

# THE BARLEY FORECAST

7<sup>th</sup> August 2020



With the small area of winter barley all but harvested, English growers have made a start on their wheat and spring barley. Since the end of last week most of England has had favourable harvesting conditions and we have started to see the first samples in our lab. With the weather during the growing season swinging from one extreme to the other, coupled with a proportion of spring barley being planted in non-typical soil (usually for wheat) we have been anticipating a mixed picture on crop quality. Early samples have proved this to be the case so far on the nitrogen front, but there seems to be good grain size and weight. History has taught us not to get carried away with early harvest samples and we will see what comes over the coming days. With another hot weekend forecast much more should come forward next week for analysis.

Scotland has had a lot of rain in the past week with a mixed forecast in the coming days so we would not expect much spring barley to be cut until w/c 17<sup>th</sup> August. As per the previous update, the spring crop in Scotland escaped the intense heat that the English crop endured in Apr/May and consequently has looked very good throughout the growing season, with the exception of the some of the lighter land.

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