

Crop: Six-row winter barley

Variety: Streaker

Seed source: Oregon State University Hyslop Farm.

Description: Streaker is a naked (hull-less) food barley: the first release from the Oregon State University Barley Project. Streaker has free-threshing hulls: therefore it can be eaten/milled directly. Streaker is actually a mix of three pure-line varieties, in order to maximize diversity in seed color (white, brown, and blue). The variety is resistant to the races of stripe rust endemic to the Pacific Northwest of the US, but it is susceptible to scald. The incidence of scald disease can be reduced by planting in well-drained soil. Streaker's parents are Strider and Doyce.

Planting date and rate: Planting dates and seeding rates will vary with growing environment: we recommend checking with your local Extension Service office for guidelines. In general, the seeding rate will be in the range of 100 lbs/acre (112 kg/ha). Bringing that to home garden scales, plant 100 – 150 seeds per square meter (10 – 15 seeds per square foot). Streaker is an obligate winter variety, meaning it has a vernalization requirement. In colder climates, plant in mid-September. In maritime climates, plant in mid-October. Grain yields will depend on production conditions, but should be at least 4,000 lbs/acre – enough to feed you and your friends for a spell (87,000 one cup servings!). On a home garden scale, that works out to about 2 cups of grain per square foot. Streaker makes a great cover crop for the home garden. If you decide not to leave it for grain, you can chop it for green manure, or easily pull for composting elsewhere.

More information: Cheers from the Oregon State University Barley Project!

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