

European barley for European beer

As beer brands become increasingly global, a truly pan European malting barley could bring big benefits. One variety, at least, looks promising.

Breeding a spring barley variety that produces consistent malting quality across Europe – irrespective of where it is grown – is a key focus for Syngenta Seeds.

Producing such a variety could be a major step forward in helping ensure the consistency of end product that modern pan European beer brands require. While varieties Optic and Cellar are already well known in several parts of the community, especially the UK and France, exciting variety **Braemar** could have even wider European appeal – along with new variety NFC Tipple.

“Since achieving its European Common Catalogue status in September 2003, **Braemar** is now either National Listed or undergoing commercial evaluation in more than 13 European countries,” says Simon Phillips, Head of Product Development within Syngenta Seeds in the UK.

Consistent performance

“Key reasons behind its success have been its consistent performance for yield and malting quality. In particular, high extract yield and high diastatic power. But more important than that, across two years of EBC trials, in which it was tested in many countries, it was always the best variety



A potentially bright future for Braemar

for low screenings. It didn't matter what the climatic conditions, it always produced consistently large grain.”

Germany, in particular, has been a major breakthrough for **Braemar**, says Mr Phillips. Since achieving German National Listing three years ago, it is now approved for malting and recommended in most of the country's regions.

“In part, it has been down to its German success that other countries have taken it up,” he adds. “Germany exports a lot of malt and beer, and German brewers are well known.”

But why does **Braemar** perform so well across Europe? According to Mr Phillips, spring barley varieties fall into roughly two categories – Mid Eastern European varieties, such as Cristalia, which perform best in drier, inland climates; and North West European

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Welcome to this first issue of European Barley Malt News.

Designed to keep you up to date with latest developments from one of Europe's top malting barley breeders, it will be published up to three times each year.

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Braemar – consistent performance for yield and malting quality, says Simon Phillips, Head of Product Development for Syngenta Seeds UK

European barley for European beer

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varieties, such as Cellar, which perform best in maritime climates.

“As well as its high quality,

Braemar simply has the ability to grow well in both climates.

“Consistency of barley quality is an important characteristic for global beer brands,” he adds.

Braemar – key points

- National Listed or undergoing commercial evaluation in over 13 countries
- Consistent performance for yield and malting quality
- High extract yield and diastatic power
- Consistently large grain

Braemar – European Progress

Fully commercialised

- Germany (and approved for malting)
- UK – Scotland

National Listed

- France
- Slovakia
- Hungary (and under commercial evaluation)
- Finland
- Latvia
- Lithuania

In National List trials

- Czech Republic

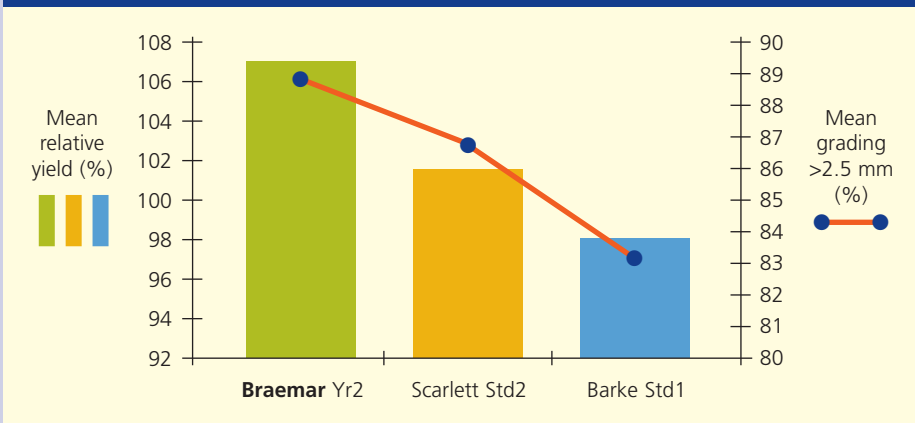
Under European Common Catalogue / under commercial evaluation

- Denmark
- Sweden (under full commercial evaluation for malting)
- Spain
- Italy
- Ukraine
- Russia

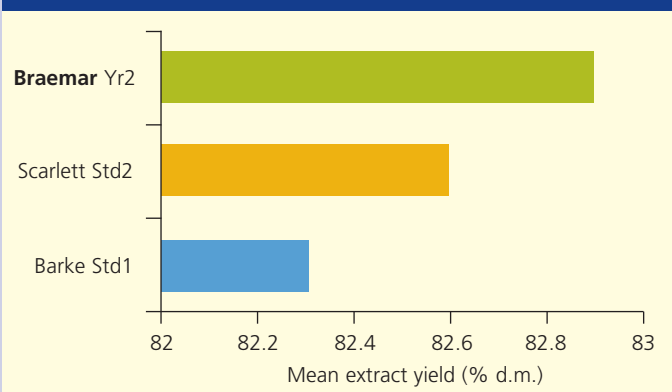
Braemar – performance in European Brewing Convention (EBC) barley trials

