



## The supply of barley for malting in the UK

*This statement has been produced to reassure growers that barley purchased by maltsters is primarily UK sourced and that standards are maintained in the small instances where grain has to be imported.*

The UK malting industry purchases in the region of 2 million tonnes of barley annually which is used to manufacture 1.6 million tonnes of malt which is destined mainly for brewing and distilling. The vast majority of this is sourced from the UK throughout England and Scotland and with varieties mostly grown which are on the Malting Barley Committee Approved List. The quality of barley for malting is controlled through tight contract specifications and all barley is assured using either the Red Tractor or Scottish Quality Crops cereal supply standards. An assured supply of barley is a requirement for the MAGB Assured Malt standard or equivalent (e.g. BRC). Further information is available from the following links:

[What-UK-Maltsters-hope-to-purchase-from-the-2023-crop-harvest.pdf \(ukmalt.com\)](#)

[Assured UK Malt - The Maltsters' Association of Great Britain](#)

In a normal harvest year, very small quantities of barley are occasionally purchased from outside the UK. These are often to provide specialist quality which is not available from UK growers. When these are sourced they are assured using alternative procedures often involving supplier audits and additional quality checks.