ARS researchers across the country are teaming up to keep the taps flowing in America’s $111 billion-per-year beer industry.

ARS hops breeders at the Forage Seed and Cereal Research in Corvallis, OR, and the Small Grains and Potato Germplasm Research in Aberdeen, ID, are responsible for about one third of the nation’s 65 hop varieties, including “Cascade,” one of the most widely-used varieties in the world. A new variety, “Triumph,” is flavorful, disease tolerant, high yielding, and it grows well in all regions.

In North Carolina, ARS barley breeders developed two lines – “Charles” and “Endeavor” – that have been widely used since the early 2000s and another line – “Klages” – that was a dominant malting barley in the 1970s and 1980s. Further ARS involvement includes a one-of-a-kind lab at the Cereal Crops Research in Madison, WI, where scientists evaluate thousands of lines each year on their performance as a malted product.

Cheers!

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