

Member Update

UPDATE 07 OF 18 • 02 May 2018

TOPIC: GTA Trading Standards 2018-2019 – Calling for 2nd Round Industry Submissions

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

1. Issue

In March 2018, Grain Trade Australia (GTA) released an industry submission paper calling for industry input into the development of Grain Trading Standards (Standards) for the 2018/19 season. Feedback was received by GTA from industry on the issues outlined in that paper.

The GTA Standards Committee (Committee) has recently met to discuss industry feedback and to develop potential Standards for 2018/19.

This document lists the following information on the 2018/19 Standards for further industry consideration:

Table of Contents

1. Issue.....	1
2. Process for Industry Feedback.....	1
3. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2018/19.....	2
4. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2019/20.....	8
5. Issues for Future Consideration.....	9
6. Issues Raised by Industry but not Agreed.....	13

2. Process for Industry Feedback

The Committee is seeking a second, and final round of industry comments on the issues outlined in this document and on any other Standards related issue.

Submissions should be received by COB Thursday 17th May 2018.

Please lodge your submissions by sending to submissions@graintrade.org.au and title your email – Standards Review 2018/19.

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 at <http://www.graintrade.org.au/committees>.

Unless marked "confidential" (with appropriate supporting reasons provided), all submissions will be placed on the GTA website for industry review.

3. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2018/19

3.1 Agreed Changes: Multiple Commodities

3.1.1 Visual Recognition Standards Guide – All Commodities

Industry agreed with the proposal to revise the existing VRSG produced by GTA to provide greater clarity on some quality parameters. However, given that many of the changes agreed by the Committee and industry are relatively minor, the Committee agreed that given the costs of production a new version of the VRSG would not be produced for 2018/19. This is in line with a recent decision not to produce a new version of the VRSG until warranted.

Therefore, the Committee agreed that the existing 2017/18 version of the VRSG would be used for the 2018/19 season. Industry should note this decision. The decision of the Committee will be re-iterated when the final version of the 2018/19 Standards are released to industry in August 2018.

Should industry require additional copies of the 2017/18 VRSG, please contact GTA by using the following link <http://www.graintrade.org.au/fact-sheets-publications>.

In the interim, the Committee will continue to revise the existing version of the VRSG with the minor issues advised to industry in Member Update No. 01 of 18 - GTA Trading Standards 2018-2019 - Calling for 1st Round Industry Submissions http://www.graintrade.org.au/news/member_updates.

When proposed changes are made to that version, including minor wording changes and any changes to existing photos for greater clarity, a draft revised version will be made available to industry for comment.

3.1.2 Agreed Change: Minor Wording Changes & Other Issues – All Cereal Commodities

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

- In all Standards booklets, the Visual Recognition Standards Guide published for the 2017/18 season will be used for the 2018/19 season.
- The document entitled "Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2018/19" (see <http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwpgp>).
- Soil / Earth is to have a consistent definition across all cereal commodities, being that of wheat with the reference to each commodities' applicable screen size being the only difference. The existing tolerances will not be altered.
- The quality parameter Insects (Large) is to have a consistent definition across all cereal commodities, being that of wheat. The existing tolerances will not be altered.
- The quality parameter Snails is to have a consistent definition across all cereal commodities, being that of wheat. The existing tolerances will not be altered.
- For the assessment of Contaminants, it has previously been the case (but not specifically stated) that there is no time limit for assessment. This unlimited time is required given the importance of correctly applying the Standards by each industry stakeholder based on their own commercial considerations (e.g., contractual obligations, equipment type, experience of staff etc.). The Procedure for assessment of Contaminants will be altered to reference that unlimited time can be taken for assessment.

- For the assessment of Defects, it has previously been the case but not specifically stated that there is no time limit for assessment following the initial 30-60 seconds review. As per the above explanation for Contaminants, the Procedure for assessment of Defects will be altered to reference that unlimited time can be taken for assessment.

