

Submission on 2016/17 GTA Trading Standards Review

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4. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2016/17

4.1 Agreed Change: Visual Recognition Standards Guide – all commodities

4.1.1 VRSG Commodities

The existing Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) produced by GTA will be updated where relevant for the existing commodities barley, wheat, sorghum, oats, canola, desi chickpeas, maize, kabuli chickpeas, Angustifolius lupins, red lentils, field peas and faba beans:

- Definitions in the VRSG will be upgraded and made consistent with terminology in each Standards Booklet for the respective commodity.
- Additional photographs depicting particular defects will be added to aid interpretation.
- Additional commodities will be added as required.

The Committee will consider the following changes to the VRSG in 2016/17:

Commodity	Potential Change
Canola Immature	Seek advice on deletion from Standards by AOF as this quality parameter is generally indistinguishable from others.
Sorghum Frost	Review possible deletion of the reference to Frost in Standards as this quality parameter is rarely seen. If retained, source a photo for inclusion in the VRSG if relevant.
All	Review the definition and photos for Mould.
Durum Vitreous	Consider inclusion of vitreous grain.
Wheat, White Grain Disorder	Review the suitability of the photo for White Grain Disorder/Head Scab/Flaky grain

Recommendation -

- Canola Immature – agreed
- Sorghum Frost – agreed to delete, frost damage in sorghum is very rare
- All – agreed
- Durum vitreous – images need be of grains sectioned by a Farinator
- Wheat, White Grain Disorder – a range of images may be required for this defect

4.1.2 VRSG App

As part of the review of the existing VRSG, consideration will be given to determine any opportunity to develop the VRSG (and Weed Seed Booklet) into downloadable apps for greater ease of access by industry. Input from Industry is sought as to the practicality, feasibility and demand for such application and use of the VRSG.

Recommendation -

GrainGrowers supports the availability of the VRSG in both hard copy and digital forms for use by industry.

4.2 Agreed Change: Minor Wording Changes & Other Issues – all commodities

Minor changes to wording in all Standards will occur to refer to the latest versions of reference material available to assist industry implementation of Standards, including:

- Weed Seed Identification booklet.
- Insect Identification booklet.
- Visual Recognition Standards Guide.
- The document entitled “Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2015/16” (see <http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwpgp>).

Recommendation -

Agreed.

4.3 Agreed Change: Stored Grain Insect List – all commodities

The Grain and Seed Exports Program (GSEP) has recently reviewed the injurious pests listed in the Plant Export Operation Manual Volume 6A. As a result of this review, the GSEP proposed to Plant Biosecurity for the removal of some of the insects from the list requiring nil tolerance. A comprehensive pest categorisation was done by Plant Biosecurity and approval was granted to remove the following insects from the list of injurious insects requiring nil tolerance:

- Mould beetles (*Cryptophagous spp*)
- Black fungus beetle (*Alphitobius laevigatus*)
- Tinied moths (*Niditinea fuscipunctella*; *Tineola bisselliella*, *Tinea pallescentella*, *Tinea pellionella*)
- Spider beetle (*Gibium psylloides*).

All Cereal Standards Booklets will be updated as per this change.

Recommendation -

Noted and Agreed.

4.4 Agreed Change: Varietal Master List – Wheat, Barley, Oats

As in previous seasons the Varietal Master List for the above commodities will be reviewed following receipt of the changes from the industry sectors responsible for maintenance of those lists. All Standards will be revised based on those changes and advised to industry when the 2016/17 season Standards are released.

Recommendation -

It is unclear why all standards would be revised based on changes to the Variety Master List for wheat, barley and oats. It is assumed that the wording here is meant to be “*All Variety Master Lists for wheat, barley and oats will be revised based on those changes...*”

4.5 Proposed Change: Weed Seeds – all commodities

Outlined in Appendix 1 of Update 02 of 16 are changes to all weed seed Categories and tolerances for all cereals. These changes are targeted for implementation in 2016/17.

As outlined in the paper industry comments have been received by the Committee since the inception of the review in 2010. Revisions have been made to the recommendations on an annual basis.

