Average beer ~ 80:1 barley malt to hops by weight
- Barley ~ \$0.17/lb
- Hops ~ \$8.00/lb





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U.S. Barley Acreage Trend

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USDA NASS, 2018



U.S. Barley Utilization Trends



Harvested Barley Acres 2017

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Harvested Barley Acres 2017

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Michigan Barley Production 1866-2019







Challenges to Malting Barley Growth

 Access to varieties and certified seed that are suitable for the Great Lakes region

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- European genetics
- Spring vs. Winter

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- Two row vs. Six row debate
- Challenging climate
 - Moisture, Temp
 - Pre-harvest sprout
 - FHB and DON
 - Quality risk Crop insurance



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Challenges to Malting Barley Growth

• Access to processing

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Malthouse development

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- Connecting maltsters and growers
- Contract negotiation
- Seed cleaning, storage and packaging
- Avail. of alternative markets
 - Limited feed usage
 - Poor quality can reduce feed value
 - Craft spirits limited processing
 - Nascent alternative food uses



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Malthouse opportunities

- Eleven malt houses currently in Michigan
- New malthouses
 under development
- Feasibility study strongly supports potential in Michigan





Feasibility Study Results

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- ✓ Economic feasibility
 - Access to quality barley
- ✓ Market feasibility

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- Plenty of demand
- ✓ Technical feasibility
 - Do-able with training
- ✓ Management feasibility
 - Usually sole proprietors, but partnerships with growers and brewers would help
- Financial Feasibility
 - Narrow profit margins (labor, space, equipment)



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1. U.P. MALT COMPANY Bill Weisinger bweising@yahoo.com (906) 202-2128

2. SUPERIOR MALT Clem Geiger cgeiger@hotmail.com (906) 399-9966

3. VALLEY VIEW FARM Andrew Boyer ajboyer@hotmail.com (231) 675-5785

4. EMPIRE MALTING CO. Alison Babb empiremalting@yahoo.com (352) 226-1644

5. GREAT LAKES MALTING CO. Jeff Malkiewicz jeff@greatlakesmalting.com (231) 714-4551 6. KOOPS' MALT HAUS Chris Koops chris@koopsmalt.com (989) 429-2754

7. FEDORA MALTHOUSE Julie Baker fedorabaker1ja@gmail.com (989) 289-5135

8. VIERZEN ARTISAN MALT Danielle Vierzen vierzen27@gmail.com (616) 302-6835

9. EMERGENT MALT Kevin Slagh kevin@emergentmalt.com (616) 820-9319 10. MITTEN STATE MALT Larry Judge larry.judge1@gmail.com (517) 490-5245

11. MOTORCITY MALT Tom Laboda tlaboda@motorcitymalt.com (248) 425-9402

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Malting Barley Budget

Description	Per Acre Subtotal (\$)
Pre-harvest machinery	\$46.25
Seed	\$37.38
Fertilizer	\$87.41
Herbicide & Fungicide	\$21.15
Lime	\$15.00
Labor	\$33.00
Land Rent	\$30.00
Combine & Haul	\$31.84
Total cost per acre	\$302.03
Market value of malting grain (55 bu X \$8)	\$440.00
Net profit per acre	\$137.97

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Lime	\$15.00
Labor	\$33.00
Land Rent	\$30.00
Combine & Haul	\$31.84
Total cost per acre	\$302.03
Market value of feed grain (55 bu X \$4)	\$220.00
Net profit per acre	-\$82.03

MSU Research and Outreach

- Malting barley research in Michigan since 2013
 - Annual production survey
 - Barley Quality Lab at UPREC
 - Varieties trials
 - Fertility

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- Fungicide
- Seeding rate
- Pre-harvest sprout
- Double cropping
- Winter hardiness
- Feed variety trials





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MI Malting Barley Production Survey (2019)

• 17 responses from 11 counties

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- 554 acres planted for 2019, 490 harvested
- 63% spring, 37% winter

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- LCS Odyssey most common spring variety
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Average yield 60 bu/a for spring,
61 bu/a for winter (winter injury)

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• 50% successfully marketed

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- Average price of \$7.71/bu for malting, \$5.75/bu for feed
- Primary quality issues: DON
- Primary challenges: weather (winter injury, wet spring/fall, dry summer), marketing



