

Barley: Short Fallow [No-till]

Central Zone - West

Winter 2009

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:

Operation	Month	Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
		hrs /ha	Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Weed control eg: glyphosate 450 g/litre	Dec/Jan	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.20 L	\$7.38/L	\$8.85	\$11.46
Weed control eg: Garlon®	Dec/Jan	with above			0.10 L	\$29.93/L	\$2.99	\$2.99
Weed control eg: glyphosate 450 g/litre	Feb/Mar	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.20 L	\$7.38/L	\$8.85	\$11.46
Weed control eg: 2,4-D amine (Surpass®)	Feb/Mar	with above			1.00 L	\$6.22/L	\$6.22	\$6.22
Sowing seed	May	0.12	107.73	\$12.62	45 kg	\$1.07/kg	\$48.20	\$60.81
Starter fertiliser eg: MAP	May	with above			70 kg	\$0.98/kg	\$68.25	\$68.25
Grass weed control eg: Diclofop-methyl (Hoegrass®)	Jul	0.03	79.73	\$2.61	1.00 L	\$17.33/L	\$17.33	\$19.94
Broadleaf weed control eg: MCPA LVE®	Jul	with above			0.70 L	\$9.81/L	\$6.86	\$6.86
Contract-harvest	Nov	contract		\$48.00				\$48.00
Crop Levies - 2 row feed					\$1.50/tonne + 1.02% of on-farm value			\$6.24
Crop Levies - malt					\$1.50/tonne + 1.02% of on-farm value			\$6.00
Crop Insurance - 2 row feed					1.03% of on-farm value			\$3.43
Crop Insurance - malt					1.03% of on-farm value			\$3.49

*** Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (March 2009). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical.

NOTES:

Sowing time:

- Sowing at the optimum time for the selected variety is critical for maximum yield.
- Seed price used above is for purchased seed; if using retained seed adjust budget accordingly.

Place in rotation:

- Barley is a useful crop to follow wheat in the rotation.
- Barley will respond to good soil fertility, however it is better adapted to lower nitrogen fertility situations than wheat.
- Select lower nitrogen paddocks for malting barley.
- Tulla & Yambla are more tolerant to acid soils.
- Barley is a useful break crop where root lesion nematode is a problem.
- Short Fallow: Fallow or weed free period of 5-6 months between harvest of one crop and sowing of the next crop. For example, canola harvested in November would be under a 5-6 month fallow until sowing in the following May.

Variety:

- Feed varieties will usually yield around 10 -15% more than the malting variety Schooner.

Weed control:

- Timing of fallow herbicide applications will vary according to rainfall.
- Barley is generally more competitive than wheat in relation to weeds.
- An additional knockdown herbicide application (i.e. Glyphosate 450® @ 1.0 L/ha) should be considered if weeds are present at the time of sowing.
- Rotate herbicide groups and use other non-chemical methods to delay herbicide resistance.

Machinery:

- A tractor with 203 kW (272 HP) pto power and 242kW (325 HP) engine power is assumed.
- Machinery costs refer only to variable costs: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries & repairs.
- Contract-harvesting does not include the cost of fuel.

Labour:

- The labour required for machinery operations is 0.23 hrs/ha

Important notes:

- These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs.
- **Use your own figures and price assumptions to estimate your own gross margin.**
- Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by NSW Department of Primary Industries.