To assist industry to understand the changes, in addition to the detail provided in Appendix 1, GTA has developed a **Weed Seed Review Summary Presentation** outlining the background, rationale and overview of the amendments and categories. This can be found on the website via:

http://www.graintrade.org.au/sites/default/files/file/Commodity%20Standards/2016_2017/Standards%20Weed%20Seed%20Review%20Information%20March%202016%20FINAL.pdf

Recommendation -

GrainGrowers circulated Update 02 of 16 to the GrainGrowers National Policy Group for review. Additional information provided in Explanatory paper on weed seed tolerances has been useful. The comments below incorporates feedback received from the National Policy Group and other grain farmers regarding the weed seed recommendations in GTA trading standards for all cereals for the 2016/17 season:

1. Wheat

Growers noted the significant reduction in category F from 100 seeds per half litre to 50 seeds per half litre in Fed1. Because this change is significant, further information on how these seeds impact the feed wheat used by the feed industry is requested by the GrainGrowers National Policy Group.

2. Barley

It has been raised that the change in tolerances for wheat, oats, cereal rye, triticale and rice (Category H) are significant. Appendix 1 stated that for Category H Malt 1, 2 and 3 tolerances had increased from 50 to 85. This is incorrect as the standard for these grades for Category H is currently 85 – there has not been an increase from the 2015/16 standards.

The tolerance for cereal seeds has been reduced by 60% for Feed1 and 67% for Feed2. As advised in personal communication with Grain Trade Australia before writing this submission, growers have asked why there has been such a large reduction in these tolerances for feed barley when the domestic market is known to readily interchange wheat for barley and vice versa when procuring

feed rations. If the previous levels were too high, why were the tolerances at the levels they were for the last twenty years? Animal nutrition science has been more advanced than human nutrition science and therefore any deleterious effects of these seeds in feed grain rations would have been evident well before now.

Members of the National Policy Group have raised concerns over a lack of transparency of true market signals for this major change regarding feed barley. Growers are well aware of Chinese and other markets purchasing feed barley for malting purposes and have requested evidence for why changes in a feed grade standard should now reflect malting grade requirements.

GrainGrowers National Policy Group request a meeting with Grain Trade Australia regarding the requirement for this change.

3. Sorghum

Growers have asked for an explanation of the weed seed tolerance of 4.0% by weight for combined categories F, G, H and SFS in sorghum grade No. 2. This value needs to be revisited because for sorghum No. 1 where a tolerance of 400 seeds in category H exists the weight tolerance of this category alone could exceed 4.0% by weight before categories F and G and SFS are added. For example:

- Minimum Test Weight of sorghum No. 2 is 62 kg/hL = 310 g/half litre
- Thousand kernel weight of wheat = 34,800 seeds/kg* = 11.5 g/400 wheat seeds = 3.7%
- Add 1.0% SFS = **4.7% (N.B. SFS for sorghum No. 2 is currently 1.6% by weight)**
*Thousand kernel weights from NSW DPI Winter Crop Variety Sowing Guide 2015
- Thousand kernel weight of triticale = 23,000 seeds/kg* = 17.4g/400 triticale seeds = **5.6%** before SFS is added and any category F and G.
- A combined tolerance for categories F, G, H and SFS of **6.5%** by weight is more appropriate and consistent if this approach is to be used for sorghum No. 2. Otherwise as is currently the case, No.2 tolerances should be as for No. 1 with the exception of 1.6% for SFS.

4. Oats

Growers have requested clarification on why Feed Oats No. 1 grade has had a reduced tolerance for black oats from 100 to 30 (a 70% reduction in tolerance). This is an extremely significant change for feed oats. The explanatory paper mentions the "The decrease reflects the difficulty of removing this weed prior to processing and the impact on the end-use of oats." Growers understand the impact on milling oats but the case for feed oats is unsubstantiated. GrainGrowers' National Policy Group requests a meeting with GTA to examine evidence for this change in feed oats.

5. Triticale

Growers noted the significant reduction in category F from 10 seeds per half litre to 1 seed per half litre. Because this change is so significant further information to support this large change is requested by the GrainGrowers National Policy Group.

6. Cereal Rye

As for triticale, growers noted the significant reduction in category F from 10 seeds per half litre to 1 seed per half litre. Because this change is so significant further information to support this large change is requested by the GrainGrowers National Policy Group.

7. Maize

The changes to the tolerance for pulse seeds and oilseeds in maize reflecting that these contaminating seeds are rarely identified has been noted and agreed.

