

Member Update

UPDATE 06 of 19 • 04 March 2019

TOPIC: 1st Industry Call for Submissions on 2019/2020 GTA Standards

DISTRIBUTION: GTA Members – primary contact list. Please circulate to all appropriate internal parties.

1. Issue

During deliberations on the development of Grain Trading Standards (Standards) for the 2018/19 season, industry feedback was received by GTA on the proposed changes for 2018/19, and potential changes for the following 2019/20 season. The GTA Standards Committee (Committee) has recently met to discuss industry feedback received and the potential Standards for 2019/20. This document is provided for industry consideration. It lists the following information on the 2019/20 Standards:

2. Process for Industry Feedback

The Committee is seeking industry comment on the issues outlined in this document and on any other Standards related issue.

Submissions should be received by COB Friday 22nd March 2019.

Please lodge your submissions by sending to submissions@graintrade.org.au and title your email – Standards Review 2019/20.

Industry is encouraged to provide supporting evidence for any change proposed in Standards. Preference is for industry to use the proforma for lodging submissions located on the [GTA website](#). Unless marked “confidential” and appropriate supporting reasons are provided, all submissions will be placed on the GTA website for industry review.

3. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2019/2020

3.1 Agreed Change: Visual Recognition Standards Guide – all commodities

As advised during 2018, the existing Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) produced by GTA was being reviewed for the existing commodities (barley, wheat, sorghum, oats, canola, desi chickpeas, maize, kabuli chickpeas, Angustifolius lupins, red lentils, field peas, faba beans and mung beans). Those changes were not made for the 2018/19 season but were to be held over for the 2019/20 season version.

The following areas will be modified in the 2019/20 version in many instances to provide greater clarity and aid interpretation (Note that the following table also lists issues considered but not agreed by the Committee):

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Barley	Varietal List (Section 1.1)	Update the list of varieties having a short versus long Rachilla based on varieties advised by Barley Australia.
Barley	Sprouted (1.2)	Include a side view photo of Sprouted.
Barley	Field Fungi (1.2)-Clarify grey definition & photo does not include a requirement for minimum of 10% spotting	Current wording implies Grey Discolouration must meet the minimum 10% requirement. Wording is to be altered to remove reference to 10% for Grey Discolouration as the picture only is the minimum requirement for a grain to be classified as Grey Discolouration. Change to photo required as the Grey photo is too shiny
Barley	Severely Damaged (1.5)-A photo of Diseased Fusarium implies that Fusarium may be a relatively "common occurrence"	As Diseased Fusarium is a relatively rare occurrence, there is no need for Fusarium to be referenced in the VRSG. The existing definition refers to all diseases, hence there is no need to specifically reference Fusarium. It was therefore agreed to remove the word Fusarium below the existing photo and in the definition. The photo is to move to the far right and to be labelled 'other'.
Barley	Severely Damaged (1.5)-the current Mould photo shows a significant level of Mould.	The intent of the VRSG is to show the minimum level of a defect before the grain is classified as defective. It was agreed to replace the existing photo with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Durum	Vitreous (2.1)-a trait in the Durum Standards that is required to be assessed	It was agreed to include a description and a photo of a vitreous and non-vitreous durum grain(i.e., new page). Further, as industry assesses non-vitreous grain by various means (whole grain, cut grain), a photo of whole and cut non-vitreous grains is to be included.
Wheat	Stained (2.2)	The inclusion of Plant Material that is attached to the grain was discussed. It was agreed to put this back in the Standards and VRSG with a reference to plant material adhering to the grain
Wheat	Severely Damaged (2.4)	Individual labels are required on the photos of Severely Damaged grain. It was agreed to replace the existing photo with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Sorghum	Severely Damaged (3.1)	It was agreed to replace the existing photo with one which provides a better depiction of this defect
Sorghum	Mould(3.2) -the current Mould photo shows a significant level of Mould	It was agreed to replace the existing photo with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Oats	Heat Damaged or Bin Burnt (4.1) -need to be consistent in terminology and definitions with other cereals	The definition is to be expanded to be similar to wheat/barley and other cereals, being the following: "Severely Damaged includes:- Heat Damaged or Burnt. Heat damaged or burnt refers to those kernels that have become severely discoloured. Affected grains appear reddish brown, dark brown or in severe cases, blackened.- Mould. Affected grains appear discoloured and visibly affected by mould. Note also that a photo is to be included in the VRSG depicting Mould.-Other Serious Visual Defects. Refers to those kernels that have become discoloured and / or have a serious visual defect that is not otherwise listed in these Standards. Affected grains may have a range of visual appearances. Does not include Field Fungi affected grains, refer to Field Fungi. This definition is to be read in conjunction with the photo in the Visual Recognition Standards Guide which depicts the minimum affected standard for a grain to be classified as Severely Damaged."Add other suitable photos to depict this defect as per other cereals (i.e., Mould).
Oats	Field Fungi	While industry had raised that the ventral photo should be replaced, it was agreed no change was needed

