

Assessing a Market for Grain

ISSUE: Farmers in Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties grow thousands of acres of grain a year, but suffer from a shortage of markets to sell to.

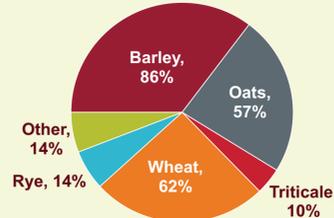


Farmers grow about 2,500 to 3,000 acres of grain in Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties. Most grain production in the region occurs in the Chehalis Basin.



Grains Grown in Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties (2018?)

The WSU Westside Cropping Systems project evaluated nine varieties of barley for special flavor characteristics. The goal was to generate demand for barley varieties that local farmers can sell into high-value markets.



Westside Cropping Systems
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Learn more at tinyurl.com/groundtoglass



WHO GREW YOUR BEER? GROUND TO GLASS

Locally grown, locally sourced: creating economic opportunity for grain growers.



Craft Beer: A Market for Local Grain Growers

The value of barley in a 6-pack is about 15 cents.

Increasing the value of barley on only 500 acres by \$0.03 per pound would generate an additional \$325,000 in sales for farmers.

The value of 2,500 acres of grain production in the region is approximately \$1.25 million.

Grain storage in the region is needed for malt to be available year round.

Support the local grain economy by telling your brewers, elected officials, and WSU that you want LOCAL BARLEY!

Beer from the barley grown for this project is being brewed locally:



Breeding new barley varieties at WSU

Seeding on-farm trials

Harvesting barley

Malting barley
Malting is the process of germinating and then roasting barley, converting starch to sugars in preparation for brewing

Distributing malt to brewers and distillers

Testing the product

Food Systems
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



PORT of OLYMPIA

WSU SUSTAINABLE SEED SYSTEMS LAB



Viticulture & Enology
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