

~BARLEY (21)

(bar'ley) [Hebrew, *se`o-rah'*, Greek, *kri-the'*]

- An important cereal of the **genus** *Hordeum*, widespread in its cultivation from ancient times till now. It was one of the valuable products awaiting the Israelites in the Promised Land, and that region continues to be a land of wheat and **barley** to this day.
- A land of wheat and **barley** and vines and figs and pomegranates, a land of oil olives and honey. (**Deuteronomy 8:8**)
- The **Hebrew** name for **barley** *se`o-rah'* is related to the word for **hair** *se-`ar'* and is descriptive of the **long slender bristles or awns** forming the characteristic **beard of the barley head**. It is a very hardy plant, better able to withstand drought and adapt to a wider range of climates than any other grain. When mature it stands about 1 meter (3 feet) high, with somewhat broader leaves than those of wheat.