4.6 Agreed Change: AUN1 Grade – Wheat

A request was received from industry to delete the minimum 10.5% protein of the AUN1 grade created in 2015/16.

The Committee agreed to this recommendation for the 2016/17 season given that this grade was created as an “off-grade”. The current minimum protein requirement means that grain failing the minimum protein content is graded as Fed1. This was not the intention when creating the AUN1 grade.

Recommendation -

Noted and Agreed.

4.7 Agreed Change: Moisture Reference Method – Wheat

GTA Wheat Trading Standards in section 5.4 dealing with “Moisture Assessment of Cereals – Brabender Oven Reference Method”, refer to method AACC 44-15a.

This standard method no longer exists. There is a related standard method AACC 44-15.02 which supersedes the old standard and the reference method will be updated accordingly in the Wheat Trading Standards.

Recommendation -

Noted.

4.8 Agreed Change: Falling Number Reference Method – Wheat

As practiced and agreed by industry for some time, there is no requirement in Australia to make adjustments for moisture and elevation for assessing wheat using the Falling Number. The main reason being that Australian wheat is generally dry and thus moisture has little influence. Therefore the industry has agreed that:

- There is no requirement for modification of the method for elevation.
- There is no requirement for modification of the amount of flour used based on the moisture content of the wheat.

This is not currently documented in the GTA published Wheat Trading Standards. For clarity the above wording will be added.

Recommendation -

Noted and Agreed.

4.9 Agreed Change: Cascade Rules – Wheat

The current cascading rules for the following grades have been changed to reflect the quality of these grades:

- HPS1 has now been included before AUW1

The revised cascade rules to apply for 2016/17 are outlined below for clarity:

Class	Bin Grade Cascade
APH*	APH1/APH2 / H1 / H2 / APW1 / APW2 / ASW1 / AUH2 / AGP1 / HPS1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
AH	H1 / H2 / APW1 / APW2 / ASW1 / AUH2 / AGP1 / HPS1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
APW	APW1 / APW2 / ASW1 / AGP1 / HPS1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
ASW	ASW1 / AGP1 / HPS1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
AGP	AGP1 / HPS1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
ASF1 (SFE)	SFT1 (SFE1) / SFT2 (SFE2) / / SGP1~ / SGP2~ / AUN1^ / SFW1 / FED1
ANW	ANW1 / ANW2 / AUN1^ / SFW1 / FED1
ASWS#	ASWS / AGP1 / AUW1 / SFW1 / FED1
ADR	DR1 / DR2 / DR3 / FED1
APWN**	APWN and then as per APW unless otherwise indicated in the Masterlist
FEED***	FED1

Recommendation -

Noted and Agreed.

5. Potential Changes for 2016/17 where further industry advice is required

5.1 Potential Change: APW2 in Western Australia

A request has been received from industry to include a protein maximum of 11.0% in APW2 in Western Australia.

In conjunction with ANW1 this grade is largely used for the South Korean and Japanese markets which have a current protein maximum of 11.0%. Note however that the introduction of APW1 in WA caters for the requirements of markets that require higher protein APW, thus this change may not be required if APW1 becomes the main grade segregated.

Industry comment on the proposed change is requested, including the ongoing need for this grade.

Recommendation -

Growers have asked for further clarification on what segregations CBH will provide. Also what would the specifications be for APW1 and APW2 if a protein maximum of 11.0% is introduced for APW2 in Western Australia?.

5.2 Potential Change: ASW1 in Western Australia

A request has been received from industry to create a separate standard for ASW1 in WA which includes a 9.0% protein minimum.

In recent years the zone average protein for ASW1 in the Kwinana and Albany port zones has fallen below 9.0%. Industry has advised there are few international markets for ASW1 below 9.0% protein, therefore blending with higher protein grain is required.

Industry comment on the proposed change is requested, including the implications of a different ASW1 standard in WA compared with other States.

Recommendation -

Growers oppose the introduction of an ASW1 standard as there are concerns over segregation issues with industry preferring fewer segregations. ASW should have no protein minimum as is the case in other states and can be blended with higher protein wheat to meet market requirements as is done in every other state.

6. Issues for Further Industry & Committee Consideration

The following highlights potential changes for adoption in the 2016/17 Standards and beyond or highlights issues where further information and input from industry is required. Industry is encouraged to provide submissions on any of the following points, or any other issue, at any time by providing a detailed written submission to GTA.