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Michigan Malting Barley Production and Marketing Trend

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Grower Challenges 2019



Grower comments from 2019

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- "Malting barley production in the Upper Peninsula is do-able, but no markets are available."
- "I am still dedicated to grow barley on a production scale once I acquire the aforementioned necessities. I am very grateful that there is a group of dedicated growers and researchers in Michigan to once again establish malting barley."
- "Looking for varieties of all brewing grains that exhibit winterkill resistance, Fusarium resistance, and pre-sprout resistance; that grow well in Michigan and produce world-class quality malt."
- "Until consumers realize their beer is mostly foreign, out of state grain, and hold brewers accountable, malt barley is not a viable crop in MI."
- "I haven't planted barley yet, but am considering it."



MSU Malting Barley Team



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Dean Baas



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Christian Kapp



Martin Nagelkirk



Nicole Shriner



Martin Chilvers



Ryan Hamilton



James DeDecker

Brook Wilke



Dennis Pennington



Christian Tollini

https://www.canr.msu.edu/malting_barley/



Project GREEEN

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Unlocking. Nature's Diversity

















Michigan State University









American Malting Barley Association, Inc.



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MSU Malting Barley Research Update 2019

Dr. James DeDecker Michigan State University dedecke5@msu.edu

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Overview

- Eastern Spring Barley Nursery
- 2019 MSU barley survey
- CBC winter barley
 hardiness project
- Acknowledgements



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Variety development priorities for the Eastern U.S.

- Cultivars suitable for the craft industry
- Cultivars able to handle warm nighttime temps
- Cultivars with resistance to:

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- Fusarium head blight and DON accumulation
- Net and spot blotch

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- Powdery mildew and leaf rust
- Pre-harvest sprouting

Eastern Spring Barley Nursery

• NDSU established the project & network in 2015

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• 10 universities and 13 locations

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- Common list of 20-25 barley varieties grown
- Varieties selected based on input from craft industry and research team
- Included two and six-rowed varieties from the US, Canada and Europe (now all two-rowed)





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Eastern Spring Barley Nursery





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Eastern Spring Barley Nursery

Field DataDays to headingHeight

Lodging
Disease
Yield

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Quality Data

Grain

- Moisture
- Test weight
- Protein
- Color
 - Kernel plumpness
- DON
- Stirring number
- Malt
 - Extract, Protein, Color, αamylase, Wort ß-glucan,
 - Viscosity and FAN

2019 Results: Chatham, MI

Variety	Heading Date	Height	Foliar Disease	Yield	Moisture	Test Weight	GE	DON	Stirring Number	Plump	Protein	Color
2ND32529	32.5	48.9	1.0	55.7	14.0	49.2	98.0	0.0	171.0	94.3	8.9	51.7
ND GENESIS	32.9	59.5	1.4	55.1	14.1	52.4	92.0	0.0	142.0	96.1	9.9	50.8
2ND35693	32.8	54.6	1.1	54.9	13.8	50.0	98.0	0.1	167.0	97.4	9.4	51.0
2ND34954	34.1	48.8	1.7	51.1	14.5	51.2	92.0	0.0	156.0	97.8	9.1	50.9
AAC CONNECT	34.0	50.1	2.0	50.7	14.3	48.4	97.0	0.0	107.0	92.2	10.1	51.3
TRADITION	34.9	57.4	1.0	48.0	14.3	50.2	86.0	0.0	183.0	92.2	9.9	51.7
KWS TINKA	35.5	45.0	2.5	46.6	14.4	49.9	76.0	0.0	161.0	95.4	9.5	50.9
EXPLORER	33.9	43.0	1.9	46.1	14.9	49.3	76.0	0.0	174.0	92.4	9.1	50.1
NEWDALE	36.3	50.2	2.6	44.8	14.6	47.9	60.0	0.0	155.0	74.6	10.3	51.5
ESMA	36.4	46.5	2.0	43.8	14.6	48.9	92.0	0.0	196.0	87.1	9.1	50.7

