Northern Crops Institute



Barley Chemical Characteristics and Grading Factors

Barley Chemical Characteristics

Types of barley for food use:

Food barley can be divided into types by its starch make-up (waxy or normal) and if the hulls adhere (hulled) or are loose (hulless).

Type of barley	Description		
Waxy	High amylopectin (70-100%)		
Non-waxy	Not high amylopectin content (<45%)		
Covered	Outer hull is intact and tightly adhered to the kernel		
Hulled	Outer hull is intact		

Grading factor limits for barley used in food:

	Minimum limit of		Maximum limit of				
Grade	Test weight (lb/bu)	Sound barley	Damaged kernels	Foreign materials	Broken kernels	Thin bar- ley	Adhered hulls
Hulled							
Two-row	50	97	2	0.5	5	7-10	NA
Six-row	50	97	2	0.5	5	7-10	NA
Hulless							
Two-row	55	97	2	0.5	5	7-10	5
Six-row	55	97	2	0.5	5	7-10	5

^{*} Unit is % otherwise noted.

Grading Factors and Certification Methods

Factors	Method of measurement		
Plump Barley	Take 250 g dockage-free sample and run the mechanical shiever 30 strokes. 6/64 x 3/4 inch slotted-hole sieve.		
Thin Barley	Take 250 g dockage-free sample and run the mechanic shiever. 5/64 x 3/4 slotted-hole sieve.		

Factors	Description of grading factors		
Sound Barley (25g)	Kernels that are not damaged, including 1) skinned and broken kernels of barley which are not damaged, 2) broken kernels which are not damaged, 3) green immature kernels not otherwise damaged, 4) kernels which are considered injured-by-frost and/or injured-by-mold.		
Damaged Kernels (25g)	Kernels, piece of barley kernels, other grains, and wild oats that are badly ground-damaged barley weather-damaged, diseased, frost-damaged, germ-damaged, heat-damaged, injured-by-heat, insect-bored, mold-damaged, sprout-damaged, or otherwise materially damaged.		
Foreign Materials (25g)	All matter other than barley, other grains and wild oats that remains in the sample after the removal of dockage.		
Broken Kernels	Barley kernel with more than 1/4 of the kernel removed.		
Adhered Hulls	Kernels of hulless with hulls that have not been removed during harvesting.		

Typical starch and β-glucan content of food barley

	TDF (%)	β-glucan (%)	Total Starch (%)	Amylose (%)	Amylopectin (%)
Waxy hulless	19.60	7.21	46.83	6.29	93.71
Non-waxy covered	12.70	3.30	59.11	36.64	63.36
Waxy covered	NA	6	NA	NA	NA

- Non-waxy type barley tends to give chewy texture, high expansion and lower density than waxy type. These are good for extruded products and flat bread type of products.
- Waxy type of barley tends to provide better texture in traditional baked goods and rice replacer products.

FOOD BARLEY SUPPLIERS

Caremoli 23959 580th Avenue Ames, IA 50010 515-233-1255 www.caremoligroup.com

Circle Seeds of Montana Inc. 14990 Madison Frontage Road Three Forks, MT 59752 406-285-3269 www.circleseeds.com

ConAgra Mill 11 ConAgra Drive, 11-340 Omaha, NE 68102 866-814-8498 www.conagramills.com Grain Millers Inc. 9531 W. 78th St. #400 Eden Prairie, MN 55344 952-829-8821 www.grainmillers.com

Guisto's 344 Littlefield Avenue South San Francisco, CA 94080 650-873-6566 www.guistos.com

Hesco Inc. 500 19th St. SW P.O. Box 815 Watertown, SD 57201-0815 605-884-1100 www.hesco-inc.com LaCrosse Milling Company P.O. Box 86, 105 Hwy 35 Cochrane, WI 54622-0086 800-441-5411 www.lacrossemilling.com

McKay Seed Company Inc. 2945 Rd. N NE Moses Lake, WA 98837 509-766-9894 www.mckayseed.com

MGI Grain Processing LLC 316 5th Avenue NE East Grand Forks, MN 56721 218-773-7564

SK Food International 4666 Amber Valley Parkway Fargo, ND 58104 701-356-4106 www.skfood.com