



Drummonds

Growing for generations

Spring Barley

Spring barley, a cornerstone of Irish agriculture primarily due to its suitability for Ireland's climate and soil types, is grown on approximately 120,000 ha annually.

This crop is critical in crop rotation systems, offering benefits in terms of soil health and pest control. It serves various markets, including feed, malting, and distilling, contributing significantly to the agricultural economy. The straw from spring barley is also in high demand, providing an additional income source for growers. With a range of recommended varieties available for the 2025 season, each offering unique characteristics in yield, disease resistance, and grain quality, there are options to suit all farming needs.

The key to high yielding crops of spring barley is ear numbers. Unlike wheat/winter barley, spring barley does not yield more from early planting. The best yields come from the crop being sown into warm soil where it germinates and emerges within two weeks. Prompt germination and rapid canopy closure reduces soil moisture evaporation, keeping the crop as competitive as it can be on grass and broad-leaved weeds. Effective agronomy focuses on maintaining standing crops until harvest and avoiding high seed rates that may hinder this.

Spring Barley Varieties

Skyway

The SKY is the limit

Breeder: **Nordic Seed**
 Parentage: Planet x NOS 2105-11

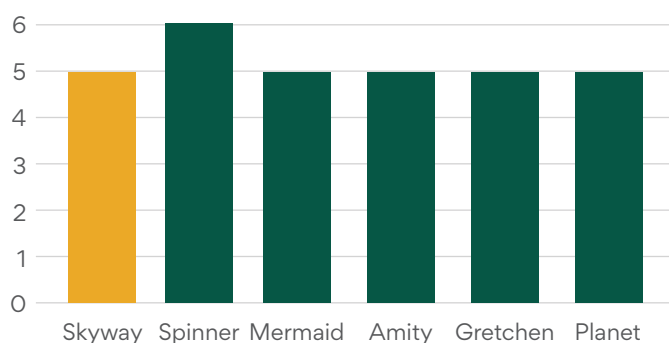
Key Points

- ✓ Very high yielding variety.
- ✓ Yield rating **105** DAFM Recommended List 2025
- Consistent high yield performance
 - 2024 RLT 105
 - 2023 RLT 103
 - 2022 RLT 108

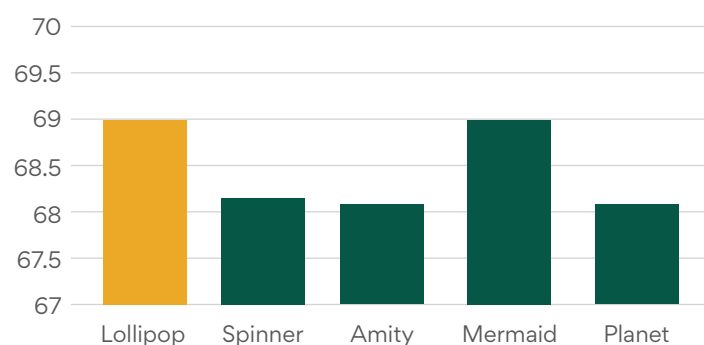


Source: DAFM recommended list

Lodging Resistance



Hectolitre Weight Kg/Hl



Skyway agronomic details	
Plant height	75 cm
Resistance to lodging	5
Straw breakdown	4
Earliness of ripening	5
Skyway grain quality	
Thousand grain weight	55g
Hectolitre weight	69
Screenings	1.1
Skyway plant health scores	
Mildew	8
Rhynchosporium	7
Brown rust	6
Net blotch	6

“Skyway is the Drummonds Spring Barley variety of choice. It is an excellent yielder, good disease package and good grain quality makes it a simple choice when selecting a tried and tested variety.”

Leslie Beattie, Meath Grower



Spring Barley Varieties

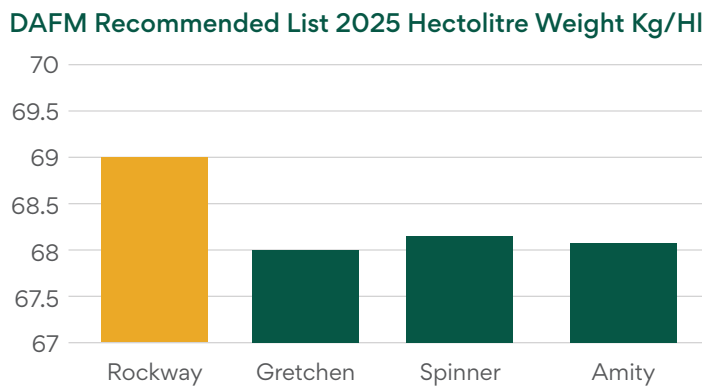
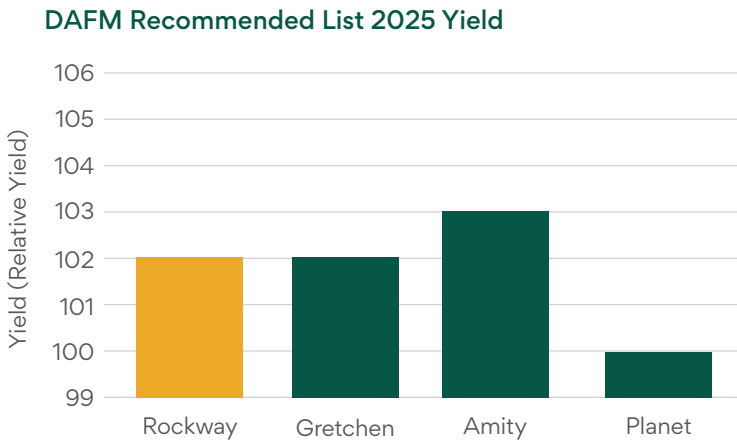
Rockway

