

Fun Facts About Barley

Montana Seed Growers Association

- Montana was ranked the 3rd largest barley producer in the Nation in 2015 (NASS/USDA Stats).
- Montana Planted 770,000 acres of barley in 2017, with 34,000 of those acres residing in Gallatin county. That is about 4.4% of Montana's' total barley acers in one county! (NASS/USDA Stats).
- Barley was one of the first cereal crops to be domesticated (Alberta Barley).
- Barley was a favorite grain of the ancient Egyptians, Roman gladiators, and the Vikings (Alberta Barley).
- Christopher Columbus brought barley to North America in 1493 (Alberta Barley).
- Barley is the worlds oldest grain and has been cultivated for 8,000 years (MT W&B).
- Barley is a common ingredient in breakfast cereals, pilaf mixes, breads, crackers, and snack bars (MT W&B).
- Barley is sold per hundred weight (bwt) rather than per bushel like wheat. One bushel of barley is only 48lbs. Vs. wheat that has 60 lbs. per bushel.
- Barley is also used in animal feed as grain, silage, and straw.
- Barley is "hulled" before humans consume if for food.

Barley is used in bread, soups, stews, and in health products.

Barley is an important food source for animals.

Barley in the field



Barley that has been hulled



Barley flakes



Photo Credit: Freefoto.com (in field), Shiloh Farms (Hulled barley and barley flakes)