

# Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center Malting Barley Update

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# Overview

- Barley in UPREC research program for 10+ years
- Last three years focused on malting barley
- Estimating less than 500 acres grown in 2014, less than 1/2 actually malted



# Past research

Variety trials – Fertility trials – Fungicide trials



# 2014 Research

- Four-site variety trial (Alger, Schoolcraft, Presque Isle, and Leelanau Counties)
- Focusing on production and quality analysis of 23 varieties

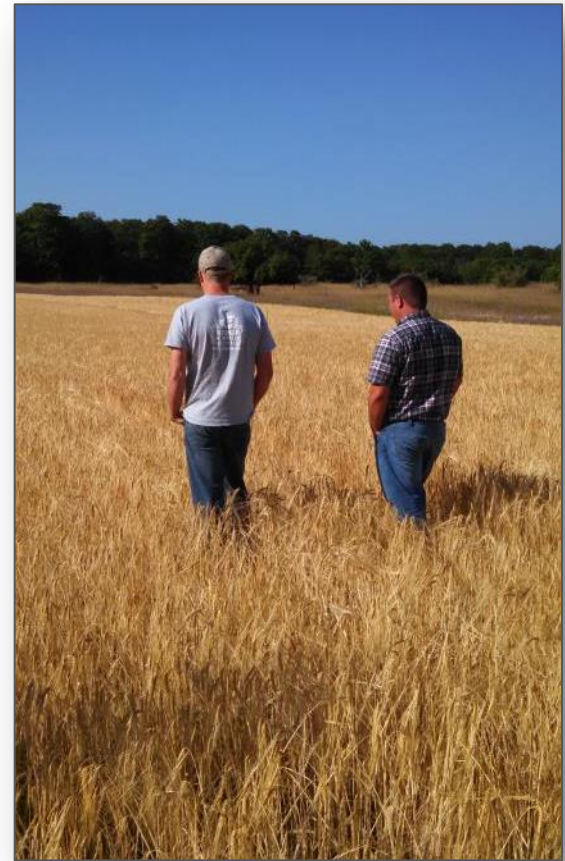


American Malting  
Barley Association, Inc.



# 2015 Research Outlook - Variety Trials

- Continued variety trial @ UPREC and one site in northern Michigan
- Eastern U.S. variety trial
- UK research addressing heritage varieties and FHB





# 2015 Research Outlook - Management

Pre-harvest sprout – Seeding rate – Fertility



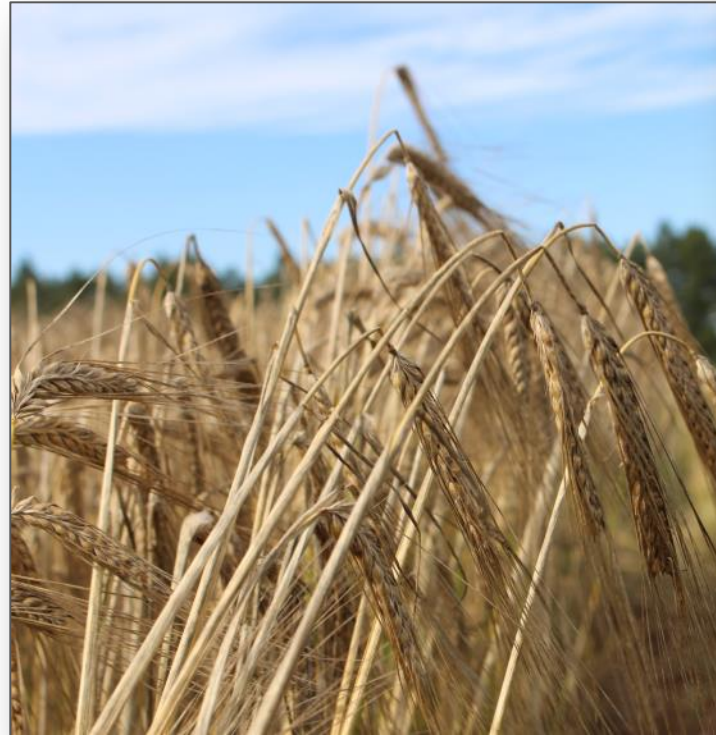
# Challenges

- Access to certified seed
  - Only 8 acres of certified malting barley seed grown in Michigan in 2014
  - Little availability of Upper Midwest adapted varieties



# Challenges

- Climate
- Two row vs. Six row debate





## 2015 Initiatives

- Establishment of a quality analysis laboratory at UPREC
- Development of a seed directory
- Inventory harvest and malthouse capacity



# 2015 Initiatives

- Spartan Barley
  - Variety released by MSU researchers in 1920s
  - Widespread use throughout U.S.
  - Replaced by more modern varieties by 1960s
  - However, adapted for Michigan!



# Challenges

- Access to processing – malthouses





# Malthouse opportunities

- Two operational malthouses in-state
- Will likely triple number of malthouses in 2015
- Feasibility study strongly supports potential in northern Michigan





# Craft Maltsters Guild

- Varying membership options
- Diverse array of forums
- Key resources for the industry



# Educational opportunities

- North Dakota State University Barley Field School – July 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, Fargo, North Dakota
- Canadian Malting Barley Technical Centre
  - Malt Academy Two-Week Program
  - Malt Academy Three-Day Overview
- Many malthouses host training events and/or provide consultation





# Malting Barley Project

[http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/centers/uprc/malting\\_barley](http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/centers/uprc/malting_barley)