

WAKERLEY750968 129.Hordeum vulgare L. Barley six-row 11 grains (very burnt)750969 130Hordeum vulgare L. Barley six-row 39 grains

The barley grains in this sample are well preserved, two grains especially having characteristically the features of "naked" barley species.

<u>Avena spp.</u>	Oats	1 grain
<u>Rumex crispus L.</u>	Curled dock	5 achenes

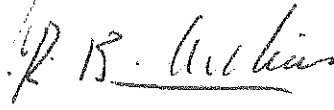
750970 152Hordeum vulgare L. Barley six-row 5 grains (very burnt)

Comment: All the barley grains are without embryos. One explanation is that these barleys could have "grown-out" during harvesting and were therefore dried for cattle food only.

A note on Naked barley

The first barleys cultivated in the British Isles from the Continent of Europe, some five thousand years ago, were "naked" six-row and this species was widely grown throughout the Bronze-Age period. A diminishing acreage was grown during the Iron Age and on the assessment of samples of barley examined from the Roman age, "naked" barley was cultivated still less, the hulled variety having taken over almost entirely. Actually at Golderring, Cornwall, a sample taken from the Roman times, "naked" barley was very much in evidence, but this seems to be an isolated case.

Naked barley of course, is not an extinct crop species, it was grown in Historical times and even to most recent times, although not commercially grown in any great acreage it is still maintained for purposes of experimentation.



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