

GRETCHEN SPRING BARLEY



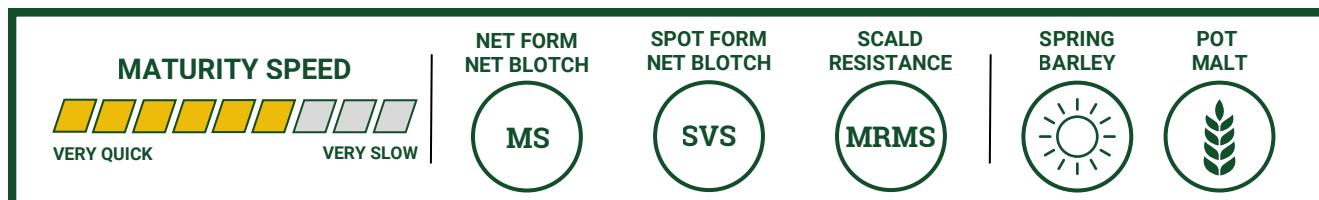
- » High Yielding
- » Strong Disease Package
- » Balanced Malt with High Extract
- » Available 2026

AGF Seeds's new (available 2026) conventional spring barley, Gretchen (tested as AGFBA021022) has shown 5 to 10% yield improvements over RGT Planet. Gretchen is a mid-late maturity barley with a similar maturity to RGT Planet and offers a sound disease package with strength in Scald resistance and significant improvement in Net Form Net Blotch vs RGT Planet.

Gretchen has high quality malting characteristics providing a balanced malt with high extract that has impressed Australian maltsters. A proven malting variety in Europe we expect Gretchen to be a very attractive variety for Australian maltsters and breweries. Gretchen is currently being evaluated for malt accreditation with the potential to enter the official accreditation process in 2027.

If you are looking for a RGT Planet alternative that offers improved yield and a stronger disease package, then Gretchen is the barley for you.

EPR \$4.00/t GST exclusive



DISEASE PACKAGE

Gretchen has shown a significant step up in resistance to scald when compared to other key barleys on the market. We have also seen improvements in Net Form Net Blotch resistance when compared to RGT Planet.

Table 1 (right): NVT Disease ratings of Gretchen and key comparators

Variety	Net Form Net Blotch	Spot Form Net Blotch	Scald
Gretchen	MS	SVS	MRMS
RGT Planet	SVS	SVS	SVS
Neo CL	MSS	MR	S
Minotaur	MRMS	S	VS



YIELD

Gretchen has shown in trials the potential to outyield RGT Planet and to be competitive with Neo CL. Table 2 shows a comparison of RGT Planet and Gretchen across a range of independent trials throughout Victoria, Tasmania, and Queensland.

Table 2: Yield as a % of Site Mean across trials in 2025. Sources [NVT Long Term Yield Reporter](#), [FAR Australia](#)

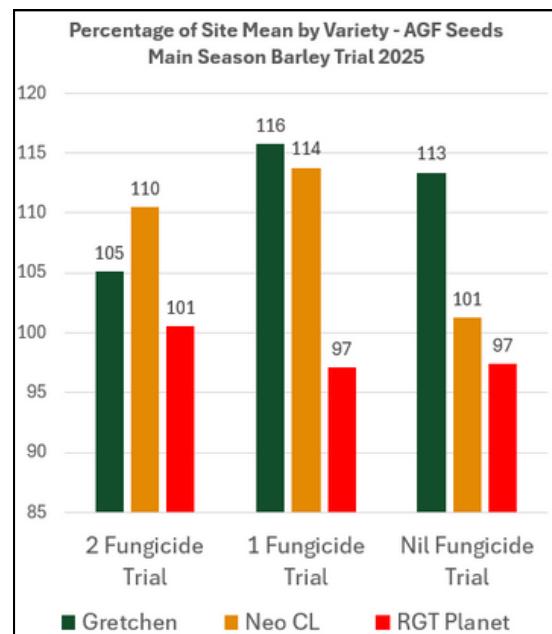


Variety	NVT SW Vic Long Season	NVT SW Vic Long Season	NVT SW Vic Long Season	NVT Nrt Midlands Tas Long Season	NVT SEQ QLD Main Season	NVT SEQ QLD Main Season	FAR GEN VIC TOS 2 - Untreated	FAR GEN VIC TOS 2 - Treated
	Hamilton	Streatham	Inverleigh	Westbury	Brookstead	MacAlister	Gnarwarre	Gnarwarre
Gretchen	105	111	111	112	111	110	104	102
RGT Planet	95	110	107	109	96	99	85	88
Site Average (t/ha)	9.21	7.64	8.02	10.77	4.02	4.59	7.61	8.06

In Variety x Fungicide trials conducted by AGF Seeds in Smeaton, Vic, Gretchen has shown the strength of its disease package by seeing very little yield penalty in reduced fungicide trials. In the 2025 trial Gretchen yielded 10.69t/ha in the 2 fungicide trial, 11.21t/ha in the 1 fungicide rep and 10.45t/ha in the nil fungicide rep.

Chart 1 (right): Percentage of Site Mean Yield by Variety comparison of Gretchen, Neo CL & RGT Planet across fungicide treatments in AGF Seeds 2025 Main Season Barley Trial.

Table 3 (below): Main Season Barley Variety Trial Disease Scoring (0-100) per fungicide treatments. (0 = nil, 100 = full leaf coverage infection)



Variety	2 Fungicide				1 Fungicide				Nil Fungicide			
	NFNB (0-100)	SFNB (0-100)	Scald (0-100)	Total	NFNB (0-100)	SFNB (0-100)	Scald (0-100)	Total	NFNB (0-100)	SFNB (0-100)	Scald (0-100)	Total
Gretchen	5	20	2.5	27.5	5	20	10	35	5	15	60	80
Neo CL	5	5	10	20	5	5	40	50	0*	0*	80	80
RGT Planet	30	0	25	55	40	0	50	90	0*	0*	95	95

*Scald levels too high for NFNB and SFNB levels could not be accurately assessed.

MATURITY & REGIONALITY

Gretchen is a Mid-Late maturity barley with a similar maturity to RGT Planet. Suited to medium & high rainfall environments.

Table 4 (right): Approximate Days to 50% Head Emergence at AGF Seeds' 2024 Main Season Barley Trial

Variety	Approximate Days from Sowing to 50% Head Emergence	
	Gretchen	146
RGT Planet		145
Neo CL		142
Minotaur		146

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