GREENHOUSE TO GLASS

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Barley, Malt & Brewing Quality Lab
Hannah Turner

BS 2014 – Plant Science
MS – 2016 – Plant Science

MSU Barley Breeding Program – 2016 to present
Craft Maltster’s Guild BOD/Technical Committee – 2018 to present
ASBC – Technical Committee - 2020 to present
Pink Boots Society – MT Chapter Co-Leader 2021 - present
Barley Breeding, Malt & Brewing Quality
Supporting the region and beyond via

Research | Service | Education

www.montana.edu/barleybreeding
Why Produce Barley Malt?

Two key reasons barley is a critical brewing ingredient (even though many grains can be malted)

- Barley has high enzymatic potential
- Aleurone layer 2-3 cell layers thick
- Self convert + convert specialty & alt grains
- Naturally retains its husk
- Important wort separation aid
- No rice hulls needed here!

Hulls protect the grain in germination and support mash filtration

Enzyme producing aleurone layer – more cells in barley = more enzymes
Barley

• Cereal grain and member of the grass family: *Poaceae*

• Wild and cultivated types

• Cultivated barley is *Hordeum vulgare*

• Cultivated barleys:
  – Spike morphology: two and six rowed
  – Growth habit: spring, winter, facultative
  – Kernel types: hulled, hull-less (naked), and hooded (awnless)
Malting & Brewing History

– Evidence of barley consumption in 8000 BC
– Most malting/brewing in the middle ages was small scale
  • basic domestic chore performed by women
– Industrialization brought separation
  • modern day aspect of a once continuous process
– Early manuscripts with detailed malting instructions
  • In ways they are still relevant:
    – A New Art of Brewing Beer – 1690, Tyron
    – The London and Country Brewer – 1736, Ellis
Barley is Specifically Bred for Brewing!

Process:

• Determine end goal objective
  – Trait such as malt quality, disease resistance etc

• Obtain genetic variability for the trait
  – Cross appropriate parents
    • Ex: Desired trait/non-adapted x locally adapted

• Select the best lines over a 10-12 year process
  - Conventional and modern methods of selection
  - No GMO methods used for barley

There are no GMO barleys!
1. Make head female
2. Bag head, wait... pollinate
3. Wait for seed

Timing, timing, timing!

Check out this video in our Resource Center for greater process detail! https://vimeo.com/48607613
Breeding is Resource Intensive

Plant Breeding Pipeline = Multi-year process

Crossovers between high performing multi,
food, food and forage lines or crossovers
with lines that provide a specific quality,
e.g. disease resistance are made.

Lines eliminated
each year due to
poor performance

Acceptable lines recommended for
release

Spring Year 1: Crossovers enter plant breeding
pipeline

Year 1: Crossovers are inbred for two generations

Summer Year 2: Inbred lines from previous year are
first field tested and selected for heading date,
height, head morphology

Summer Year 3: Inbred lines tested as complete
composites select for agronomic and some quality

Summer Year 4: Inbred lines tested as replicated plots
select for agronomic and quality

Summer Year 5: Inbred Lines tested as replicated plots
more environments select for agronomics and quality

Several years of regional
trials
The barley kernel

- Starch endosperm
- Hull
- Living embryo
Very simplified analogy

Think of a fruit and nut chocolate bar:

- Cell wall = wrapper
- Protein matrix = chocolate
- Small starch granules = fruit
- Large starch granules = nuts
Levels of Endosperm Modification

Starch is accessible for brewing

Starch degradation decreases extract
Malting Stages

**Steep**
- 24-48 hours, involves grain submersions and air rests
- Hydrate grain up to 42-46% moisture
- Triggers grain into germination like spring rains

**Germination**
~3-5 day process where grain is kept at high humidity
- Moisture maintained at 44-46%
- Aerobic, cool conditions must be maintained
- Intermittent turning to prevent root matting and evenly treat the grain

**Kiln**
- Typically ~ 24 hours
  - Base malts: low slow heat with high airflow to preserve enzymes, higher temps/lower airflow later for curing/some flavor & color
  - Kilning pauses enzymatic process
  - Specialty malts: involve variations of temperature and moisture
- Malt should be dried to 4-6% moisture for stability
Malting Process

- **Cleaner/Screener**: Small and foreign grains, broken seeds, chaff, dust
  - Cool air, fresh potable water
  - Compressed air

- **Steeping Vessel**: Light grains, dust, effluent water, CO₂, soluble materials (tannins, phenolics)
  - Cool and humid air, recirculated air. Air may be cooled or heated depending on ambient conditions.

