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Washington State University • Cooperative Extension Service

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Kamiak Is New Winter Barley for PNW

PULLMAN, Wash.____--University experiment stations in Washington, Idaho and Oregon this week released a new six-row winter barley called Kamiak.

"The new variety was developed to replace Hudson, particularly in areas where winterhardiness is required for maximum production," Dr. James Nielson, director of Washington State University's Agriculture Research Center, said.

Hudson now is the most winterhardy variety grown in the Pacific Northwest, he said, but it does not yield as well as Luther. Kamiak will provide winterhardiness about equal to Hudson and will produce yields about 10 per cent higher than Hudson.

"Kamiak is a feed barley. The variety should perform well in all areas of eastern Washington with less lodging in areas of lower rainfall."

Selected by WSU plant breeders Dr. Robert A. Nilan and Carl E. Muir from a cross between Hudson and Swedish variety called Böre, Kamiak received eight years of testing at Pullman and six at Walla Walla, Pomeroy and Dayton.

Nielson said the tests showed no diseases in the new variety. Kamiak has a slightly larger kernel, a shorter plant height and stiffer straw than Hudson. Kamiak equals Hudson in maturity.

"Foundation seed will be available to growers through the Crop Improvement Associations of all three states," he said.

The experiment stations released Kamiak in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.

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Release Kamiak, Winter Barley

Agricultural experiment stations in Oregon, Washington and Idaho recently released a new six-row winter barley called Kamiak.

Kamiak combines winter hardiness with high production. It is expected to replace Hudson, the most winter hardy variety currently grown in the Pacific Northwest and will produce yields about 10 percent higher than Hudson, said scientists of the experiment stations.

Kamiak has a slightly larger kernel, a shorter plant height and stiffer straw than Hudson and equals the latter in maturity.

Foundation seed will be available to growers through the Crop Improvement Associations of all three states.

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Kamiak Winter Barley

The Agricultural Experiment Stations in Oregon, Washington and Idaho recently released a new six-row winter barley called Kamiak which combines winter-hardiness with high production. It is expected to replace Hudson, the most winter-hardy variety currently grown in the Pacific Northwest; and will produce yields about 18 percent higher than Hudson, according to scientists at the experiment stations.

Eight years of testing the new variety, a cross between Hudson and a Swedish variety called Bore, failed to turn up any sign of disease. Kamiak has a slightly larger kernel, a shorter plant height, and stiffer straw than Hudson. It equals Hudson in maturity.

Foundation seed will be available to growers through the Crop Improvement Associations in the three states. The experiment stations released Kamiak in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.