

Grain Report

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	Klamath Basin		Grain Acreage		1957
	1953	1954	1955	1956	
Barley	85,814	85,000	87,350	89,350	
Oats	32,409	35,000	41,000	41,973	
Wheat	14,852	15,000	14,581	20,628	
Rye	7,859	7,000	3,500	3,200	
Production (Cwt.)					
Barley	2,465,878	2,040,000	2,468,385	2,250,133	
Oats	648,180	700,000	779,000	920,000	
Wheat	189,168	170,000	186,000	288,972	
Rye	45,975	42,000	21,000	80,000	

Malting barley is our most important grain crop. There is a well established market for good quality barley of the Hannchen variety. Continued production of Hannchen is recommended for all locations where good yields and quality can be obtained consistently.

The Basin grows only six-tenths of one per cent of the nation's barley acreage but produces about one half of the western two-rowed barley used for malting and about three per cent of the total barley tonnage used for malting.

An unnamed barley variety carried here in trials as No. 8059, upright and later maturing, than Vaughn, has been outyielding Hannchen on muck soils in locations more subject to frosts. This feed barley variety appears a desirable variety for such locations.

It is important to continue to guard against mixtures of other varieties and other grains and wild oats in Hannchen seed barley. It is important, from a marketing standpoint and from the standpoint of avoiding mixtures in handling and storage, to concentrate on production of a minimum number of grain varieties.

Two-Row Barley
About 105-110 million bushels (3,300,000 tons) of barley used for

amounts of Hanna from Washington and North Idaho.

There is a historic record of trade preference for Klamath Basin Hannchen over Willamette Valley Hannchen and there is a preference for Hannchen over Hanna.

Two-row barley malt is blended with six-row malt in some breweries, notably Schlitz and Anheuser-Busch. The exact proportion is a trade secret but probably averages less than one-fifth of two-row malt. There is very little possibility of this changing in the immediate future. The only all two-row malt beer is Michelob made by Anheuser-Busch.

Malting Quality
Malsters use Hannchen because of its special qualities. There is no agreement among the malsters regarding the specific quality factors, but the following values represent the desired range.

Skinned and broken kernels are the most important controllable quality factor in malting barley. Failure to carry enough straw through harvesters to cushion threshing, particularly under hot, dry conditions and particularly by custom operators interested in maximum output is a major reason for excessive percentages of skinned and broken kernels.

The old practice of buying malting barley on the basis of test weight is responsible also for increased percentages of skinned and broken. Growers thresh harder in an attempt to obtain maximum test weight.

It is recommended that test weight requirements for Choice Malting Barley be lowered or eliminated. Uniformity and soundness of kernels are far more important quality factors in malting barley than test weight is.

Continued operation of the Merrill Grain Grading Station is recommended in spite of opposition from large scale grain dealers who appear to prefer to keep local

growers and shippers at a disadvantage.

It is recommended that grain inspection charges at Merrill be set at the same level as charged elsewhere in the state. A charge of \$5 per car here does not compare favorably with \$1.50 fees in Portland and does not lead to use of local facilities.

Our major market for feed barley is California. It is wasteful to haul barley to Portland and then ship feed barley back. Local inspection and direct shipment east of cars meeting malt grade is beneficial particularly to Southern Pacific Railroad. Financial support of the Merrill Grading Station by Southern Pacific is justified.

An abnormal market situation in 1957 did not contribute to maximum use of the local grading station. Refusal to cooperate in spotting cars at the Merrill siding by Great Northern also was not helpful. But volume of inspections is expected to increase in the future particularly if fees are adjusted.

The local inspection service has been beneficial, particularly for Durum wheat and for oats. With the changes suggested, greater use of the station for barley can be anticipated and more direct shipment of good quality lots to the east can be expected.

Experience indicates differences among inspectors in determination of percentage of skinned and broken kernels. There appears to be a need for better coordination with the purpose of preventing unduly severe grading on the "skinned" quality factors.

In frosty seasons germination tests to establish viability have been helpful in marketing but should not become standard practice or become part of malting barley standards.

Price advances for Hannchen barley after the crop here had been sold at unsatisfactory prices is thought to be at least partly the result of overestimation of national and local production of barley of a quality suitable for malting.

