



Collaborative testing and development of forage barley varieties for western Canada

DEVELOPMENT OF FORAGE BARLEY VARIETIES

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LEAD RESEARCHERS: Yadeta Kabeta (Field Crop Development Centre, Olds College)

COLLABORATORS: Flavio Capettini, Lori Oatway, Erin Collier (Field Crop Development Centre, Olds College); Vern Baron (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Lacombe); Ana Badea (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Brandon); Brett Mollison (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Melfort)

Background: CDC Cowboy and CDC Maverick are currently the most popular varieties of forage barley in the prairies. However, several new varieties such as AB Cattlelac, AB Advantage, and AB Wrangler have entered the market recently. In addition, barley breeding programs have several promising lines that are close to being released. These upcoming varieties require multiple years of testing before they can be commercialized and are compared to varieties already in use in multiple locations, for improvements in yield, forage quality, lodging, and other desirable forage barley traits.

Objectives: The objective of this study is to evaluate advanced barley lines across different soil zones of western Canada to provide data for variety registration

Implications of the Research: Co-operative forage barley trials in multiple locations provide the necessary data to support the registration of new varieties. It is estimated that three new forage barley varieties will be commercialized by the end of this project.

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