Proposed release of Full Pint spring 2-row barley

Description

- Growth habit: spring
- Spike type: 2-row, semi-erect
- Awn type: rough
- Rachilla hair: long
- Aleurone color: white
- Disease resistance: Barley stripe rust, leaf rust, and scald

Pedigree and history

Full Pint (BCD-47) is a doubled haploid (DH) derived from a molecular marker-assisted selection program designed to pyramid multiple stripe rust resistance genes in a malting quality background. The initial parents were Orca and Harrington. We conducted one cycle of molecular marker-assisted backcrossing for the Orca stripe rust resistance QTL alleles on chromosomes 4 (4H) and 7 (7H). Orca is a stripe rust resistant two-row feed barley (Hayes et al., 2000) that was developed in the course of mapping stripe rust resistance QTL (Chen et al., 1994; Hayes et al., 1996). Harrington, the two-row North American malting quality standard, was the recurrent parent. Selected BC1 plants were crossed with D1-72, a germplasm line derived from the Shyri x Galena mapping population. Shyri is a stripe-rust resistant two-row feed barley developed by ICARDA/CIMMYT and released in Ecuador. Shyri has stripe rust resistance QTL alleles on chromosomes 2, 3, 5, and 6 (Toojinda et al., 2000). Galena is a proprietary two-row malting barley belonging to the Coors Brewing Company. One hundred and fifteen doubled haploids were produced from these crosses, using the *Hordeum bulbosum* technique to produce the "BCD rust resistance pyramid population" (Castro et al., 2000). "BCD" stands for "beavers conquer ducks". BCD-47, is line number 47 in this population.

Full Pint (a name approved by USDA variety naming authority) was released as a germplasm (BCD47, PI659444) along with a series of isogenic lines (the BISON) derived from BCD47/Baronesse, in 2011 (Verhoeven et al., 2011. Journal of Plant Registrations 5:135-140). Prior to the germplasm release, Full Pint had been tested as a potential malting variety in the American Malting Barley Association Pilot Scale testing program, but it was not advanced to Plant Scale. Full Pint was not released as a variety at that time based on the rationale that if it was not going to be released as an AMBA-approved malting variety there would be little demand for it as a feed barley. Higher yielding, higher stature feed varieties were, and are, available.
Agronomic performance and area of adaptation

BCD-47 was tested under both irrigated and dryland conditions in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. It was entered in the Western Regional Spring Barley Nursery in 1999. BCD-47 is a semi-dwarf, lodging resistant, full-season selection that will perform well in irrigated environments. It is not suitable for dryland production. Agronomic performance data under plot conditions are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

Per the terms of the germplasm registration, seed has been distributed worldwide, without restriction. A local farmer, Scott Sayer (Brownsville, OR) increased seed with the goal of producing a lodging resistant, stripe rust resistant 2-row malt barley for craft brewers. Scott sold seed to other farmers. In 2013, Scott had ~ 100 acres, a farmer in central Oregon grew ~ 1 acre, and ~ 100 acres were grown in the Skagit Valley (WA) on multiple farms, in a program organized by Skagit Malting and Brewing Co. Yields of Full Pint in these commercial situations averaged 6,000 lbs/acre, the seed was plump and high test weight and the variety was resistant to lodging, stripe rust, leaf rust, and scald. Growers were satisfied and intend to replant in 2014.

Disease resistance

BCD-47 is resistant to barley stripe rust. It has been tested extensively in Mexico, South America, and the Pacific Northwest. Disease resistance data are summarized in Table 3. Our molecular analysis of the BCD population confirms that BCD-47 has the resistance QTL allele from Shyri on chromosome 5 (1H) and the resistance QTL alleles from Orca on chromosomes 4 (4H) and 7 (5H).

Malting quality

Available malting quality data for BCD-47, and its Harrington and Galena parents from the AMBA evaluation trials are presented in Tables 4 and 5. Compared to Harrington, BCD-47 has plumper and heavier grain. It is somewhat lower in extract, and higher in grain protein. It has a lower S/T ratio, higher diastatic power and alpha amylase activity, and lower wort beta glucan.

In a research project on barley contributions to beer flavor, Full Pint was used as a check variety and entered sensory assessment at Sierra Nevada Brewing (Chico, CA). The sensory panel gave it very high marks and commented on the unique and satisfying flavor. “Full Pint is very fermentable and had a very nice extract... Full Pint wort also tasted very good, pre and post hopped. I picked up a very pleasant and strong fresh salted popcorn note. A very positive clean sweetness as well, with no harshness or astringency... The fermented Full Pint beer was clean, slightly estery, a bit tart and bready.” This assessment sparked interest with other craft brewers.

In 2014, Scott Sayer sold Full Pint barley to Colorado Malting Company (Longmont, CO) and Briess Malting (Chilton, WI). Oskar Blues Brewery (Longmont, CO) produced all-Full Pint beers from the malt made by Colorado Malting and is keen on the flavor. Their brewmaster commented that the Full Pint malt contributed flavors to the beer he described as “salty caramel popcorn and agape nectar.” The Oskar Blues beers will go into limited national distribution. The Briess malt is destined for Sierra Nevada, New Glarus (WI) and potentially other craft brewers.