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Oats	Stained Grain/Stained Groat(4.2) -For both quality parameters, the wording is to be modified to remove any reference to "must" and replaced with "it is recommended".	The wording is to be revised to the following: "Where Stained Grains are present in a sample it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined to determine if the defect is present." "Where this staining has occurred, it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined". To revise the Stained Groat grains as they have varying degrees of staining.
Oats	Stained Septoria (4.1)	Add a revised photo of Septoria (less stained (dark) than existing WA version). Septoria is no longer to be a separate section. The photo is to be moved to Stained Grain and wording revised to cater for the proposed GTA and existing WA categories of Septoria
Canola	Insect Damaged	The photo is to be altered to reduce the size of the damage.
Canola	(5.1) HD, BB, Badly Damaged	Definition missing wording of "badly damaged". Require a better picture of weather damaged crushed canola.
Canola	Green grains (5.2)	Given some green tinge is allowed this needs to be represented in revised photos showing a slight degree of green is permitted.
Pulses	Confirm if Stained and/or Weather Damaged is in Poor Colour and clarify both definitions	Clarify that Stained and/or Weather Damaged is in Poor Colour and there is a need to clarify both definitions to reflect this requirement.
Desi	Frost Damage (6.1)	Require a photo of fused seeds as this defect is included under this category.
Desi	Split grain in Split/Broken is too dark (6,2)	It was agreed there was no need to replace this grain as it considered suitable.
Desi	Revise wording in Mouldy and Caked to reflect Fungal Affected (not Ascochyta) (6.4)	Agreed to revise and reduce the wording as very verbose.
Desi	Add poor colour grains arising from BGM (6.5)	It was agreed there was no need to add a photo of Botrytis Grey Mould. Change to the definition of Poor Colour to add this defect.
Desi	Explain if Stained & Weather Damaged is included in Poor Colour (seed coat and/or kernel) (6.6)	Stained & Weather Damaged is included in Poor Colour (seed coat and/or kernel), thus need to alter the definition to reflect this requirement. Also, wording is unclear and requires revision.
Desi	Definition of Tiger Striping/Speckling – confirm level of images before being defective in VRSG	Agreed to revise wording in VRSG that any level is acceptable provided kernel is not affected. The wording of SOUND needs to go across all 3 grains of Speckled and Tiger Striping. Similarly, for the defective grains.
	In Poor Colour revise wording of "Seed coats vary from dark brown to black" to reflect grains that are not necessarily that colour(7.1)	Revise wording of "Seed coats vary from dark brown to black" to reflect grains that are not necessarily that colour
Maize	Broken Grain (8.1)	Require a new photo as the existing does not represent a 1/4 missing as per the definition.
Maize	Dead Maize (8.2) – revise the photo of a Dead grain	It was agreed to revise the photo for greater clarity with the definition. For greater clarity the wording will be revised to state that a grain needs to be at least 50% opaque to be classified as Dead