Given the potential resource implications of the following, GTA has prioritised these issues for addressing as outlined below. An assessment will be made on the issues around each topic, timelines for review and resources required. More details on each topic is included below.

Priority 1

- Screen size (including Test Weight method and equipment verification mechanisms)

Priority 2

- Foreign Material, including the definition and sample size for assessment

Priority 3

- Sample size for the remainder of defects

Priority 4

- Nil tolerance parameters

Priority 5

- Barley FN, germination, in conjunction with GIWA

6.1 Proposed Review: Falling Number/Germination – Malt Barley

Industry was previously advised the Committee was reviewing the relationship in the Malt barley Standards between Falling Number (FN), Rapid Visco Analyser (RVA), Shot, Sprouted and Germination (Capacity and Energy) and that based on the data analysed further consideration of the RVA limits may be warranted.

Industry was encouraged to supply the Committee with information related to the RVA, including:

- Industry use of and reliance on the RVA when applying GTA Standards;
- The applicability of the RVA limits in the Standards; and
- Data to assist comparison of RVA data with FN data.

On behalf of the Committee GTA has written to the Grain Industry Association of Western Australia (GIWA) requesting that they consider:

- The potential impact on Malt barley quality of not assessing Shot and FN on Malt barley upon receipt; and
- The potential for inclusion of a tolerance for Shot and FN in Malt barley Standards.

Industry will be advised in due course of the feedback from GIWA. Based on that feedback from GIWA and any further feedback from industry, the Committee will consider:

- If any changes are proposed and the nature of those changes; or
- If the Standards for these quality parameters do not require any further consideration.

Recommendation -

Noted. GrainGrowers may have some historical comparative data for Falling Number and RVA to assist further comparison if required. We look forward to hearing feedback from GIWA on how this review may proceed.

6.2 Proposed Review: Foreign Material Category – All Commodities

As previously advised to industry the Committee is undertaking a review of a range of issues related to this subject including:

- Foreign Material – seeking a common definition across all commodities and consideration of applicable tolerances to apply;
- Nil Tolerance – to determine if a low level tolerance is warranted in Standards for any parameter where a nil tolerance currently exists.
- Sticks – to review the current definition and tolerance for acceptability and consistency across commodities.
- Sample size for assessment of defects and contaminants – to determine if the accuracy and speed of assessment may be increased through a reduced sample size.

Recommendation -

In relation to Nil Tolerance GrainGrowers would bring to GTA's notice that a review of Nil Tolerance would also need to include review nil tolerance of weed seeds as described per the Explanatory Paper on Weed Seeds.

6.3 *Proposed Review: Reference Screen Specifications – All Commodities*

The Committee is currently compiling information gathered from industry on screens used for the assessment of various commodities where reference specifications do not currently exist in Standards.

Once all relevant information has been received and reviewed, the Committee will consider the development of reference screen specifications or an alternative method for assessment of screen specifications.

Industry will then be invited to provide comment on the appropriateness of those proposals before introduction into the Standards.

Recommendation -

Noted.

6.4 *Proposed Review: Standards Specifications – Oats*

The Committee was previously advised that some sectors of the oat industry routinely implement variations to the current GTA Oat Milling grade Standards when trading oats.

The Committee has formed a working group to review both the milling and feed grade oat Standards. Once the committee has deliberated on the potential revisions, industry will be consulted. It is expected that if major changes are proposed the revisions would not be implemented in 2016/17 standards.

Initial topics being reviewed include:

- a) Given varietal purity specifications, how to tell the variety declared
- b) Development of a more formal process with relevant organisations regarding Varietal Master List development and approved varieties
- c) Suitability of all three GTA grades and the specifications
- d) Screen size for screenings assessment
- e) Terminology used in industry for the range of defects
- f) Suitability of the VRSG photos and definitions of defects - notably for Weather Damaged Groats

Industry is encouraged to provide feedback on the above topics.

Recommendation -

GrainGrowers supports the development of a more formal process with relevant organisations regarding development of an Oat Varietal Master List and approved varieties. The introduction of an NIR feeding value

standard for oat grain incorporating metabolisable energy and hull lignin content for feed oat grades is supported by GrainGrowers.

