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U.S. Recommended Malting Barley Varieties for 2022

Milwaukee – February 3, 2022 – The American Malting Barley Association (AMBA) Board of Directors annually develops a list of recommended malting barley varieties for U.S. growers for the upcoming crop year. AMBA is a nonprofit trade association of 60+ malting, brewing, distilling, and food companies that are end users of U.S. malting barley.

The AMBA Recommended List is intended to provide U.S. growers with guidance as to what varieties the industry may be contracting or purchasing in the coming year. It is not intended as a list of approved or certified malting varieties for the use by brewers, distillers, food companies, or maltsters. There may be many suitable malting barley varieties grown domestically or internationally that are not on the list yet have quality characteristics desired by the industry. Some varieties will be used in large quantities and many others are only utilized in niche markets, so producers are encouraged to contact their local elevator, grain handler or processor to gauge market demand for any variety grown in their region prior to seeding.

Changes from the previous year include dropping Conlon and the addition of ABI Cardinal and Regina. ABI Cardinal, bred by Anheuser-Busch at Global Barley Research in Fort Collins, CO, delivers competitive yield with an earlier harvest maturity time and a better disease resistance package compared to other major two-row varieties while maintaining excellent brewing quality. ABI Cardinal represents a 12-year journey that Global Barley Research began when switching over from breeding six-row barley for the Midwestern U.S. to two-row. ABI Cardinal is the first generation of materials from this breeding pipeline which looks to strengthen the productivity and sustainably of two-row barley production in this region. Regina is a German bred winter variety that is being grown in Ohio and surrounding states. It has proven to be a versatile variety with acceptable quality and agronomic performance.



With these changes from last year, the list of recommended malting barley varieties for 2022 is as follows:

Two-Row Varieties

AAC Connect	Bill Coors 100	Flavia*	Moravian 37	Newdale
AAC Synergy	CDC Copeland	Hockett	Moravian 69	Pinnacle
ABI Cardinal	Charles*	LCS Genie	Moravian 164	Puffin*
ABI Eagle	Conrad	LCS Odyssey	Moravian 165	Regina*
ABI Growler	Endeavor*	LCS Violetta*	Moravian 170	Thunder*
ABI Voyager	Expedition	Mayflower	Moravian 179	Wintmalt*
AC Metcalfe	Explorer	Merit 57	ND Genesis	

Six-Row Varieties

Celebration Lacey Quest Tradition Innovation Legacy Thoroughbred*

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The American Malting Barley Association is a trade organization, which represents the interests of end users of malting barley, including maltsters, brewers, distillers, and food processors. Our work seeks to maintain a stable and high quality supply of malting barley for our members throughout the U.S. Learn more here: www.ambainc.org.

^{*} Winter varieties