

Grass
Barley, Spring
Hordeum vulgare



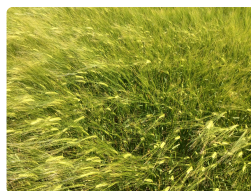
PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 4 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Upright small grain. Widely used in the Northeast. Best small grain for drought, heat, saline or alkaline soils. Not suitable for wet or acid soils. Spring barley does not need vernalization (overwintering) to produce stalk/head/seed. Quick growth and high biomass if fertility is good. Good weed suppressor, N scavenger, forage producer. Retains feed quality after heading. Good nurse crop for legumes. Use care when including as a cover crop in a small grain rotation (host for some diseases and pests). Spring barley planted in fall may fail to overwinter due to less winter hardiness than winter barley.

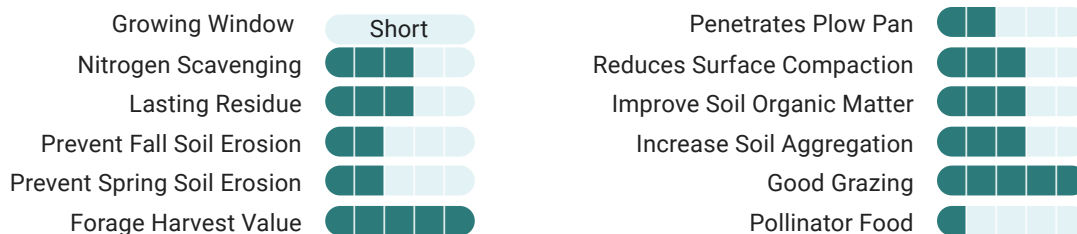


Barley, Spring - Brouillette [2020]

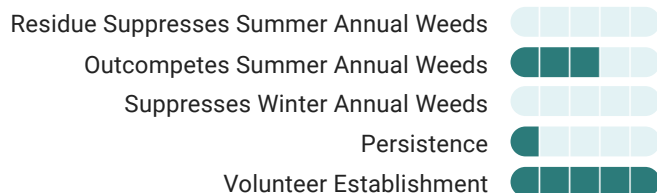


Barley, Spring - Raubenstein [2020]

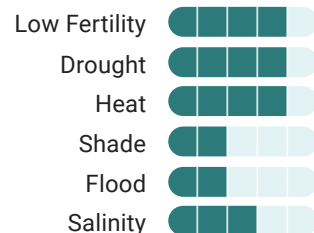
GOALS



WEEDS



ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES



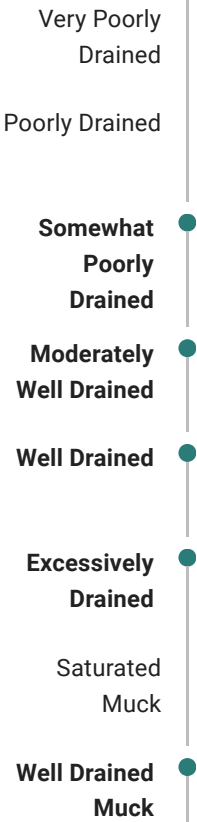


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Growth Traits

Duration	Annual
Zone Use	Common
Shape And Orientation	Erect
Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr)	1000 - 3000
Soil Texture	Medium
Soil pH	5 - 8.5
Soil Moisture Use	
Hessian Fly Free Date?	No
Ease Of Establishment	
Establishes Quickly	
Early Spring Growth	
Flowering Trigger	Long Day
Root Depth	Medium

Soil Drainage



Planting

Seeds Per Lb	
Seed Price Per Lb	\$ \$ \$
Base Seeding Rate (Lbs/A)	60 - 120
Drilled Depth	0.75" - 1.5"
Can Aerial Seed?	No
Can Frost Seed?	No
Min Germination Temp (°F)	35

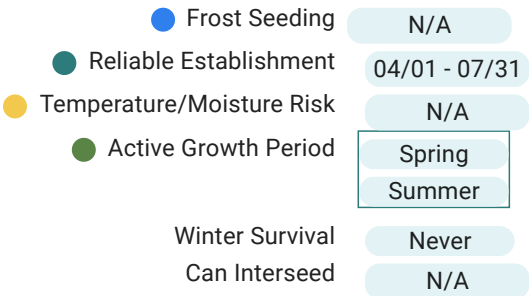
Termination

Tillage At Vegetative	
Tillage At Flowering	
Freezing At Vegetative	
Freezing At Flowering	
Chemical At Vegetative	
Chemical At Flowering	
Mow At Flowering	
Roller-Crimp At Flowering	



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Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Basic Agronomics: Dry matter highly dependent on planting and termination date and precipitation. Tolerates moderately alkaline conditions but does poorly in acid soil < pH 6.0. Bloat potential that is easily managed.

Weeds: If other small grains are to be planted within a year there can be disease problems (especially with tan spot). If alfalfa is to be planted after the small grain, kill small grain volunteer plants with an herbicide.

Forage and Grazing: Bears traffic very well when drilled; more susceptible to heavy traffic when aerially seeded.

Goals: For suppressing winter annuals, must be planted by early fall (early September).

References & Resources