

Barley Grain

Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) is the principle feed grain used in Western Canadian dairy diets. Anatomy of the barley kernel is illustrated below. Typical composition and rumen dry matter degradability characteristics are as follows:



	mean	low	high
	100% dry matter basis		
Composition:			
Crude Protein, %	13.3	10.8	16.2
Starch, %	55.2	48.3	62.5
Dry Matter Degradability:			
Soluble Dry Matter, %	51.0	33.4	56.4
Degradable Dry Matter, %	41.7	34.1	60.2
Degradation Rate, %/hr	37.3	20.0	62.4
Effective Degradability, %	83.6	73.8	89.0

for more information:

[Studies of Barley Feed Quality, University of Alberta Dairy Research Highlights](#)

[Barley Grain for Dairy Cattle, University of Alberta Dairy Research Highlights](#)

[Hulless Barley 1. Production responses, digestibility and processing, Dairy Research Results from the Lethbridge Research Centre](#)