3.1.3 Agreed Change: Weed Seed Categories – All Cereal Commodities

Several changes to wording and the method of classification (and thus tolerance) in all Standards will occur. These changes include:

- As it is currently not listed and does occur in grain, "Ryegrass on Stalk" is to be included in the catch-all category (generally Type 7b for most commodities).
- Type 7a (or equivalent), being the weed seed category for all pulses, specifically will list all pulses (e.g., Adzuki beans is missing in many commodity grade lists).
- Parthenium weed has a tolerance in QLD only. Due to State regulations, a nil tolerance applies to Parthenium Weed in NSW/VIC/SA. This statement is to be included in all standards where it is currently not specifically listed.
- Industry agreed with the following clarifications and changes to be included in 2018/19 Standards for all cereals:

Weed	Type - Seeds	Type - Pods	Comment
Onion Weed	Type 7b	Pods – Type 7a (regardless of size).	For all cereals. Currently no reference in Standards and industry classifies pods differently depending on the size of the pod.
Skeleton Weed	Type 4	Flowers in Unmillable Material above the screen – Wheat, Cereal Rye, Triticale, Oats. Flowers in Foreign Material – Barley, Sorghum, Maize.	Pods do not exist. Flowers are not listed in Standards and industry requires clarification on the category for classification.
Cutleaf Mignonette	Type 4	Change from Type 4 to n/a	Generally, pods readily break in storage and thus seeds are present on outturn. For all cereals pods are to be broken open and seeds counted.

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

As outlined to industry in previous seasons the Varietal Master List for the above commodities is reviewed following receipt of the changes from the industry sectors responsible for maintenance of those lists. Industry agreed all Standards should be revised based on those changes and advised to industry when the 2018/19 season Standards are released.

Wheat:

These are provided by Wheat Quality Australia. The list will be updated in Standards and provided to industry during August/September.

Barley:

Barley Australia has recently updated the Master List for 2018/19 and the following is to apply for barley in terms of domestic and export demand:

State / Variety	Year Accredited	Domestic Demand	Export Demand
Queensland			
Commander	2009	Medium	Medium
Westminster	2013	High	-
Compass	2018	Developing	-
New South Wales			
Baudin	2003	-	High
Commander	2009	High	Medium
Compass	2018	Developing	Developing
LaTrobe	2015	-	High
Gairdner	1998	Medium	-
Navigator	2012	Low	-
Scope CL	2013	-	Medium
Westminster	2013	Medium	Medium
Flinders	2015	-	High
Spartacus CL	2018	-	Developing
Victoria			
Baudin	2003	-	Medium
Commander	2009	Medium	Low
Gairdner	1998	Low	Medium
LaTrobe	2015	-	High
Scope CL	2013	-	Low
Westminster	2013	High	High
Compass	2018	Developing	Developing
Spartacus	2018	-	Developing
Flinders	2015	Low	-
South Australia			
Compass	2018	Developing	Developing
Commander	2009	High	Low
LaTrobe	2015	Low	High
Scope CL	2013	Low	High
Westminster	2013	Medium	Medium
Flinders	2015	-	High
Spartacus CL	2018	-	Developing
Western Australia			
Bass	2012	-	High
Baudin	2003	High	High
LaTrobe	2015	-	High
Flinders	2015	-	High
Compass	2018	Developing	Developing
Scope CL	2013	-	Medium
Spartacus CL	2018	-	Developing

Variety – Food Barley	Victoria - EXPORT	NSW - EXPORT	SA - EXPORT	WA - EXPORT	QLD
HINDMARSH	High Demand	High Demand	Low Demand	Medium Demand	No Demand

Barley Australia has recently updated the Master List for 2018/19 and the following is to apply for barley in terms of variety classification:

Malt No.1 Grade

Variety	Code	Year Accredited	Comment
Admiral	AD1	2014	Minor variety, mostly under contract
Arapiles	AR1	1994	Outclassed*
Bass	BS1	2012	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Baudin	BA1	2003	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Buloke	BU1	2008	Outclassed*
Commander	CO1	2009	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Compass	CM1	2018	Developing Markets
Dhow	DH1	2002	Outclassed*
Fairview	FA1	2011	Minor variety, grown under contract
Fitzroy	FT1	2005	Outclassed*
Flagship	FL1	2006	Outclassed*
Flinders	FN1	2015	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Gairdner	GA1	1998	Outclassed* (though some market demand remains)
GrangeR	GN1	2013	Minor demand
Grimmett	GR1	1982	Outclassed*
Hamelin	HA1	2004	Outclassed*
Henley	HE1	2013	NB: does not meet receival standards due to blue aleurone layer
LaTrobe	LA1	2015	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Macquarie	MA1	2014	Outclassed*
Navigator	NA1	2012	Minor demand
Schooner	SC1	1983	Outclassed*
Scope CL	SO1	2013	Medium demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Sloop	SL1	1998	Outclassed*
Spartacus CL	SP1	2018	Developing Markets
Stirling	ST1	1982	Outclassed*
Tallon	TA1	1992	Outclassed*
Vlamingh	VL1	2006	Outclassed* (though some market demand remains)
Westminster	WS1	2013	Good demand (see preferred varieties by state)
Wimmera	WI1	2014	Outclassed*