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Maize	Storage Mould (8.2) – the current Mould photo shows a significant level of Mould.	It was agreed to replace the existing photo with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Maize	Fungal Affected (8.2)	Seek industry comment to confirm that Silk Cut and Star Burst are considered a defect and included under the tolerance for damaged. Alter the wording based on feedback received.
Lupins	Split Seed Coat (9.1)	Add a side-on photo of a split seed coat.
Lupins	Poor Colour (9.3)	Remove the word White from the description and revise wording to reflect grain may be yellow or tan as per the Standards definition.
Green Lentil	Clarify green lentils in red lentils (10)	Put photo on front page of Red Lentil section and include wording that Green Lentils are a contaminant in Red Lentils (i.e., as per Lupins).
Red Lentils	Good Colour Red Lentils (10)	Need pictures of front page of varying seed coat colours permitted.
Red Lentils	Poor Colour (10.4)	Re-introducing orange tip that has been seen in recent harvests.
Red Lentils	Explain if Stained & Weather Damaged is included in Poor Colour (seed coat and/or kernel) (10.6)	Stained and/or Weather Damaged is in Poor Colour and there is a need to clarify both definitions to reflect this requirement.
Red Lentils	Fungal Affected (10.6)	Include reference to Fungal Affected in Poor Seed Coat/Kernel Colour in charts. Consider 1 st grain that is less than 20% and revise wording to better reflect other grains are more than the minimum and just depict the different types seen. Add labels under photos to include that the photos depict various levels of Fungal Affected grains and to differentiate from Mould.
Field Peas	Section 11 Front Page	Need photos of White pea and Blue pea
Field Peas	Insect Damaged need a picture of a field insect damaged grain (11.1)	Include photo
Field Peas	Mould (11.1)	Need mould photo showing lesser extent of mould to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect
Field Peas	Broken etc. (11.2)	Include photo of broken kernel on a side view.
Field Peas	Poor Colour dark field pea (11.4)	Include picture of dark field pea in poor colour (i.e., old field pea).
Faba Beans	Lesion on kernel (12.1)	Include reference to any Fungal Affected lesion on kernel is defective.
Faba Beans	Insect Damaged and Fungal Affected –alter definition to refer to black fungal ring on Fungal Affected but not Insect Damaged (12.1, 12.2)	Seek industry comment on whether further clarity in the difference in parameters is needed.
Faba Beans	Poor Colour green faba bean (12.5)	Include picture of Poor Colour Green faba bean, seed coat and kernel
Faba Beans	Poor Colour (12.5)	Include reference to pod fluff on grain and if possible, to photograph, insert a photo
Faba Beans	Clarify sprouted picture (12.2)	Sprouted –need picture of side sprouted with clearer definition of where the V is present and no shoot, but seed coat is not adhering to the kernel. Clarify that if a split is present but not yet Sprouted the grain should be included in the definition/photo for Split/Broken.

In addition to the issues above that were not agreed to proceed, the following were also noted:

- No tags to separate each commodity would be included in the VRSG as the cost was considered to outweigh the benefits.
- While re-ordering the sections of the VRSG to coincide as per Standards charts for each defect and commodity was requested, this would significantly lengthen the document and increase production costs. There may also be impacts on current users of the VRSG understanding the VRSG in detail and where the particular defects reside in each section/page.

Revised wording and photos as noted above will be advised to industry in the second call for industry submissions. Note that suggested changes to oilseeds and pulses in the VRSG have also been forwarded to the Australian Oilseeds Federation and Pulse Australia for their consideration

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

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

- Visual Recognition Standards Guide for 2019/20.
- The document entitled [“Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2019/20”](#).
- For temperature, it was agreed to include a reference to the maximum temperature in all standards in relation to grain supplied ex a dryer, as per sorghum and maize.
- For snails, it was agreed to include in the definition as per pulses that more than half a body is defined as a Snail.
- For Sticks, it was agreed to clarify the definition regarding length and diameter required i.e., the current definition requires “greater than 1cm in length AND 0.5cm in diameter” and this is to be re-worded to clearly articulate this requirement.
- To clarify where in Standards Carrot Weed is to be classified.
- For Turnip Weed it was noted that pods may vary in size. Clarification in the Standards will be made that size has no impact on the tolerance to apply given that this weed seed is to be assessed on the entire half litre sample.
- Industry had previously been advised that additional segregations for high moisture grain in regional areas was not supported by the Committee. A paper is to be developed for industry reference to explain the Committee’s reasoning.

3.3 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 2019/20season Standards are released.

3.4 Agreed Change: Falling Number Reference Method – Wheat, Barley, Cereal Rye

The reference method states 7.00 +/-0.05g meal is to be used. It was agreed to change this to 7.00 grams as it is the reference method and a greater degree of accuracy is required.

3.5 Agreed Change: Vitreous – Durum

The vitreous reference method specifies the Farinator only is to be used to assist in determining vitreous/non-vitreous for bleached grains. It was agreed to clarify that the Farinator is recommended to be used for the assessment of all vitreous/non-vitreous grains in the sample, and thus other methods may be used by industry

3.6 Agreed Change: Foreign Material – Barley

It was noted that under Contaminants, the definition states “Contaminants may be referred to as Foreign Material, see Definition”. As this creates confusion as a different Foreign Material definition applies, it was agreed to delete this sentence in the barley Standards.

