



Institute of
Barley and
Malt
Sciences

Press Release: March 23, 2010

Contact: Karen Hertsgaard

701-793-1146

karen.hertsgaard@ndsu.edu

Barley farmers cautiously optimistic

According to Mark Seastrand of Sheyenne, ND “barley farmers in North Dakota are more optimistic about the moisture situation, but more pessimistic about profitability, this year than last.” He predicts that barley acreage will probably be down, but only 10 to 20 percent - not the 25 percent reduction some have predicted.

He says that farmers with contracts will plant barley. He also had a conversation with a farmer in Bottineau County who stated that wet conditions will change his planting plans, probably reducing his barley acreage.

Mark, the District 2 Director for the North Dakota Barley Council, farms in Eddy County and lives in Sheyenne and Minot. He says that in Eddy County the melt has been average and conditions are drier than a year ago. He anticipates some prevented plant acres, but probably not as many as last year. He states that “if all things are normal, we will be in the fields the last week of April, which is our average starting date.”