*Outclassed means this variety has mostly been replaced by other varieties with superior agronomic or malt characteristics. Bulk handler segregations may not be available for those that are outclassed.

Accredited Food Barley Variety:

Hindmarsh - 2017 market demand is still strong.

Oats:

Industry supported GTA working with the Grain Industry Association of Western Australia on the classification of oat varieties. The aim is to develop a national approach to oat variety classification.

In the interim the usual process of the classification of oat varieties for the 2018/19 season will occur. Approved oat varieties will be published in the GTA Oat Standards as released to industry on 1 August 2018.

3.1.5 Agreed Change: Falling Number Testing – Wheat, Barley, Cereal Rye

Issues arose in the last harvest whereby the current wording in the Standards for these commodities relates to the Falling number result over-riding the visual assessment where visual sprouting occurs. In some instances, Falling Number testing occurs when no visual sprouting is evident on the grain.

Industry agreed that the wording in the definition and procedure will be altered to reflect current industry practices, being that:

- Falling Number testing can occur at any time, even if no visual sprouting is evident; and
- Where industry may conduct Falling Number testing where there is no visual evidence of sprouting of the germ, the Falling Number result applies; and
- Similar wording changes will occur in the barley Standards for the Rapid Visco Analyser.

3.2 Agreed Change: Wheat Standards

3.2.1 Agreed Change: Statement of Standards – Wheat

GTA currently produces a Statement of Standards, being a summary table listing all wheat grades and their tolerances for each quality parameter. Industry uses this table as a reference to compare tolerances for various grades.

During 2017 GTA, on behalf of industry, undertook and completed a project to place all commodity Standards (including wheat) on a Standards Database. As industry can now use that database to download all relevant Standards (by requesting a user ID from GTA), there is no further need to produce the Statement of Standards.

Industry agreed with the decision of the Committee that the Statement of Standards for wheat will no longer be produced.

GTA makes its Trading Standards open for all Members and non-members alike to use to facilitate trade. The Trading Standards database was developed by GTA for industry stakeholders to use via a log in user ID available from GTA. Industry queried this requirement and GTA Management advised it does not intend to limit industry access to this database.

3.3 Agreed Change: Barley Standards

3.3.1 Agreed Change: Snails – Barley

As previously advised to industry it is recognised there is a gap between the tolerances for snails in Trading Standards (applied at receipt) versus that required by some markets. While industry has implemented a range of effective measures to manage this difference, submissions were received during development of the 2017/18 Standards requesting a revision of the applicable tolerances in barley Standards. Some of those submissions requested an implementation date of 2017/18, whereas others proposed a change for 2018/19.

In the call for first round of submissions from industry, industry was advised that the following changes were planned to be implemented in the GTA Barley Standards in 2018/19:

Grade	Revised Tolerance
Malt 1, Malt 2, Malt 3, F1	1 snail per half litre (Dead or Alive)
F2	No change - 4 snails per half litre (Dead or Alive)

The majority of industry agreed with the proposed changes which will be implemented in the 2018/19 Standards. Tightening the tolerance in 2018/19 Standards is warranted given international market requirements to minimise the presence of snails. It was recognised that industry continues to implement a range of measures to minimise the presence of snails and meet market requirements, including:

- Research and extension on snail management on-farm
- Minimising the presence of snails in delivered grain through various means such as cleaning
- Assessment of snail levels in grain held in storage
- Selection of stock with minimal levels of snails for export

Despite the above measures, the Committee agreed that all industry must react to these market signals and continue to minimise the level of snails in both grain received and outturned.

Therefore, the Committee agreed to change the tolerance for snails in the grades as listed above in the 2018/19 Standards.