3.7 Agreed Change: Grade Names – Barley

As advised to industry during development of the 2018/19 Standards, it was noted that there are multiple potential uses of barley that meets the current specifications termed as “Feed” grades. The Committee agreed to a review of the grade name for Feed1 and Feed2 barley to provide greater clarity to recognise and assist in industry interpretation of the use of those grades, being for human consumption and/or stockfeed purposes.

The Committee agreed a change in name was warranted for the 2019/20 season:

- The name changes from Feed1 and Feed2 to Barley1 and Barley2 respectively would occur for the 2019/20 season.
- The name change reflects the multiple use of existing specifications and is recognised in the market-driven price of the specifications.
- The change is not anticipated or expected to impact the existing interpretation of the price offered for the existing grades, given the existing tolerances and Standards for those two grades would not alter.
- Further industry communication on the use of these two grades would assist.
- GTA management, on behalf of the Committee, would meet with various submitters who requested a meeting to discuss all issues raised in their current (and prior) submissions on this issue.
- To assist industry implementation of common codes, the Committee agreed to recommend the system codes of B1 and B2 respectively for these two grades.

3.8 Agreed Change: Field Fungi - Oats

In 2018 industry agreed that the current nil tolerance for Field Fungi in Milling grades and the Feed grade causes issues with deliveries and is problematic for a bulk commodity such as oats where detection of one grain may lead to rejection of that grain parcel. There was general agreement to move away from a nil tolerance where feasible and no regulatory restrictions existed to prevent this change.

In moving to a tolerance, the Committee considered both the export and domestic processing industry needs. Other quality parameters such as Staining/Colour also interact with Field Fungi. Of high importance to end-users is the level of staining on the groat; although the practicalities of this being assessed for every sample remains an issue for industry to manage on a case by case basis.

As advised to industry in 2018, the Committee has agreed to implement the following tolerances for Field Fungi in the 2019/20 season:

- Prime Milling & Milling –10 grains / 0.5L
- Feed No.1 –30 grains / 0.5L

3.9 Agreed Change: Septoria – Oats

Septoria is currently not listed in GTA Oat Trading Standards. Industry agreed with the decision of the Committee in 2018 to include a reference to this parameter in the Oat Standards.

Industry was previously advised that while it is acknowledged alignment with Grain Industry Association of Western Australia (GIWA) standards may be beneficial, it was considered that the existing photo in the VRSG applied in Western Australia for Septoria was not considered to be sufficiently reflective of market requirements for this quality parameter to be adopted in GTA Standards.

A range of options existed for inclusion of this quality parameter in the Oat Standards. These included:

- The Committee's preferred approach, being that Septoria be included in the existing Stained Grain /Stained Groat definition for all grades.
- A separate category and tolerance be created for Septoria.

As advised in 2018, industry supported the view that Septoria be included in the existing Stained Grain / Stained Groat definition for all grades, with no change to that tolerance. Also, a revised photo will be included in the VRSG showing a lesser extent of Septoria damage before a grain is classified as Septoria.

These changes will be made for inclusion in the 2019/20 Standards.

3.10 Agreed Change: Severely Damaged – Oats

The Committee had previously advised industry of the move away from terminology/definitions that define the cause of the issue as that can cause some confusion. The intention is to revise the terminology to reflect the outcome of the issue. Of note also is that where possible and feasible, definitions should be consistent across commodities.

For Heat Damaged, Bin Burnt, Mouldy and Storage Mould the existing definition lacks sufficient detail on what may be included. In addition, the VRSG lacks photos of some parameters included in this category.

The Committee therefore advised industry that for the 2019/20 Standards the following changes will occur:

- The terminology for this quality parameter be altered to Severely Damaged.
- The definition be expanded to be similar to wheat/barley and other cereals, being the following:

“Severely Damaged, Heat Damaged or Burnt

Heat damaged or burnt refers to those kernels that have become severely discoloured. Affected grains appear reddish brown, dark brown or in severe cases, blackened.

Mould

Affected grains appear discoloured and visibly affected by mould.

Other Serious Visual Defects

Refers to those kernels that have become discoloured and / or have a serious visual defect that is not otherwise listed in these Standards. Affected grains may have a range of visual appearances.

Does not include Field Fungi affected grains, refer to Field Fungi.

This definition is to be read in conjunction with the photo in the Visual Recognition Standards Guide which depicts the minimum affected standard for a grain to be classified as Severely Damaged.”

