Hoosfield spring barley varieties and cropping, 1852 onwards

1852-1880	Chevalier
1881-1890	Archer's Stiff Straw
1891-1897	Carter's Paris Prize
1898-1901	Archer's Stiff Straw
1901-1905	Hallett's Pedigree Chevalier
1906-1911	Archer's Stiff Straw
1912	Fallow
1913-1916	Archer's Stiff Straw
1917-1966	Plumage Archer
1927-1932	Alternate strips of Plumage Archer and Spratt Archer were compared, except 1928
1933	Fallow
1943	Fallow
1953	Sown to Plumage Archer, but due to heavy infestation with *Avena fatua* the whole crop was cut and carted green before the oats ripened. No yields were recorded
1964-1966	Plumage Archer compared with Maris Badger, but at different rates of N
1967	Fallow
1968-1969	Maris Badger*
	Plots split to test four N rates (1968); short-strawed varieties introduced (1970)
1970-1979	Julia
1980-1983	Georgie
1984-1991	Triumph
1992-1995	Alexis
1996-1999	Cooper
2000-2007	Optic
2008-2015	Tipple
2016-2019	Irina
2020-	Diablo

*In 1968 three course rotations of potatoes, beans and barley were introduced on parts of the experiment (part of series AA and C). The rotations were discontinued in 1979 as the effects of the two year break on the yield of barley were small. The whole experiment has grown spring barley each year since 1979. Also in 1968 plots were divided to test four rates of N fertilizer (cumulative to sub plots 1968-73, then a transition period, 1974-1980 when the N rates changed after three and four year). Since 1981 the N rates have changed on a cyclic system every year of N3>N2>N1>N0>N3.

Modern short-strawed varieties were introduced in 1970. The spring barley varieties were selected mainly for yield potential, but also for their suitability for malting.

Sources of data:

Rothamsted Experimental Station (1970), 'Details of the Classical and Long-Term Experiments up to 1967', Lawes Agricultural Trust, Harpenden, UK. https://doi.org/10.23637/ERADOC-1-192

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Yields of the Long-term Experiments (1968-2020) Rothamsted Research, Harpenden, UK. https://www.era.rothamsted.ac.uk/eradoc/books/2