3.4 Agreed Change: Oat Standards

3.4.1 Agreed Change: Other Foreign Material – Oats

Industry agreed that the definition for Other Foreign Material should be made consistent with other cereals. The definition in the oat Standards will be altered to align with the wheat definition, (as follows), noting that the prior intent of the definition/tolerance is not altered:

“Other Foreign Material

Refers to other material not otherwise specified as having a tolerance in these Standards that has the ability to degrade the quality of oats. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

Fine Material

This refers to material such as dust and soil (<0.06mm in diameter) and minerals.

Snail Shell and Stored Grain Insects

This includes pieces of Snail Shell (less than half an entire shell), pieces of Stored Grain Insects (not whole) and pieces of Insects Large and Small.

Other

This includes pieces of Sticks that are smaller than the dimensions specified under Objectionable Material, and other non-vegetative material”.

3.5 Agreed Change: Maize Standards

3.5.1 Agreed Change: Temperature – Maize

Industry agreed with the proposal that as per sorghum, the receipt of maize at high temperature (i.e., immediately ex a grain dryer) should not be permitted. It was therefore agreed to include in the 2018/19 maize Standards a reference to temperature as per sorghum, being:

“Temperature - Maximum

The maximum temperature of grain tendered for delivery when sourced direct from a grain dryer is 35°C for all Grades.”

3.7 Agreed Change: Sorghum Standards

3.7.1 Agreed Change: “Of Which” in Defectives – Sorghum

In line with the Committee’s changes in 2017/18 Standards to remove the reference to “of which” for various defective grain categories, the Committee advised industry it recommended the removal of this terminology in sorghum Standards.

Industry agreed to the removal of the “of which” category in the Total Defective parameter that currently has sub-categories of Field Fungi, Heat Damaged and Mould. The Committee has further considered receipt quality data and determined little to no impact on separation of these parameters via removal of the “of which” statement.

As such, the following tolerances will apply for 2018/19 sorghum Standards:

Quality Parameter	No.1	No.2
Total Defective (%) Maximum Includes Field Fungi, Severely Damaged, Insect Damaged, Sappy, Mould	5.0	25.0
Field Fungi (%) Maximum	3.0	10.0
Severely Damaged (% by wt per half litre) Maximum	0.5	1.0
Mould (% by wt per half litre) Maximum	0.05	0.1

4. Agreed Changes for Adoption in 2019/20

A number of issues were considered by the Committee and agreed for a change in the 2019/20 season Standards.

4.1 Agreed Change: Feed Grade Names - Barley

A number of submissions were received supporting a change in the grade name for Feed1 and Feed2 barley. There are several reasons for a change in name, mainly related to providing greater clarity and recognition to industry on the multiple potential uses of barley that meets the current specifications termed as “Feed” grades.

Industry broadly supported a change in name, with various options proposed in submissions, being:

- General Purpose 1 and General Purpose 2 – mainly supported to reflect the various general end-uses of the grades
- Multi-purpose Barley 1 and Multi-purpose barley 2 – to reflect the grades can be used for various purposes
- All-purpose barley 1 and All-purpose barley 2 – as above
- Barley 1 and Barley 2 – not providing the perception the barley is used for a specific purpose (i.e., human consumption or feed)

The Committee agreed a change in name was warranted to recognise and assist in industry interpretation of the use of those grades, being for human consumption and/or stockfeed purposes:

- The name changes from Feed1 and Feed2 to B1 and B2 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, 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.

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

The 2017/18 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, industry agreed with the decision of the Committee to remove the “of which” statement to create two separate quality parameters independent of each other. This change would occur in the 2019/20 Standards.

4.3 Agreed Future Change: Field Fungi - Oats

Industry agreed that the current nil tolerance for Field Fungi in both Milling grades and the Feed grade causes issues with deliveries and is problematic for a bulk commodity such as oats where detection of 1 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 has 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.

Therefore, the Committee 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

4.4 Agreed Future Change: Septoria - Oats

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

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

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

- 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.