A photo is to be included in the VRSG depicting Mould.

3.11 Agreed Change: Stained Grain/Stained Groat – Oats

The Committee advised industry in 2018 that the wording in the VRSG for Stained Grain and Stained Groat needed to be modified to remove any reference to “must” and replaced with “it is recommended”.

For the 2019/20 season, the wording is to be revised to the following:

- “Where Stained Grains are present in a sample it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined to determine if the defect is present”; and
- “Where this staining has occurred, it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined”.

3.12 Agreed Change: Light Box – Maize

In defects the reference method refers to “a light box may be used”. It was agreed to clarify for what purpose this may be used and to list any specifications that are required.

3.13 Agreed Change: Foreign Material – Maize

As there is no reference method for determining Foreign Material, it was agreed to include wording explaining the assessment procedure.

3.14 Agreed Change: “Of Which” in Defectives – Triticale

The Triticale Standards have the following tolerances:

Stained (max) 15.0% Includes Weather Stained, Field Fungi, Pink Stained of which, Pink Stained (max) 5.0% Various fungal species that cause pink staining

In line with other commodities, in 2018 industry was advised on the decision of the Committee to remove the “of which” statement to create two separate quality parameters independent of each other.

This change will occur in the 2019/20 Standards.

3.15 Agreed Change: Millrun Standards – By-Products

A submission was received in 2018 requesting a change to the millrun Standards to reflect industry use of that grade. Based on the submission request the Committee clarified a number of items in the proposed Standard and advised industry it had agreed to the following changes for the 2019/20 Standard:

Description

- Various options exist for the description of the millrun Standard. This discussion included the type of millrun –i.e., a standard millrun or grain specific such as wheat millrun.
- It was noted various millrun products are traded, arising from a number of different source commodities.
- It was agreed that the Standards for millrun will be changed to include an origin / source of the millrun such as the dominant grain that was the source of the millrun.
- It was further agreed to alter the wording in the Description to “Consists of coarse bran, fine bran, pollard, flour, un-ground screenings, straw, chaff, seeds”.

Texture

- The current Standard refers to "Grind shall be uniform and material free of any lumps indicative of water damage".
- It was agreed to remove the term "indicative of water damage" and leave it as "Material should be uniform and free of any lumps". This change was made on the basis it is impractical to determine if water damage was the cause in all situations.

Nil Acceptance

- The current wording in the Standard for Nil Acceptance is “Not containing any foreign materials such as un-ground screenings, straw, wheat chaff, seeds etc.”
- It was agreed to remove this wording given the above wording in the Description.

4. Potential Changes for 2019/2020 where further Industry Advice is required

4.1 Potential Change: Wild/Black Oats Assessment Method – All Commodities

For Wild/Black Oats, it is noted there may be more than one seed in combination with others, which could potentially split into various segments during the handling phase. Thus more than one seed may be created during the handling phase. It was agreed that for Wild/Black oats, the procedure would be altered to require industry to count individual seeds in each cluster, as per methods applied by some industry stakeholders.

The Committee has not recommended a subsequent change in the tolerance to apply for Wild/Black Oats. Industry views on the need for and proposed tolerance changes by commodity and grade are sought.

4.2 Potential Change: Screenings, Unmillable Material above the Screen, Small Foreign Seeds – Wheat ANW2 grade

As advised to industry during 2018, the Committee had received a proposal from industry to revert the ANW2 standards back to what they were prior to a previous change made in 2012. The basis for this change was to ensure that off-grade noodle wheat received into the ANW2 grade was usable by the market. It was advised that the current specifications are not adequate to meet customer requirements and feedback had been received that the current grade tolerances were not suitable for various end-products, and that there was a risk such grain could be consequently downgraded to a feed grain.

The Committee recognised the importance of continuing to meet customer requirements through the availability of appropriate grade specifications and stock selection. However, given the timing of the request for the change to Standards being outside of the Standard Operating Procedures in 2018, the Committee agreed that no changes should occur for 2018/19 and industry would be further consulted during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

At its most recent meeting the Committee agreed to the following changes to the ANW2 grade to apply for 2019/20:

- Reducing Unmillable Material above the screen from 1.2% to 0.6% by weight.
- Reducing Small Foreign Seeds from 1.2% to 0.6% by weight.

