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Wyoming Barley Production: Opportunities to Manage Production, Quality and Revenue Risks

Barley is an important crop in Wyoming that may be raised as animal feed or for malting. Different varieties are typically used for feed barley and malt barley and malting barley yields are generally lower than feed barley yields. Some farmers may choose to raise organic barley to serve the needs of niche markets. Insurance products offered by the USDA Risk Management Agency are available for feed barley, malting barley (through a malting barley endorsement), and organic barley.

Multiple peril crop insurance for barley is available in most Wyoming counties. Counties where crop insurance for barley is not available are Albany, Sublette, Sweetwater, Uinta and Weston counties.

It is useful to note that RMA area yield and revenue plans, typically based on county yields, are also available in counties where APH insurance plans are available. These are index insurance plans based on the yield experience in an entire county rather than the yield experience of the individual producer. However, relatively few producers opt for area yield based plans when individual farm APH yield based plans are also offered.

Barley harvested as grain for feed, malting, or other human consumption is insurable. Any acres planted to hay barley varieties, however, are not insurable as grain unless the hay barley variety is being grown for harvest and sale as seed.

Three insurance plans are available to insure barley harvested as grain. These plans are yield protection (YP), revenue protection (RP), and revenue protection with harvest price exclusion (RP-HPE). These three insurance plans provide protection against yield and/or revenue losses due to naturally occurring events such as adverse weather, fire, insects, plant disease, wildlife, volcanic eruption, and failure of irrigation water supply due to a naturally occurring event, and for revenue plans only, a change in the harvest price from the projected harvest price. These products are the focus of this briefing paper.

To download a copy of the issues paper from the [Western Risk Management Library](#), [click here](#).



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