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. Industry comments on the proposed revised photo will be sought during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

5. Issues for Future Consideration

5.1 Research Issues, Future Consideration – All Commodities

The Committee had previously advised industry of several quality related issues in the Standards where ongoing research is required. Specific details are included in previous industry information papers (see http://www.graintrade.org.au/news/member_updates)

In summary, industry submissions supported further work by the Committee to review the various aspects and to develop recommendations for industry feedback as required on the following issues:

- Reference screen specifications developed for all commodities
- Foreign Material definitions reviewed for all commodities
- Review of the suitability of sample sizes used for assessment of contaminants and defects
- Review of the applicability of the nil tolerance applied to various quality parameters

- Applicability of the existing barley Standards for Falling Number and germination

The GTA Standards Committee has commenced review of some of these issues, including initiating discussions with other industry organisations on research required to investigate the topics.

Industry will be provided with the outcomes of the research on individual topics over time and any potential impacts on the Trading Standards.

5.2 Agreed Review: Varietal Codes – All Commodities

Further consideration has been given by the Committee to a proposal received from industry in 2017 and subsequently during the first round of industry submissions in 2018 that proposed adoption of common codes for varieties. In principle, the Committee agrees with the proposal that adoption of common codes would assist industry in several ways, including a reduction in resources, duplication of effort and errors.

The Committee has requested GTA to progress the matter with other organisations such as the Australian Oilseeds Federation and Pulse Australia, including consideration of potential IT system issues in supporting the common code format should it be adopted.

5.3 Future Consideration: Moisture – Tasmania, all Cereal Commodities

In developing the 2017/18 Standards, the Committee received a request to increase the maximum moisture content in Standards (receival and trading) for Tasmanian cereal grains to 13.5%. Following consultation, comments were received by the Committee from industry both for and against the change.

It was noted that GTA Trading Standards are set on a national basis to facilitate trade domestically within and across regions as well as to export markets. It is also recognised that industry, including grain marketers and regional storage providers can and do modify receival specifications for the purposes of capturing grain and facilitating its movement through the supply chain to consumptive markets and processors.

The Committee and GTA management will engage with industry for further discussion on implementation of Trading Standards across regions.

5.4 Agreed Research: Sampling – All Commodities

Industry advised of discrepancies that arose during the 2017/18 harvest regarding obtaining a representative sample for assessment from a truck load of grain tendered for delivery. While the main focus on the procedure for sample collection was related to pulses the Committee noted that the issue related to all commodities.

Research into the various methods for sample collection using vacuum probes has been proposed. The Committee noted this research proposal and supported the ongoing work. Given the extensive knowledge and prior work of members of the Committee in this area, the Committee agreed to assist in development of the research proposal and progression of the research where applicable.

5.5 Agreed Future Review: Sclerotes versus Ergot – All commodities

A submission was received regarding the practical difficulties of laboratories not being able to define the difference between Sclerotes and Ergot in the context of all industry standards. The Committee acknowledged it may be difficult to distinguish these two quality parameters in the field or using a visual analysis method. It was agreed that the Committee would review the matter and revert with possible solutions for industry comment.

5.6 Agreed Future Review: Screen Specifications – Oats

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

5.7 Potential Future Change: Stained - Durum

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

While no further information was received from the submitter on this issue, the Committee intends to consider this issue during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

In the interim further industry submission and feedback on this topic is encouraged.

5.8 Potential Future Change: New By-Product Standard – Almond Hulls

Advice was received from industry 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.

GTA is currently seeking advice on suitable quality parameters and tolerances for this new Standard. Further advice will be provided to industry during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

In the interim industry feedback on applicable quality parameters for this proposed Standard is encouraged.

5.9 Potential Future Change: New Standard – Spelt

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

GTA is seeking further clarification from the requestor of the Standard for suitable quality parameters and tolerances. Further advice will be provided to industry during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

In the interim industry feedback on applicable quality parameters for this proposed Standard is encouraged.

5.10 Potential Future Change: Revised Standard – Millrun Wheat Offal

Advice was received from industry of the need for a change to the Standard for Millrun Wheat Offal.

A number of changes were proposed as per the following:

- The name of the Standard change from "Millrun Wheat Offal to Millrun, Millmix, Millfeed and Broll" given this is in line with the industry terminology. The Committee agreed to this change.
- The current Description change from "Consists of coarse wheat bran, fine wheat bran, wheat pollard, wheat flour" to "Consists of coarse wheat bran, fine wheat bran, wheat pollard, wheat flour, un-ground screenings, straw, wheat chaff, seeds". The Committee is seeking clarification on this change.
- The current Texture terminology change from "Grind shall be uniform and material free from any lumps" to "Material should be uniform and free of any lumps indicative of water damage". The Committee is seeking clarification on this change.
- The current wording for Nil Acceptance change from "Not containing any foreign materials such as un-ground screenings, straw, wheat chaff, seeds etc." The Committee agreed to this change.

