## Wheat

## Triticum aestivum

## Overview

Wheat is an annual, wind-pollinated grass that can be sown in autumn or spring, depending on the cultivar. The inflorescence is an erect and thick spike. The spike generally does not have awns as barley or rye do. Wheat grains are round and have no husk or hull.

## Use

Bread wheat originated in the Middle East over 6000 years ago. In Finland, it is mostly grown in the east and south on account of the climatic conditions. Wheat is, with rye, our most important bread grain. The protein concentration of dry bread wheat grain is around 13 %. In 2020, wheat was grown on 201,100 ha in Finland (10% of the arable area). The average Finn eats about 44 kg of wheat per year.



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