

WP3.1 Field Day report from Gunnarsholt 2025, Iceland

Event: Field Day

Date: 4th of september 2025

Place: Gunnarsholt, Rangárvellir, Iceland

Participants: 50

On the 4th of september a field day was held in Gunnarsholt in Iceland. The field day was a follow up from a workshop that was held earlier that day where main results from the cereal projects of the Agricultural University of Iceland were introduced. In the afternoon guests walked to the field trials where the cereal trial plots were presented. The field had trials of oats, barley and wheat. The target groups for the field day were three; A group of undergraduate students in crop sciences at AUI (20), farmers (15) and then seed importers, extension service and other stakeholders in Iceland (15).

Guests walked through the trial site where the aim of the OatFrontiers project was explained and results from the first year were reviewed. Different varieties of oats were highlighted in the field with emphasis on origin and if they were considered early or late maturing in the Icelandic environment. Special interest was in the visitor group regarding diversity in straw strength and lodging, especially among farmers, since that is an important trait in Iceland where we can have strong winds and rain that can easily cause yield loss.

Students asked questions regarding yield potential, straw strength and showed interest in growing oats both for animals but also for human consumption in regard to food security in Iceland.



Figure 1. Hrannar Smári Hilmarsson explaining the potential in growing oats in Iceland.



Figure 2. An example of the demonstration in field, here the Finnish variety Akseli,