All charts show data meaned across North, South and Central regions, harvest year 2003

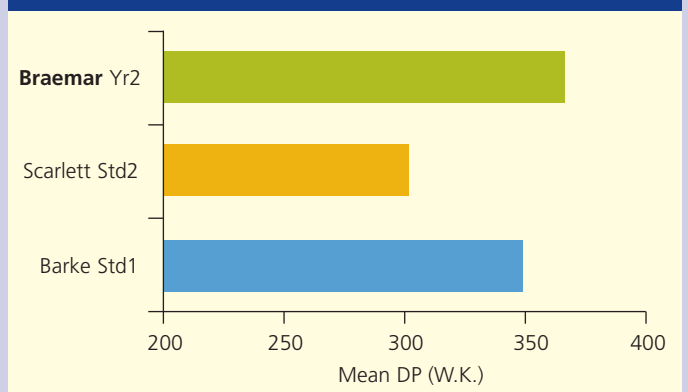
Relative yield and grading



Extract yield



DP



Syngenta Seeds history

Looking for a top quality spring malting barley? Syngenta Seeds is a good place to start.

With a breeding programme stretching back more than 25 years, the company is well renowned for producing high quality varieties.

Probably most famous for Optic, other important varieties have included Cooper, Cork, County, Pewter and Cellar. And, more recently, Braemar and NFC Tipple.

The company's origins date back to 1979 when New Farm Crops, the cereal breeding arm of Syngenta Seeds, was established in the UK.

Today, Syngenta Seeds has operations in the EU 25 and throughout the USA and Australia, but despite being a global business, strong links are maintained with local marketing partners.

World leading

The road to becoming part of Syngenta started when Ciba purchased a stake in New Farm Crops in 1987, before acquiring the whole business in 1992.



As a result of various acquisitions and mergers, the company is now part of Syngenta Seeds, which itself is part of Syngenta – a world-leading agribusiness committed to sustainable

agriculture through innovative research and technology. Syngenta is a leader in crop protection, and ranks third in the high-value commercial seeds market.

European spring malting barley breeding takes place in Lincolnshire in the UK, with early variety selection and product development taking place in most of the key European markets.

Syngenta Seeds – local presence



Following initial spring malting barley breeding in the UK, variety selection and product development take place throughout Europe from an early stage

Syngenta Seeds - portfolio of current European varieties

Country	Varieties
UK	Optic, Cellar, Cocktail, NFC Tipple, Braemar, Carafe
Eire	Optic, Tavern, Saloon, Newgrange, Cocktail
France	Cellar, Pewter, NFC Tipple, Cristalia, Cork, Carafe, County
Germany	Braemar, Carafe, NFC Tipple, Cristalia, Carvilla
Denmark	Braemar, Carafe, NFC Tipple, Carvilla
Holland	Optic, Cellar, Carafe
Sweden	Braemar, NFC Tipple
Italy	Braemar
Spain	Braemar, Pewter
Czech Republic	Braemar
Finland	Braemar, Carafe, Extract
Hungary	Braemar
Belgium	Optic, Cellar
Slovakia	Braemar, Saloon
Lithuania	Braemar, Cellar
Latvia	Braemar, Cellar

European recognition for NFC Tipple

A new spring barley variety that combines malting quality with high yields is rapidly gaining recognition across in Europe in official malting and variety tests.

In the UK, **NFC Tipple** is already the highest yielding spring malting barley on the official HGCA Recommended List 2005 – and is under evaluation by the Institute of Brewing (IOB) for provisional approval in June of this year.

Meanwhile, official French results

have also seen it awarded the highest grade A classification for malting quality by the CTPS (Comité Technique Permanent de la Sélection des Plantes Cultivées), with the variety also receiving National Listing in Germany during December 2004 and entering its second year of official trials in Holland.

Further official malting and agronomic results are also expected soon in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Russia, Ireland and Croatia, along with European Brewing Convention trial results in West and



North European Regions.

“With similar malting quality to Optic for end users, **NFC Tipple** could be very appealing to farmers because of its extremely high yields,” explains Syngenta Seeds European Marketing Manager, Gary Mills-Thomas. “It could be a strong pan European variety,” he adds.



NFC Tipple – similar malting quality to Optic and extremely high yields, says Gary Mills-Thomas, Syngenta Seeds European Marketing Manager

Next issue...

European variety review

Recent introductions plus two new varieties in trials

Breeding focus

What the Syngenta breeding priority means to you

European trials network

The benefits of Europe-wide variety testing

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Syngenta Seeds Ltd

Hill Farm Road, Whittlesford, Cambridge CB2 4QT United Kingdom

Tel: (01223) 494010 Fax: (01223) 494261

Email: nfc.enquiries@syngenta.com

Website: www.newfarmcrops.co.uk