

BARLEY VARIETIES IN NORTH DAKOTA, 1949¹By C. J. Heltemcs² and L. W. Orvold³

Kindred, or "L" as it is also known, was the most popular variety of barley grown in North Dakota in 1949, according to a survey made by the Federal Agricultural Statistician at Fargo. This relatively new variety, developed within the state, was planted on 60 per cent of the total barley acreage. Second in acreage was Montcalm with 10 per cent and third was Wisconsin 38 with 9.5 per cent. These three leading varieties accounted for 79 per cent of the total barley acreage planted. Other varieties following in order were Tregal, 4.5 per cent; Plush, 3.5 per cent; Manchuria, 2.5 per cent; Terbi, 2.5 per cent; OAC or Arctic, 1.5 per cent; and More, 1.5 per cent. The remaining 5 per cent of the total barley acreage was divided among such varieties as Bay, 1.0 per cent; Oderbrucker, 1.0 per cent; Spartan and Steigum, each 0.5 per cent, and other minor varieties.

Kindred was the leading variety in all crop reporting districts, except the West Central area where Wisconsin 38 led by a small margin. In the important barley areas the acreage planted with Kindred ranged up to 77 per cent of the total, but in the southwestern part of North Dakota where barley is of less importance, a large proportion of the acreage was planted with feed types and miscellaneous varieties.

The changes that have taken place in the proportion planted to each variety, compared with the previous survey made in 1946, is of particular interest. Three years ago Kindred had become the leading variety, but only 30 per cent of the total acreage was planted with it, compared with 60 per cent this year. In 1946 Wisconsin 38 was the second most popular variety and occupied 25 per cent of the barley acreage. In 1949, Wisconsin 38 accounted for only 9 per cent and second place was taken by Montcalm, a new variety, with 10 per cent of the total acreage. Plush, Manchuria, and Terbi accounted for around 10 per cent each in 1946, but only 2 to 3 per cent this year.

Barley acreage declined sharply in North Dakota this year and the state no longer leads in barley production, being exceeded by California where the acreage increased 2 per cent in 1949. For 1949, North Dakota's planted acreage was 1,989,000 acres, a decrease of 27 per cent from last year and the smallest since 1941. Acreage decreases were general over the state. Decreases took place also in South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana. About 32 per cent of the North Dakota barley acreage is located in seven northeastern counties and another 20 per cent is in five east central counties.

The table following gives the percentages planted to each of the main varieties, by crop reporting districts, and the per cent of the state total acreage planted to each variety.

¹Survey made in cooperation with Midwest Barley Improvement Association.

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NORTH DAKOTA: BARLEY VARIETIES BY CROP REPORTING DISTRICTS

(Per cent of acreage planted to each variety, 1949)

Dist.	Kin- dred or "L"	Mont- calm	Wis. 38	Tregal	Plush	Man- churia	Trebi	OAC 21	Moore	Oth- er
1	46.0	12.0	14.0	1.0	13.0	4.5	2.5	0.5	.5	6.0
2	69.0	2.5	10.0	1.5	6.0	.5	1.0	2.0	1.5	6.0
3	61.0	12.5	5.5	3.5	1.5	4.5	1.5	3.0	1.5	5.5
4	22.0	6.0	28.0	18.0	4.0	.5	6.0	—	—	15.5
5	68.0	2.5	16.0	2.5	4.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	—	3.0
6	64.0	13.5	5.5	8.0	2.5	1.0	.5	1.0	3.0	1.0
7	25.0	14.5	15.0	13.0	2.0	9.0	8.0	5.0	—	8.5
8	32.0	13.5	7.5	3.0	12.0	—	17.5	—	—	14.5
9	77.0	6.0	6.0	2.5	1.0	.5	.5	2.0	—	4.5
State	60.0	10.0	9.0	4.5	3.5	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.5	5.0

NORTH DAKOTA CROP PRODUCTION DOWN IN 1949

First-of-the-year summaries by C. J. Heltemes, USDA statistician in Fargo, show sharp reduction in output of all grain crops. Production of all crops was smallest since 1940, with overall production of corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye at 201 million bushels, 31 per cent under the 291 million bushels of 1948 and 24 per cent under the 10-year (1938-47) average. The past year's crop was far below the wartime record of 334 million bushels of grain crops in 1944.

Harvested acreage of these crops in 1949 was 20,482,000 acres, compared with 21,206,000 acres in 1948 and a 10-year average of 19 million acres. In 1949 North Dakota ranked fifth in total area of land harvested, exceeded by Texas, Kansas, Iowa and Illinois. The state in 1949 was first in production of durum, other spring wheat and rye; second for all wheat, barley and flaxseed; third for wild hay; sixth for potatoes and eleventh in oats.

The 1949 wheat crop is placed at 111,439,000 bushels compared to 140,958,000 in 1948 and a 10-year average of 127,404,000. The bread wheat accounted for 77,427,000 bushels in 1949, smallest since 1940. Durum, at 34,012,000, was six million bushels under 1948. This drop was due to lower yield per harvested acreage. Durum averaged 11 bushels per acre in 1949 against 14 in 1948; other spring wheat averaged 10.5 bushels against 14.5 in 1948 and the 10-year average. Wheat plantings were largest since 1932, with acreage of both durum and other spring wheat well above 1948.

Corn in 1949 totaled 23,361,000 bushels of which about 12 million was harvested for grain. This compares with 29,380,000 bushels in 1948, of which nearly 15 million bushels were harvested as grain.

Oats, at 36,550,000 bushels in 1949, was far below 1948 and lowest production since 1940. Yield dropped from 28 bushels in 1948 to 21.5 bushels in 1949.

Barley, at 26,608,000 bushels, was less than half the 1948 crop and smallest crop since 1938. Harvested acreage dropped a million acres, or 37 per cent, from 1948, and yield per acre was 16 bushels, lowest since 1936, although matched in 1940.

Rye, 2,748,000 bushels in 1949, was 43 per cent less than in 1948, but the 12 bushel yield matched 1948 and the 10-year average.