Late-planted Barley Variety Trial
Safford Agricultural Center - 1986

Lee Clark and Max Thatcher

INTRODUCTION

Many years, untimely rains prevent farmers in Graham county from planting small grains as early as they would like. This selection of barley varieties were planted in mid-February to see which would be the best choice for this date of planting.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Elevation:	2950 feet
Crop history:	
Previous crop:	Cotton
Planted:	13 February 1986
Seeding rate:	120 lbs/ac
Harvested:	26 June 1986
Fertilizer:	200 lbs/ac urea, 300 lbs/ac 16-20 all preplant
Irrigation:	Approximately 2 acre feet in 4 irrigations
Plot size:	4 feet by 10 feet

The seed was planted dry with a Kincaid precision drill with 12 inches between drill rows and watered up on February 14th.

RESULTS

Variety	*Bushel wt.*	*Yield*
	(lbs)	(lbs/A)
Westbred Gustoe	49.5	3601a*
Signal	49.7	3503a
Westbred Barcott	46.7	2596ab
Prato	46.7	2324ab
Sunbar 409	46.0	2069 b
Colombia	45.0	1434 b

* Yields followed by similar letters are not significantly different at the 5% level of probability, using the SNK test.

DISCUSSION

Thompson, et al, (Arizona Forage and Grain Report, 1985, p 31 ff) reported Prato and Signal outyielded Gustoe on the January 11th planting on the Safford Agricultural Center in 1985, whereas Gustoe was No. 1 and No. 2 on the November 1 and December 6 plantings, respectively. It was surprising then to see Gustoe No. 1 on this ultra-late planting in 1986.

A total of 233 units of nitrogen were applied in the 1985 study and only 140 units of nitrogen were applied in 1986. All of the yields were lower in 1986 than in 1985. Gustoe yields were reduced by about 100 lbs while Prato and Signal were lowered by 2806 and 1252 lbs per acre, respectively. So it seems that there is a fertility interaction as well as the date of planting interaction between these barley varieties.