As advised to industry in 2018, the Committee agreed to reduce the Screenings tolerance from 10% to a point range within a range of 5% to 10% by weight. The percentage point would be determined following further analysis including data from the 2018/2019 harvest. The Committee has not had sufficient time to review that data prior to this consultation paper being released.

The Committee is seeking industry views on the potential reduction in Screenings for the 2019/20 season and the proposed tolerance should industry consider this reduction required. A background information paper is available to industry to assist with consideration of views. Following a review of industry feedback and a review of 2018/19 harvest data, the recommendations of the Committee on this issue will be released to industry in the second-round call for industry submissions consultation paper due to be released in early May 2019.

4.3 Potential Change: Stained – Durum

Advice was received from industry in 2018, that the existing tolerances for Stained in Durum grades were too high. There are two distinct markets for durum, being the domestic and the export market. Each may have different quality requirements.

No further information was received from the submitter on this issue. At this time the Committee is not recommending any changes. The Committee is seeking industry views on specific changes to occur to those durum Standards.

4.4 Potential Change: Screen Specifications – Oats

Industry was previously advised different sectors of industry use different screen slot sizes for assessment of grain quality in oats. There is a desire for industry agreement on the screens to be used.

As GIWA had advised GTA they were evaluating data on this subject to compare screen sizes, the Committee agreed to await the evaluation project being currently undertaken by GIWA and reassess its position following receipt and review of the GIWA outcome.

GTA received varying views from industry on this issue in prior reviews. Coupled with no clear indications from that GIWA review, The Committee is seeking further industry views on a potential change in screen specifications for oats.

4.5 Potential Change: Groats – Oats

The current GTA Standards do not list a tolerance for Groats in any oat grades. Tolerances exist in grades listed by GIWA based on industry expectations. The Committee considers that a tolerance should apply to this parameter in each grade and is seeking industry advice on the tolerances to apply.

4.6 Potential Change: New By-Produce Standard – Almond Hulls

Advice was received from industry in 2018 that there needs to be a Standard for Almond Hulls given the volume currently traded on the domestic market. If created, this Standard would be included in the By-Products section of the GTA Standards.

The Committee is seeking advice on suitable quality parameters and tolerances for this new Standard if developed.

4.7 Potential Change: New Standard – Spelt

Advice was received from industry in 2018 of the need for a Standard for Spelt.

The Committee is seeking advice on suitable quality parameters and tolerances for this new Standard if developed

5. Issues for Future Consideration

5.1 Further Research: Foreign Material - All Cereals

The Committee had previously advised industry of further research and work required on ensuring clarity and consistency across commodities of the definition and method of assessment of Foreign Material. The Committee had commenced this activity however as this is not considered a major priority, that work has been deferred until the vacuum sampling project has been completed.

5.2 Further Research: Nil Tolerances - All Cereals

The Committee had previously advised industry of a review of various aspects related to this topic including:

- The definition of Nil.
- The applicability of a Nil tolerance to apply for each quality parameter in a bulk grain load.
- Regulatory impacts of any potential change away from Nil.
- Suitable tolerances by quality parameter and commodity to apply.
- The consistency of the definitions and tolerances across commodities.

- The method of assessment, including sample size.

The Committee had commenced this activity however as this is not considered a major priority, that work has been deferred until the vacuum sampling project has been completed.

5.3 Further Research: Vacuum Sampling of Road Trucks - All Commodities

Industry was advised of a proposal raised in 2018 to review the current use of vacuum probes to obtain a representative sample for the purposes of applying Trading Standards. It was agreed this project should be managed as a whole of industry review. GTA through GTA's Standards Committee will facilitate the project on behalf of industry, as it relates to the application of Standards.

The project development phase has commenced with the drafting and agreement of Principles that the project will cover. These Principles will form the basis of a Project Funding proposal request to be developed in the near future.

5.4 Further Research: Screen Specifications - All Cereals

Various commodities have reference screen specifications outlined in detail in the Standards whereas other do not. The committee had commenced development of these specifications however this project has been deferred until the vacuum sampling project has been completed.

5.5 Further Research: Other Topics - All Cereals

The Committee has previously advised industry of several other quality related issues in the Standards where ongoing research is required. In summary, these included:

- Review of the suitability of sample sizes used for assessment of contaminants.
- Review of the suitability of sample sizes used for assessment of defects.
- Applicability of the existing barley Standards for Falling Number and germination.

As noted above for other lesser priority research projects, these have been deferred until the vacuum sampling project has been completed