ity Malt plans to 'get rolling' soor

Staley starch plant near Monte Vista, ers for much of its raw materials. will be drawing on area barley farm-Malt, setting up shop in the former MONTE VISTA - Proximity

a plant, Proximity Malt Regional at the 2017 Southern Rocky Moun-Manager Jack Capron told attendees company chose the Valley to build Trade Fair in February. tain Agricultural Conference and This is one of the main reasons the

Vista to be "in proximity" to the he said, Proximity Malt chose Monte aw materials of the region, namely As the company's name indicates.

down by being where the barley is." in the San Luis Valley," Capron said. Luis Valley ... We keep our costs 'There's a lot of barley in the San "It's no surprise that we ended up

modern malting facility. purposing the old starch plant into a Milwaukee, is in the process of re-The company, headquartered in

ond quarter of this year. will start commissioning in the secrolling in April," Capron said. "We "We will really plan on getting

contracts going. Rio Grande Commodities to get He said Proximity is working with

require 28,000 metric tons of barley and will employ about 21 workers at the plant, according to Capron. In full operation Proximity will

quality and flexibility. He said Proximity focuses on

dexibility to provide specific malts," that customers want, we have the Capron said. "If there's something out there

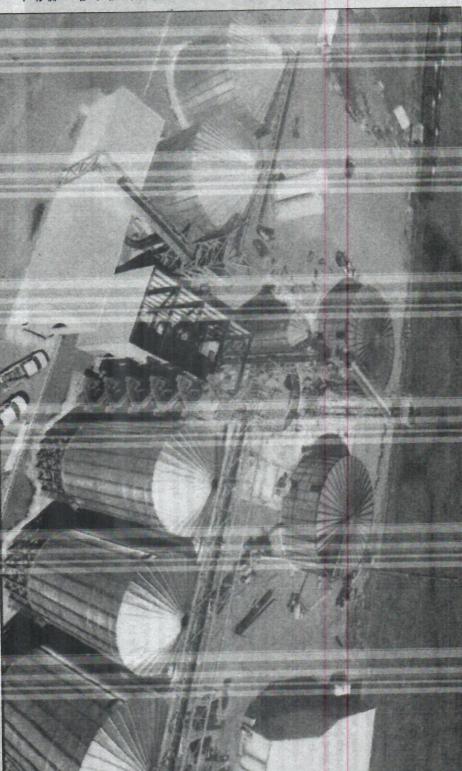
He said any grain can be malted,

hours, to kilning, which takes about germination, which takes about 96 cleaning the barley kernels to steepprocess from removing the chaff and ing, which takes about 30 hours, to 24 hours. Capron described the malting

a metric ton an hour, Capron eximity Malt's roaster can handle The barley is then roasted. Prox-

also market the malting byproducts, for example for animal feed He added that Proximity Malt will

spokesperson Amy Germershausen is operational, Proximity Malt, LLC the plant itself will permanently market for local barley growers, employ more than 20 people when it had said last fall In addition to providing another



Courtesy Photo

This is an aerial photo of the Proxmity Malt site near Monte Vista

but Proximity will primarily be using barley. Barley provides the right balance between protein and starch, he explained.

the barley it will use in the malting disease free. process, such as pure, clean and istics Proximity is looking for in Capron discussed the character-

so we have to keep it clean "It is a food process we are doing,



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