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WESTFORD

(experimental # BFC-79-18)

Description of variety:

Westford (experimental # BFC-79-18) is a hooded, six-rowed, spring barley that is primarily intended for use as a forage barley. The spike of Westford is strap shaped and erect (but not dense), with kernels overlapping at the tip. The spike appears glossy in appearance prior to maturity and the rachis edges are covered with hair. The kernels of Westford are long, hulled, and have a white or colorless aleurone. The shape of the base of the kernel is between a depression and a slight crease. The rachilla is long with long hairs. The glume length is more than one-half the length of the lemma with rough glume awas that are more than equal to the length of the glume. The glume is completely covered with long hairs.

Westford is about 7 inches taller than Horsford and about 5 inches taller than Whitford. The heading date of Westford is 5 to 12 days later than Horsford and 7 to 15 days later than Whitford.

An awned variant occurs in the variety Westford at a rate of about ten per pound (.001). This variant is probably the result of an outcross between Westford and an awned variety. Western Plant Breeders will attempt to eliminate this variant in future seed stocks by applying more stringent isolation requirements to the head rows and Breeders seed production.

Breeder's seed will be maintained by Western Plant Breeders, Inc. by seeding head rows as needed. The classes of seed shall be Breeder, Foundation, Registered, and Certified. Application will be made to the Plant Variety Protection Office with the "Certification Option" elected.

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