

Winter barley 2026/27



		AHD5															RECOMMENDED																																	
		Buccaneer		Craft		LG Capitol		KWS Valencis		LG Caravelle		Russo		NOS Olena		LG Catapult		Darcie		SU Arlon		Kitty		KWS Tardis		LG Carpenter		Organa		Bolton		Valerie		SY Bamabus [#]		Inys [#]		SY Quantock [#]		SY Kingsbarn [#]		SY Canyon [#]		Integral		SY Kestrel [#]		KWS Feeris		Average LSD (5%)
End-use group		Two-row malting														Two-row feed																				Six-row feed														
Scope of recommendation		UK		UK		UK		UK		E		UK		UK Sp		E		E&N		UK		UK		UK		E&W Sp		UK Sp		UK		UK		UK		UK		UK		UK Sp		UK Sp		UK Sp						
Variety status		C												NEW		NEW						C						*		*				NEW				C				*C								
Fungicide-treated grain yield (% treated control)																																																		
United Kingdom (9.8 t/ha)		98	93	106	106	105	104	104	104	104	104	104	103	103	103	103	102	101	99	108	107	107	107	106	105	103	102	2.4																						
East region (9.5 t/ha)		99	92	106	106	107	106	105	106	106	106	103	103	104	104	103	99	108	108	106	106	106	105	102	102	3.2																								
West region (9.6 t/ha)		98	93	105	[105]	105	[104]	[103]	[104]	[101]	[99]	[101]	101	[102]	[102]	100	97	[109]	[105]	[108]	107	105	[106]	[104]	103	4.6																								
North region (10.8 t/ha)		96	93	105	105	103	101	106	[101]	[104]	103	106	103	98	[100]	100	101	[106]	107	107	107	107	102	104	102	3.6																								
Untreated grain yield (% treated control)																																																		
United Kingdom (9.8 t/ha)		88	80	89	89	90	88	86	90	80	85	80	84	91	90	86	70	93	86	91	80	90	89	84	83	4.0																								
Disease resistance																																																		
Mildew (1–9)		6	6	7	6	7	5	6	6	6	8	6	5	6	7	6	8	7	7	7	7	8	4	7	5	0.9																								
Brown rust (1–9)		8	8	7	7	7	6	6	7	5	6	5	6	7	8	7	4	7	6	7	5	6	6	6	6	0.9																								
Rhynchosporium (1–9)		6	6	6	6	6	5	6	[6]	7	6	7	6	7	7	5	6	7	6	7	6	6	6	7	6	1.2																								
Net blotch (1–9)		5	5	5	6	6	5	6	5	6	6	6	5	6	4	5	6	6	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	1.0																								
BaYMV2		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	R	-	R	-	-	-	-	R	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																								
BYDV		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	-	-	-	-	To	To	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	R	To	-	-																								
WDV		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	To	-	-	-																								
Agronomic features																																																		
Resistance to lodging without PGR (1–9)		7	8	7	[7]	7	[7]	[7]	-	-	[7]	[8]	8	[6]	[6]	8	8	-	[8]	[7]	6	6	[8]	[8]	8	1.8																								
Resistance to lodging with PGR (1–9)		7	8	7	8	8	7	8	6	7	6	8	8	6	7	8	8	6	7	7	6	6	8	7	7	1.4																								
Lodging without PGR (%)		10	2	4	[6]	4	[9]	[6]	-	-	[6]	[2]	3	[20]	[18]	3	3	-	[2]	[6]	14	14	[2]	[3]	2	-																								
Lodging with PGR (%)		3	1	2	1	1	3	1	5	4	4	1	1	5	2	1	1	6	2	3	7	7	1	3	2	-																								
Straw length without PGR (cm)		97	99	91	95	93	95	95	92	94	96	95	95	100	106	93	95	115	113	113	115	117	104	115	103	3.4																								
Straw length with PGR (cm)		92	91	85	89	86	89	87	84	88	90	87	86	94	99	85	88	111	106	106	106	109	96	106	98	1.9																								
Brackling (%)		5	14	12	8	9	17	7	13	10	28	4	7	18	19	11	10	20	9	16	21	16	5	11	16	-																								
Ripening (days +/- LG Caravelle)		+1	0	+1	0	0	+1	+1	0	+1	0	+2	0	+1	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0.7																								
Main market options																																																		
MBC malting approval for brewing use		F	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-																							
Grain quality																																																		
Specific weight (kg/hl)		69.6	70.0	70.4	70.3	71.7	70.2	70.2	70.7	70.9	69.2	73.0	70.6	70.8	70.0	69.7	71.1	71.3	69.6	70.9	70.6	71.5	69.6	69.1	69.2	0.7																								
Screenings (% through 2.25 mm)		2.2	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.1	2.8	1.8	2.6	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.8	0.6																								
Screenings (% through 2.5 mm)		6.6	7.5	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.9	8.5	4.7	4.1	4.2	5.4	5.3	5.7	5.0	2.7	9.6	6.2	9.0	5.5	6.2	5.4	4.5	6.3	1.6																								
Nitrogen content (%)		1.64	1.66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[1.64]	0.09																								
Malting quality																																																		
Hot water extract (l deg/kg)		308.1	308.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	[296.7]	2.2																								
Annual treated yield (% control)																																																		
2021 (9.9 t/ha)		97	94	105	-	104	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	-	-	101	98	-	-	-	106	106	-	-	102	-																								
2022 (9.9 t/ha)		98	92	106	106	105	104	105	-	-	103	104	102	102	103	102	100	-	107	108	107	107	104	104	103	-																								
2023 (10.0 t/ha)		98	92	105	106	105	104	104	103	104	103	105	103	101	101	101	100	107	108	108	108	106	105	104	100	-																								
2024 (9.9 t/ha)		98	93	105	106	105	104	105	104	103	102	103	103	100	102	101	98	108	106	107	105	105	104	104	103	-																								
2025 (10.0 t/ha)		98	93	106	105	105	103	103	103	103	102	102	102	102	102	101	100	107	106	106	106	105	104	103	103	-																								
Soil type (about 50% of trials are medium soils)																																																		
Light soils (10.2 t/ha)		97	93	104	105	104	102	106	102	103	104	103	103	99	100	102	99	108	108	108	107	107	101	104	102	4.2																								
Heavy soils (8.9 t/ha)		99	94	110	107	107	105	106	105	105	104	104	105	105	103	105	100	108	108	108	104	103	105	101	101	5.2																								
Breeder/UK contact																																																		
Breeder		Sej	SyP	Lim	KWS	LimEur	NS	NS	LimEur	Bre	Nord	Bre	KWS	LimEur	NS	Ack	Bre	SCP	SCP	SCP	SyP	SyP	Sec	SCP	KWS																									
UK contact		SU	Syn	Lim	KWS	Lim	Agr	Sen	Lim	Sen	SU	Sen	KWS	Lim	Sen	EAB	Sen	Syn	KWS	Syn	Syn	Syn	Sec	Syn	KWS																									
Status in RL system																																																		
Year first listed		23	16	24	25	23	25	25	26	26	25	25	21	25	25	21	19	26	25	25	19	22	25	25	22																									
RL status		-	-	-	P2	-	P2	P2	P1	P1	P2	P2	-	P2	P2	*	*	P1	P2	P2	-	-	P2	P2	*																									

