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## **Barley Producers to Receive Survey**

Barley producers in North Dakota, Montana and Idaho will be able to share their opinions with barley, malting and brewing researchers and industry officials. A survey produced through the cooperative efforts of the Institute of Barley and Malt Sciences (IBMS), the Idaho Barley Commission, the North Dakota Barley Council and the Montana Wheat and Barley Committee was mailed to 5000 past and current barley producers in those states. The survey was sent with the help of ND Ag Statistics Service (the independent nature of the survey will also lend validity to the results).

Questions on the survey will provide information on such topics as yield, acreage, transportation, factors influencing barley growers decisions to produce barley, information sources, farming practices, producer support system effectiveness and satisfaction levels for growers.

The survey should take about 15 to 30 minutes to complete and those who return it by December 15 will be entered into a drawing for gasoline gift certificates and other prizes.

According to Karen Hertsgaard, Barley Information Specialist for the IBMS, hoped for outcomes of the survey may include identifying efficient informational programs desired and needed by growers, gathering information that will help educate policy makers, and increasing understanding by barley and malt users of the challenges and concerns faced by growers. Hertsgaard, who began work on November 1, is coordinating the survey.