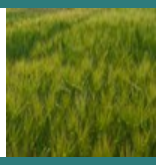
Grass

Barley, Winter

Hordeum vulgare



PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

COVER CROP DESCRIPTION

Upright small grain. Widely used in the Northeast. Best small grain for drought, heat, salty or alkaline soils. Not suitable for wet or acid soils. Winter barley typically needs vernalization (overwintering) to produce stalk/head/seed. May stay short and fail to flower if planted in spring. 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 same diseases and pests). Bloom timing and height match crimson clover, rapeseed when used in a mix. More winter-hardy than oat, less than wheat and rye. Better fall growth and tillers more than wheat and rye but more prone to frost damage. More winter-hardy than oat, less than wheat and rye. Better fall growth and tillers more than wheat and rye but more prone to frost damage.

Barley, Winter - Eagen [2020]

Barley, Winter - Salon [2020]

Barley, Winter - Salon [2020]

GOALS

Growing Window	Short	Penetrates Plow Pan	●●○○○
Nitrogen Scavenging	●●●●○	Reduces Surface Compaction	●●●●●
Lasting Residue	●●●○○	Improve Soil Organic Matter	●●●●○
Prevent Fall Soil Erosion	●●●●●	Increase Soil Aggregation	●●●○○
Prevent Spring Soil Erosion	●●●●●	Good Grazing	●●●○○
Forage Harvest Value	●●●●○	Pollinator Food	●○○○○

WEEDS

Residue Suppresses Summer Annual Weeds	●●●●○
Outcompetes Summer Annual Weeds	●●●○○
Suppresses Winter Annual Weeds	●●●●○
Persistence	●●○○○
Volunteer Establishment	●●●●●

ENVIRONMENTAL TOLERANCES

Low Fertility	●●●●○
Drought	●●●○○
Heat	●●●○○
Shade	●●●○○
Flood	●●●○○
Salinity	●●●○○

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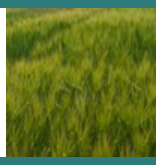

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Growth Traits

Duration	Annual
Zone Use	Common
Shape And Orientation	Erect
Dry Matter (Lbs/A/Yr)	2000 - 5000
Soil Texture	Medium
Soil pH	6 - 8.5
Soil Moisture Use	Medium
Hessian Fly Free Date?	No
Ease Of Establishment	■■■■□
Establishes Quickly	■■■□□
Early Spring Growth	■■■■□
Flowering Trigger	Vernalization
Root Depth	Medium

Soil Drainage

- Very Poorly Drained
- Poorly Drained
- Somewhat Poorly Drained
- **Moderately Well Drained** ●
- **Well Drained** ●
- **Excessively Drained** ●
- Saturated Muck
- **Well Drained Muck** ●

Planting

Seeds Per Lb	13600
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)	38

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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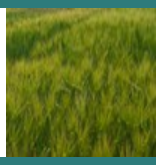
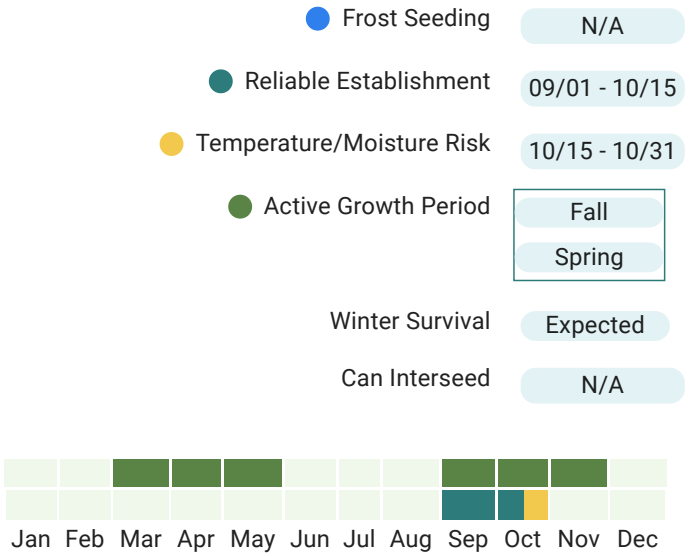


PLANT HARDINESS ZONE 6 DATASET

Planting and Growth Windows



Extended Comments

Basic Agronomics: More commonly grown south of the Mason-Dixon line and in SE PA.

Forage and Grazing: Failure to overwinter reliably in USDA hardiness zones 5 and colder means biomass production may be low, which potentially limits grazing/forage harvest value.

Insects: Terminating barler early or late showed no impact on arthropod (pest or beneficial) numbers in a subsequent soybean crop

References & Resources

Use of Cover Crops and Green Manures to Attract Beneficial Insects, University of Connecticut Integrated Pest Management Program
Fall Cover Crops, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension
Cover Crops and Green Manure Crops – Benefits, Selection, and Use, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension
Pasture Production of Selected Forage Species, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension
Plant Cover Crops, University of Maryland Extension