As noted above, GTA is seeking further clarification from the requestor of the change to the Standard. Following receipt of that information and consideration by the Committee, further advice will be provided to industry during development of the 2019/20 Standards at which time the changes proposed above are planned to be adopted.

In the interim industry feedback on the above proposed changes to the quality parameters for this Standard is encouraged.

5.11 Agreed Review: Review of ANW2 Standard – Wheat

A submission was received from industry seeking a review of the dockage (screenings, foreign material etc.) level in the ANW2 grade. The submission indicated feedback from the market had been received relating to concerns with the level of dockage in shipments.

The Committee agreed to form a Working Group of industry experts involved in the supply of this grade to the market and to report back to the Committee on their findings and any recommendations.

5.12 Agreed Future Change: Communication on Standards – All Commodities

As per recent meetings, in response to various submissions from industry, a significant level of discussion among Committee members arose on the communication of Committee deliberations to industry. In general, some industry submissions have requested significantly more feedback from the Committee to explain each recommended change in Standard. For example, one recent submission sought an economic impact analysis on every change to Standards.

When making recommendations to changes to Standards, the impact of each decision on all sectors of the industry is considered. This may involve review of issues such as (but not limited to) the following:

- Regulatory requirements
- Receival tonnage and quality data where available (i.e., not always available);
- Appropriate research data where available
- The capacity and practicalities of the production sector to meet the change;
- The market driven need for the change; and
- Alternative mechanisms to meet the changing market need (i.e., commercial segregations, contracts, stock selection).

Where applicable, the Committee provides industry with the relevant, and non-commercially sensitive information on the decision. As always, the Committee seeks industry feedback on any proposed changes to Standards, generally over a period of 12 months before any major changes may be implemented.

Importantly, it is noted that all sectors of the supply chain (i.e., from the Production Sector to marketers/traders and end-users) are directly represented and participate on the GTA Standard's Committee.

The Committee noted the GTA website contains a significant amount of information on GTA Trading Standards (and other GTA activity) and that changes to GTA Trading Standards are notified to members via [GTA Member Update](#) and remain available on the GTA website for public reference.

Further it is noted a Fact Sheet containing information on the process of setting GTA Trading Standards is available on the GTA website [here](#).

The Committee agreed that effective communication is a continuous process and requirement and agreed that where appropriate, a separate communication advice and activities (involving meetings with relevant sectors of industry) may be appropriate. GTA management will progress those matters on behalf of the Committee.

6. Issues Raised by Industry but not Agreed

6.1 Rejected Change: Ergot Assessment – All Cereals

Industry was advised in 2017 of a review of the current assessment method for ryegrass ergot, and the application of the tolerance. Research has been undertaken to determine the practicalities of altering ergot assessment from length to a weight basis.

The Committee has reviewed research data. This review indicates it is impractical to assess ergot on a weight basis in “sample stands” due to the practical difficulties of measuring ergot to the required degree of accuracy on weigh balances. Therefore, the current method of assessment, being length in centimetres will remain.

6.2 Rejected Change: Severely Damaged – Barley

A submission had previously been received from industry requesting a black kernel grain photo as well as the existing black husk grain be included in the VRSG section of Severely Damaged as the existing picture is somewhat confusing. Industry was advised (in the first call for submissions document) that the Committee did not agree on the basis the existing image is deemed suitable for representing black on the husk.

Industry supported the view of the Committee that a new photo of this defect was not required.

6.3 Rejected Change: Protein – Barley

During development of the 2017/18 Standards, a submission was received seeking an increase in the minimum protein content for Malt 1 and Malt 2 barley. A range of issues arose during review of that issue, including the different requirements for protein in some domestic and export markets.

As a consequence, when the 2017/18 Standards were released to industry, no changes were made to the barley Standards. However, industry was advised the Committee would keep the proposal for change in protein content on the agenda for the review of Standards in 2018/19.

Following consideration, industry was advised in the first call for submissions document that the Committee had reiterated their decision that no change was proposed for 2018/19. Industry supported that view, considering that any market requirements for protein could be dealt with in commercial contracts on a case by case basis.