Rock solid yields

Breeder: **Nordic Seed**
 Parentage: Planet x NOS 215-11

Key Points

- ✓ A high yielding variety.
- ✓ Yield rating **102** DAFM Recommended List 2025
- ✓ Excellent & consistent yield performance
 - 2024 RLT 103
 - 2023 RLT 99
 - 2022 RLT 104



Rockway agronomic details	
Plant height	75.1 cm
Resistance to lodging	6
Straw breakdown	6
Earliness of ripening	5
Rockway grain quality	
Thousand grain weight	55.1g
Hectolitre weight	69
Screenings	0.9
Rockway plant health scores	
Mildew	8
Rhynchosporium	7
Brown rust	6
Net blotch	6

“Rockway is a reliable and robust variety, making it an attractive option for spring barley production. We like to use this variety on very fertile sites where lodging risk is high. Standing power is one of its greatest characteristics”

Mark Houlihan, Kildare

Source: DAFM recommended list



Lollipop

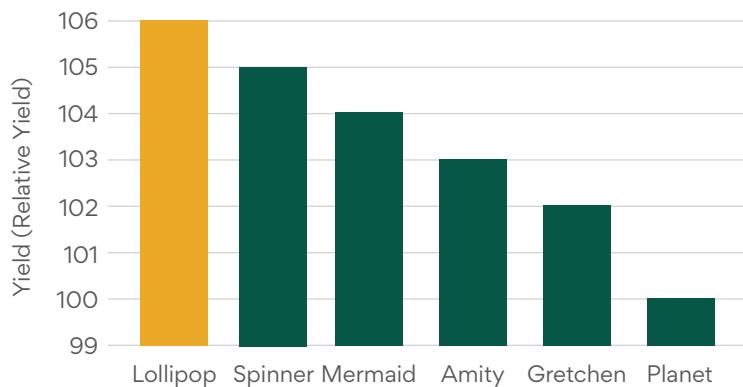
Hits the Sweetspot for yield

Breeder: **Nordic Seed**
 Parentage: Laureate x Planet

Key Points

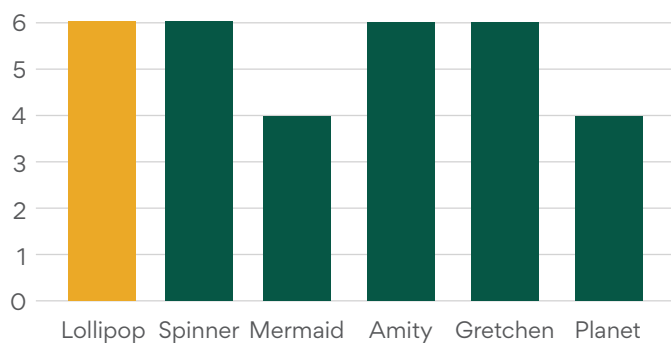
- ✓ Very high yielding variety
- ✓ Yield rating **106** DAFM Recommended List 2025
- Consistent high yield performance
 - 2024 RLT 106
 - 2023 RLT 104
 - 2022 RLT 107

DAFM Recommended List 2025 Yield

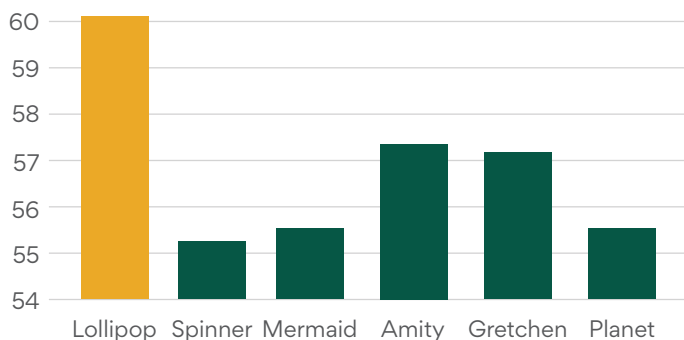


Source: DAFM recommended list

Straw Breakdown RL 2025



1000 Grain Weight (TGW) RL 2025



Lollipop agronomic details	
Plant height	71.9 cm
Resistance to lodging	5
Straw breakdown	6
Earliness of ripening	6
Lollipop grain quality	
Thousand grain weight	61.0g
Hectolitre weight	67.9
Screenings	1.0
Lollipop plant health scores	
Mildew	8
Rhynchosporium	8
Brown rust	6
Net blotch	8

“This variety is performing extremely well in both DAFM and Drummonds trials over the last few years. Its combination of disease resistance, excellent standing power and high bushel weights create a very high yielding variety”

Michael Howard, **Drummonds**



Spring Barley Seeding Rates

Sowing Date		Spring Barley		
		Mid-March	Late-March	Mid-April
Target Plants/m ²		325	350	350
% Establishment		85%	85%	85%
TGW		kg/ha	kg/ha	kg/ha
44		168	181	181
46		176	189	189
48		184	198	198
50		191	206	206
52		199	214	214
54		206	222	222
56		214	231	231
58		222	239	239
60		229	247	247
TGW		st/ac	st/ac	st/ac
44		10.7	11.5	11.5
46		11.2	12.1	12.1
48		11.7	12.6	12.6
50		12.2	13.1	13.1
52		12.7	13.6	13.6
54		13.2	14.2	14.2
56		13.6	14.7	14.7
58		14.1	15.2	15.2
60		14.6	15.7	15.7

Check individual labels for TGW

For more information contact your Drummonds Agronomist or one of our branches at the details below.



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