2019 Results: Posen, MI

Variety	Heading Date	Height	Yield	Moisture	Test Weight	GE	DON	Stirring Number	Plump	Protein	Color
KWS FANTEX	38.0	52.6	121.8	13.0	52.4	84.0	0.0	173.0	94.9	9.8	51.6
ESMA	35.0	49.8	116.0	13.2	52.0	92.0	0.0	161.0	96.4	9.9	50.5
LCS GENIE	38.0	47.7	108.4	12.8	52.3	94.0	0.0	158.0	96.5	10.0	50.6
ICONIC	38.0	59.0	103.3	13.2	51.8	76.0	0.0	173.0	97.6	10.2	50.7
PINNACLE	35.0	60.6	100.1	13.6	51.9	92.0	0.0	155.0	97.2	9.0	50.5
2ND32529	33.0	64.5	97.9	13.2	48.9	98.0	0.0	147.0	98.0	9.3	51.5
AAC CONNECT	35.0	60.3	96.0	13.4	49.6	97.0	0.0	85.0	94.8	10.3	51.6
LCS ODYSSEY	38.0	49.4	95.3	13.2	50.1	50.0	0.0	119.0	96.8	9.1	50.3
ACCORDINE	38.0	55.5	93.3	13.5	52.5	80.0	0.0	141.0	93.2	9.3	50.6
CRESCENDO	42.0	61.4	93.0	13.2	52.0	96.0	0.0	156.0	99.0	10.3	51.2

2019 Results: Hickory Corners, MI

Variety	Heading Date	Height	Yield	Test Weight	GE	DON	Stirring Number	Plump	Protein	Color
2ND32529	9.8	80.7	99.4	44.4	98.0	0.8	18.0	96.1	10.8	48.7
LCS ODYSSEY	10.1	71.2	95.9	44.1	50.0	4.8	112.0	90.1	9.3	49.5
ND GENESIS	7.0	89.1	93.5	46.7	92.0	3.9	18.0	92.3	9.8	49.6
NEWDALE	9.9	78.4	87.5	48.1	60.0	0.9	5.0	91.3	9.6	50.0
2ND34634	5.1	79.8	87.3	45.9	98.0	2.1	7.0	95.7	11.1	49.7
EXPLORER	9.8	67.0	85.9	46.7	76.0	2.2	80.0	93.1	8.5	48.8
ESMA	10.3	70.5	84.8	47.3	92.0	2.2	67.0	91.8	8.7	49.0
2ND34954	10.2	88.2	84.8	48.9	92.0	2.8	31.0	95.5	8.9	49.9
AAC SYNERGY	10.3	82.2	84.0	45.8	80.0	2.5	3.0	95.2	9.1	49.5
TRADITION	6.5	89.3	82.7	46.5	86.0	3.0	101.0	90.8	10.1	49.5



Eastern Spring Barley Nursery

Top Performing Varieties 2015-2018 at Chatham, MI

Rank	Yield	PHS Resistance	Malt Extract
1	AAC Synergy	Pinnacle	Acorn
2	Explorer	Explorer	Cerveza
3	Cerveza	LCS Genie	KWS Fantex
4	Sirish	2ND337660	KWS Beckie
5	Conlon	2ND33757	LCS Odyssey

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Eastern Spring Barley Nursery

Cluster analysis groups varieties based on similarity across multiple different parameters

Cluster	Yield	Test weight	Stirring number	Protein	Extract	Wort B- glucan
1	69.9	47.2	97	10.8	81.7	352
2	74.3	48.9	93	10.9	81.3	260
3	68.3	48.5	123	10.2	82.4	277
4	71.0	48.9	136	10.7	81.7	232
5	77.5	49.1	62	11.6	81.2	525
6	65.5	51.9	134	10.3	81.5	513

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Michigan Malting Barley Production and Marketing Trend

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Grower Challenges 2019



Grower comments from 2019

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- "I am still dedicated to grow barley on a production scale once I acquire the aforementioned necessities. I am very grateful that there is a group of dedicated growers and researchers in Michigan to once again establish malting barley."
- "Looking for varieties of all brewing grains that exhibit winterkill resistance, Fusarium resistance, and pre-sprout resistance; that grow well in Michigan and produce world-class quality malt."
- "Until consumers realize their beer is mostly foreign, out of state grain, and hold brewers accountable, malt barley is not a viable crop in MI."
- "I haven't planted barley yet, but am considering it."



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