Varieties no longer listed: Belfry, Bolivia, Electrum, KWS Heraclis, Rosemary, Sixy, SY Kingston and SY Nephin.
For this table, Electrum was also a control variety but is no longer listed.
Integral, KWS Feeris, LG Carpenter, LG Catapult, Organa and SY Kestrel have a specific recommendation for resistance or tolerance to *Barley yellow dwarf virus* (BYDV). Resistance and tolerance to BYDV has not been verified in RL tests.
Growers are strongly advised to check with their buyer before committing to a malting variety without full MBC approval.
All winter barley varieties in RL 2026/27 are believed to be resistant to *Barley yellow mosaic virus* strain 1 (BaYMV1) and *Barley mild mosaic virus* (BaMMV).

On the 1–9 scales, high figures indicate that a variety shows the character to a high degree (e.g. high resistance). Comparisons of variety performance across regions are not valid.

UK = Recommended for the UK
E = Recommended for the East region
W = Recommended for the West region
N = Recommended for the North region
Sp = Specific recommendation

C = Yield control
* = Variety no longer under test in RL trials
= Hybrid variety
PGR = Plant growth regulator
[] = Limited data

R = Believed to be resistant; as this is a breeders' claim, this has not been verified in RL tests
To = Believed to be tolerant; as this is a breeders' claim, this has not been verified in RL tests
WDV = Wheat dwarf virus

MBC = Malting Barley Committee
F = Full MBC approval
P1 = First year of listing
P2 = Second year of listing

LSD = Least significant difference
Average LSD (5%): Varieties that are more than one LSD apart are significantly different at the 95% confidence level

Ack = Ackermann Saatzucht GmbH (sz-ackermann.de)
Agr = Agrii (agrii.co.uk)
Bre = Saatzucht Josef Breun, Germany (breun.de)
EAB = Elsoms Ackermann Barley (elsoms.com)

KWS = KWS UK (kws-uk.com)
Lim = Limagrain UK (lgseeds.co.uk)
LimEur = Limagrain Europe SAS (lgseeds.co.uk)
Nord = Nordsaat, Germany (nordsaat.de)

NS = Nordic Seed, Denmark (nordicseed.com)
SCP = Syngenta Crop Protection (syngenta-crop.co.uk)
Sec = Secobra, France (secobra.fr/en/accueil)
Sej = Sejet, Denmark (sejet.com)

Sen = Senova (senova.uk.com)
SU = Saaten Union UK (saaten-union.co.uk)
Syn = Syngenta UK Ltd (syngenta.co.uk)

SyP = Syngenta Participations AG (syngenta.co.uk)