

Table 1. Preliminary criteria for distinguishing types of barley rachis (Charles, Filipovic and Bogaard)

		2 row - hulled	2 row - naked	6 row - naked [lax eared]	6 row - hulled
<i>rachis segment shape</i>	<i>front view</i>	narrow rectangle - slight widening towards top		trapezoidal - widens towards top	
	<i>side view</i>	+/- thin along length		thickening towards top	
	<i>top view</i>	straight - separate from lower segment		curved in cross section - surrounds lower segment	
<i>floret attachment pad/ platform</i>	<i>top view</i>	central - large side - small		central - large side - large	
	<i>central</i>	flat low pad	raised - 'spiky'		flat low pad
	<i>central floret glume bases [back view]</i>	glumes diverge initially, continue at an angle around grain		central glume bases diverge initially then straighten, running parallel each side of grain	
<i>side florets</i>	<i>side floret persistence</i>	medium		strong	weak
	<i>rear glume insertion point</i>	inconspicuous		raised to some extent	n/a
	<i>side @ 1mm</i>	circular/triangular centre - hollow/spongy		circular/triangular centre - solid	absent

The table represents initial assessments of identification criteria based, where possible, on three accessions of each taxon. The work is ongoing and we would be grateful for any comments, criticisms or questions. Please note that we will also be including the features of dense-eared 6 row in the final publication.