

2.2 Spring Sown Barley Trial

Researcher

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DNRE – Hamilton

Site

Hamilton – Blackwood

Background

Spring sown Barley has been a traditional crop in the Hamilton district for a number of years, although it has lost favour over the last two or three years due to low prices, competition with red wheat and marketing/storage issues. Parwan was the preferred variety, although with its down grading from a malting variety to a feed variety, a replacement variety needs to be found.

Aim

1. To determine the most suitable Barley variety to be grown as a spring crop in the Hamilton district
2. To determine the potential qualities of a number of spring sown Barley varieties.

Management

Sown on the 5th of October at a seeding rate of 80 kg/ha and with 100 kg/ha of DAP. Harvested on the 21/2/00.

RESULTS

Variety	Yield (T/ha)
Franklin	2.92
Gairdner	3.42
Parwan	2.57
Picola	1.82
Schooner	2.26
Sloop	1.97
Tantangara	2.66
LSD (t/ha)	1.07

Parwan has been the barley of choice for spring planting in the SouthWest for a number of years. However some of the newer long season varieties are also showing promise. Gairdner and Franklin both out yielded Parwan but were not significantly better. Parwan still has the best waterlogging tolerance of any of the commercial varieties and should still be used if there is any risk of waterlogging after sowing.

Spring sown Barley should be seen as an opportunity crop to be used when autumn/winter planting's fail. Yields will always be considerably lower than Barley planted at the optimum time in Autumn, so long as waterlogging can be controlled. As well, achieving malt quality is more likely under a long growing season situation.



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