



The Barley Forecast

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This year we have really seen the extremes of weather. Some of the heaviest snow and rainfall in Jan-March followed by a sustained period of dryness and heat May-July. As a consequence we are seeing a real variance in barley quality to-date.

The English combining progress of Spring barley is now nearly complete with growers reporting average to below average yields. Quality so far has been a real mixed bag with a wide nitrogen range from 1.50-2.10%. Drilling date, soil type, and localised weather patterns are behind some of these variances.

Scottish spring barley harvesting has now just about started with some of the crop on the lighter land ripening earlier. Most of the crop will not be ready for combining for another week, with some areas potentially 2-3 weeks behind.

On the markets, wheat futures and feed barley markets continue to be firm as supply concerns across Europe and Globally are surfacing. The malting barley markets have been following these trends upwards.

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