In recent years with increased production of Hannchen in fringe areas and on poorer soils there appears to be a distinct tendency to overestimate production. It is doubtful that more than 3,200,000

bushels of malting barley were shipped from the Basin last season.

A reliable acreage estimate early in the season is very desirable for Hannchen barley as well as for potatoes and alsike clover seed. Damage to alfalfa and clover stands from the serious mouse infestation last fall and winter may result in heavier plantings of barley and potatoes and so make reliable acreage estimates even more desirable.

It is suggested that a committee of farmers be organized to work out a plan for arriving at reliable acreage estimates by early summer.

To reduce depredation from migratory waterfowl it is recommended that larger appropriations be provided the Fish and Wildlife Service for larger scale grain planting on refuge areas.

Areas where bird feed should be produced include Clear Lake, Upper Marsh and Upper Klamath Lake. Such plantings would spread out the flyway and hold birds in this area longer. Feed production on Lower Klamath and Tule Lake refuge areas has been helpful but is still not adequate.

Barley production in U.S. estimated at 10,457,000 tons for 1957 is two thirds greater than the 1949-53 average. Prices are \$14 per ton lower.

This situation is due largely to support and acreage reserve price programs for the basic crops, particularly wheat.

We are opposed to any government program that encourages feed grain production on acreage diverted from allotment crops.

Customers shopping for feed oats refer to \$2.27 per hundred-weight quotations for milo when they are quoted oats at \$2.70 at San Francisco.

At the present time, competition for the county's feed oats and barley comes largely from the southwest's milo and from California corn. Increasing competition may be expected. Prices for midwest corn are still governed by government supports and freight rates.

Rates for Kansas and Texas sorghum to Portland are given as 78 per cent per hundredweight to ship Klamath barley the very

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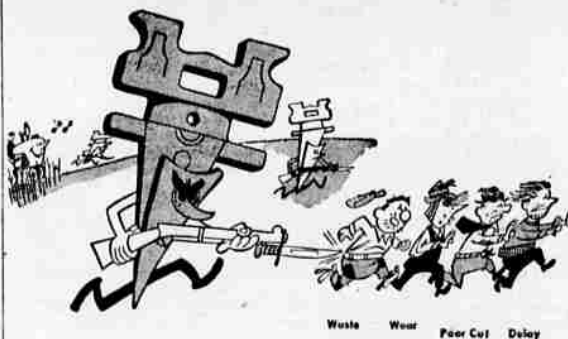
	Oregon		1956		1957
	1949-53	1954	1955	1956	
Acres Harvested (Thous.)	305	305	570	593	
Production (Thous. Bu.)	10,373	21,371	22,538	7,451	
Hannchen (Thous. Bu.)		7,800	7,451	15,087	
Feed Barley (Thous. Bu.)		13,571	15,087		

BARLEY

United States				Oreg. - Wash. & Idaho			
Year	Acreage 1,000's	Prod. 1,000's Tons	Cwt. Yield	Acreage 1,000's	Prod. 1,000's Tons	Cwt. Yield	
1949-53	9,500	6,100	12.9	782	637	16.3	
1954	13,400	9,102	13.6	1,725	1,483	17.2	
1955	14,600	9,629	13.2	1,909	1,342	14.1	
1956	12,900	9,045	13.9	1,707	1,438	16.8	
1957	15,000	10,457	13.9	1,974	1,778	18.0	
Oregon				California			
1949-53	305	249	16.4				
1954	527	468	17.7				
1955	559	429	15.4	1,838	1,654	18.0	
1956	570	513	18.0	1,838	1,632	17.7	
1957	616	525	17.0	1,967	1,888	19.2	

United States					
1,000's Tons	1949-53	54-55	55-56	56-57	57-58
Production	6,110	9,102	9,629	9,045	10,457
Carryover, July 1	1,913	1,707	3,133	2,810	3,041
Imports	466	534	622	578	
Total Supply	8,489	11,343	13,384	12,433	
Exports	605	952	2,358	1,373	
Food & Industrial Use	2,295	2,159	2,219	2,186	
Seed & Feed	3,618	5,099	5,998	5,816	
Total Use	6,718	8,210	10,575	9,375	
Farm Price Per Ton	\$50.42	\$45.40	\$38.20	\$41.00	\$36.30
December 31 Stocks		6,845	7,357	7,006	8,597

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