- **Germination Vessel or Floor**: Grain turning: automated or manual

- **Kiln**: Air w/ CO₂, heat
  - Dry, hot air
  - Humid air

- **Deculming**: Rootlets, Acrospires, dust, husk
  - Light grains, dust, effluent water, CO₂, soluble materials (tannins, phenolics)
Malting Process —> Grain Modification

Steeping
- Balvenie Distillery
- Root Shoot Malting

Germination
- Rahr Malting

Kilning
- Briess Malting
- Blacklands Malt

Malting Process —> Grain Modification
The Doig Ventilator

- Iconic structure of Scottish whiskey malthouses
- Charles Doig - designer
- Special chimney
  - significantly improved hot air and smoke evacuation
  - largely unhindered by the weather
- Reminiscent of the pagoda roof and also referred to as a Doig pagoda
- Many of the original structures were lost to fires – but a few designed by Doig and his sons still exist
Schematic of Malt Style Production

- **Barley**
  - Green Malt
  - Low Temperature Drying (80F – 125F)
    - Pilsner Malt
    - Distillers Malt
    - Chit Malt
  - Stewing (100F – 160F)
    - Pale Ale Malt
    - Vienna Malt
    - Munich Malt
  - Med Temp Kiln (<230F)
    - Biscuit
    - Brown/Amber Malt
    - Chocolate Malt
  - Hight Temp Kiln (<230 - 300F)
    - Biscuit
    - Brown/Amber Malt
    - Chocolate Malt
  - Drum Roasting (<250 - 400F)
    - Dry Roast
    - Biscuit
    - Amber/Brown
    - Black Patent
    - Roasted Barley

- **Smoked Malt**
  - (≤120F)
  - Acids

- **Distillers Malt**
  - Chit Malt

- **Pale Ale Malt**
  - Vienna Malt
  - Munich Malt

- **Biscuit**
  - Brown/Amber Malt
  - Chocolate Malt

- **Dry Roast**
  - Biscuit
  - Amber/Brown
  - Black Patent
  - Roasted Barley

- **Wet Roast**
  - Crystal
  - Caramel
Brewers Grist Bill (Recipe)

- Large proportion of base barley malt
  - Sugar
  - Enzymes
  - Husks for filtering
- Small proportion specialty malts
  - Barley or adjunct grains
  - Color, flavor, body, haze etc

Mashing milled ingredients with warm water allows enzymatic process to convert starch into sugar → Wort produced for fermentation
1. All brews start in the cereal cooker where water, corn grits, & malted barley are added & cooked for 2 hours at 210°F.

2. More water & malted barley are added. Here the starches are converted into sugars that can be fermented. Light beers are cooked longer & at lower temperatures to reduce sugar content.

3. At this point the sugar-rich liquid, known as wort, is moved to the Lauter Tun. Here the grain & liquid separate through the sieve-like base of the vessel.

4. Once the sweet wort is transferred to the Brew Kettle, the hops are added which gives the brew flavor, aroma & bitterness.

5. The Wort is cooled & moved to the Fermenting Cellars where yeast is added or “pitched.” The yeast converts sugars from the malt into alcohol & carbon dioxide.

6. After active fermentation, the brew is cooled & moved to the Aging Tank for about 20 days. At this stage, the yeast settles & the beer’s flavor becomes smoother.

7. The beer is then filtered to purge the remaining yeast & stabilize the flavor. Carbon dioxide is added to ensure superior flavor. The beer is then moved to the finishing tanks.

8. Once the brew is finished, it is pumped to the can line, bottle line, or kegged for our beer loving fans.

Yuengling Brewing
Impact of Malt on Beer

• Beer flavor/aroma
  – Kiln byproducts
  – Fermentation
    (malt is food for yeast)
    • Esters
    • Higher alcohols
    • Sulfurs
    • Acidity
  – Mouthfeel
  – Finishing gravity
  – Astringency

• Beer Aesthetics
  – Haze
  – Head retention
  – Color

• Brewery Efficiency
  -Conversion time
  -Launter time
  -Brewhouse yield
  -Filter time
Thank You!
Questions?

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Check our Learning Center: montana.edu/barleybreeding
Coming to Bozeman? Come tour our lab!