



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team

2015 Spring Malting Barley Varieties

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Farmers interested in purchasing spring malting barley seed in 2015 have a number of varieties available in New York. The 2014 Cornell Small Grain Variety Trial results are available [here](#). All varieties should be drilled at about 2 bu/A (~100 lb./A) and about 1 inch deep. Planting after April 15th will result in reduced yields. See the [Growing Malting Barley in NY bulletin](#) for information about malting barley production practices. Both 6-row and 2-row malting barleys are being used in New York to make high quality beers and whiskey. The 6-row varieties generally have better agronomic traits (yield, disease resistance, resistance to lodging, etc.) than 2-row varieties under the climatic conditions of the Northeast. Historically 2-row varieties were preferred by brewers, but breeding advancements in the past 20-50 years have essentially eliminated the previous gap between 6-row and 2-row varieties for the needs of the craft brewing industry in the United States. For more discussion of 6-row vs. 2-row malting barley see these articles from [Oregon State University](#) and the [Brewers' Market Guide](#).

AAC Synergy is a 2-row spring malting barley variety that performed very well in the [2013 & 2014 Cornell Small Grain Variety Trials](#) and is available through [Seedway](#) representatives and their affiliates. AAC Synergy has had a two year average yield of 65 bu/acre, the lowest lodging ranking, the second highest plumpness rating, the second lowest CP rating, and a moderate overall quality score. Contact your local representative or Adam Robertson by phone: (585) 435-7165 or email: arobertson@seedway.com.

Quest is a 6-row spring variety certified by the University of Minnesota and is available through [Seedway](#) representatives and their affiliates also performed well in the in the [2013 & 2014 Cornell Small Grain Variety Trials](#). Quest has been bred specifically to have partial resistance to *Fusarium* head blight. *Fusarium* head blight is the major disease of malting barley in New York and the source of DON (deoxynivalenol a.k.a vomitoxin) in all small grains. Quest averaged 63 bu/acre, tied for 3rd in malting quality, and had moderate lodging. Contact your local representative or Adam Robertson by phone: (585) 435-7165 or email: arobertson@seedway.com.

Conlon is a 2-row spring variety certified by North Dakota State University and is available through [Preferred Seed](#) representatives and their affiliates. In the [2013 & 2014 Cornell Small Grain Variety Trials](#), Conlon averaged 51 bu/acre, was ranked 5th in malting quality, had the highest plumpness rating, but had higher lodging ratings than other varieties. If growing this variety put on a lower amount of spring nitrogen (maximum of ~40 lb./A) compared to other varieties (maximum of ~60 lb./A). Contact your local representative or Garrett Coleman by phone: (814) 381-6809 or email: garrett@preferredseed.com.

Newdale is a 2-row spring variety available from Seedway and Preferred Seed. In the [2013 & 2014 Cornell Small Grain Variety Trials](#) averaged 57 bu/acre, was ranked 10th in malting quality, but had one of the lowest lodging ratings compared to other varieties. [Seedway](#) & [Preferred Seed](#) will be supplying this variety in 2015.

[Lakeview Organics](#) has certified organic Conlon. For more information about seed availability contact Mary Howell-Martin by phone: (315) 531-1038 or email: sales@lakevieworganicgrain.com.

Fico Farms is selling, Quest (spring 6-row), Legacy (spring 6-row), AC Metcalfe (spring 2-row), CDC Copeland (spring 2-row), & CDC Meredith (spring 2-row). Contact Paul Filippetti by phone: (585) 770-4702 or email: FICOfarms@yahoo.com.