

# Member Update

UPDATE 18 OF 18 • 1 August 2018

TOPIC: Adopted 2018/19 GTA Trading Standards

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

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### 1. Issue

Trading Standards to apply for the 2018/19 season as of 1 August 2018 are now available on the GTA website.

### 2. Background

GTA Member Updates No.1 of 18 and No.7 of 18 sought feedback from industry on potential changes to Trading Standards (Standards) for the coming (2018/19) season. Feedback was received from a range of industry sectors on the proposed changes and a range of other issues.

The GTA Standards Committee (Committee) met in 2018 on several occasions and reviewed feedback from industry. The Committee recommended changes to the GTA Board and the Board has adopted recommendations as appropriate.

This document lists:

- Changes to Standards for implementation in 2018/19;
- Those issues raised by industry where changes were not made; and
- Issues for Future Review & Agreed/Proposed Changes 2019/20.

All 2018/19 Standards and industry submissions received during 2018 on proposed standards can be viewed on the GTA website at [http://www.graintrade.org.au/commodity\\_standards](http://www.graintrade.org.au/commodity_standards).

### 3. Changes Made for Implementation in 2018/19

#### 3.1 Agreed Version to Apply: Visual Recognition Standards Guides – Various Commodities

The GTA Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) for 2017/18 contains the commodities barley, wheat, sorghum, oats, canola, desi chickpeas, maize, Kabuli chickpeas, Angustifolius lupins, red lentils, field peas and faba beans.

Given there were no significant changes proposed to the 2017/18 version of the VRSG, the current version will also be used for the 2018/19 season. There are some minor updates currently being undertaken (and planned) for that document and those changes will be made when a new version is developed for the 2019/20 season. Those proposed changes are outlined in Section 6 of this document.

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

Minor changes have been made to wording in all Standards to refer to the latest versions of reference material available to assist industry implementation of Standards. These include reference to:

- The current 2017/18 edition of the Visual Recognition Standards Guide is to be used for the 2018/19 season.
- The version of the Weed Seed Booklet.
- The latest APVMA MRLs that apply in Australia.
- The document entitled "Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2018/19" (see <http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwpgp>).
- 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 applicable cereal commodities, being that of wheat. The existing tolerances will not be altered except for Barley (refer 3.9).
- 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.).
- 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 may be taken for assessment.

#### 3.3 Agreed Change: Earth / Soil – All Cereal Commodities

Soil / Earth is to have a consistent definition across all cereal commodities, being that of wheat. For all commodities except Sorghum, the reference to each commodities' applicable screen size is the only difference in the definition. The existing tolerances will not be altered.

The definition for all cereal commodities will be clarified such that following screening of the sample:

- Earth less than the screen size is classified as Sand (i.e., falls through screen) for applicable commodities only;
- Stones falling below the screen are classified as Sand.

#### 3.4 Agreed Change: Weed Seeds – All Cereal Commodities

Several changes to wording and the method of classification (and thus tolerance) in all Standards have been made to the following weed seeds in order to assist industry interpretation. These changes include:

- As it is currently not listed and does occur in grain, "Ryegrass on Stalk" is now 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 lists all pulses (e.g., Adzuki beans was 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 has now been included in all standards where it was previously not specifically listed.
- For other weed seeds the following clarifications and changes have been made in Standards for all cereals:

Weed	Type - Seeds	Type – Pods / Flowers	Comment
Onion Weed	Type 7b	Pods – Type 7a (regardless of size).	Previously there was no reference in Standards and industry classifies pods differently depending on the size of the pod.
Skeleton Weed	Type 4	Seed Heads (i.e., including Flowers) in Unmillable Material above the screen – Wheat, Cereal Rye (Type 6), Triticale and Oats.  Seed Heads (i.e., including Flowers) in Foreign Material – Barley, Sorghum, and Maize.	Seed heads/Flowers were not listed in previous Standards. Seed Heads/Flowers are now listed.
Cutleaf Mignonette	Type 2 or 4 as applicable	Change from Type 2 or 4 as applicable 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.

### 3.5 Agreed Change: Variety Codes – All Commodities

A proposal was received from industry to work towards establishing a common industry platform for varietal codes across all commodities. There were several benefits noted with this proposal, mainly related to reduced effort by industry in setting up systems at harvest to manage the different codes used for particular varieties.

While it was noted there is difficulty in achieving standardised codes and nomenclature, there was an opportunity to create industry value in having a common focus. As such the Committee and GTA have commenced development of a common list and it is intended this will be available for industry use prior to the 2018/19 harvest.

Once the list is finalised it will be available on the GTA website.

### 3.6 Agreed Change: Varietal Master List – Wheat, Barley, Oats

The Varietal Master List for the above commodities has been reviewed following receipt of the changes from the industry sectors responsible for development and maintenance of those lists.

#### 3.6.1 Wheat

The Varietal Master List for wheat has been revised following receipt of initial changes from Wheat Quality Australia which is the industry body responsible for maintenance of that list. Any final amendments will be advised to industry by 1 September 2018 following a final review by Wheat Quality Australia.

#### 3.6.2 Barley

Barley Australia has updated the Varietal Master List for 2018/19 and the following is to apply for barley:

a) In terms of domestic and export demand:

State / Variety	Year Accredited	Domestic Demand	Export Demand
<b>Queensland</b>			
Commander	2009	Medium	Medium
Westminster	2013	High	-
Compass	2018	Developing	-
<b>New South Wales</b>			
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

State / Variety	Year Accredited	Domestic Demand	Export Demand
Spartacus CL	2018	-	Developing
<b>Victoria</b>			
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	-
<b>South Australia</b>			
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
<b>Western Australia</b>			
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

b) 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*

Variety	Code	Year Accredited	Comment
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.

c) Accredited Food Barley Variety:

Hindmarsh - 2017 market demand is still strong.

### 3.6.3 Oats

Industry supported GTA working with the Grain Industry Association of Western Australia (GIWA) 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 have been published in the GTA Oat Standards Booklet.

## 3.7 Agreed Change: Falling Number – Wheat, Barley, Cereal Rye

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

Industry agreed that the wording in the definition and procedure 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.

## 3.8 Agreed Change: Statement of Standards – Wheat

GTA advised industry in 2017 that a Standards database had been created to assist industry to select grades by commodity and print their own Standards Charts for the applicable season, [click here to access the database](#). As part of that process industry was advised that there may not be a future requirement for GTA to publish the Wheat Statement of Standards (SOS) on the GTA website.

However, to assist industry it has been decided to continue to publish this document when all Standards are released for the applicable year.

Industry is advised that a more user-defined and specific list of Standards is available by using the Standards database, and database access can be setup by emailing GTA at [admin@graintrade.org.au](mailto:admin@graintrade.org.au) and including "Standards Database" in the email subject heading.

## 3.9 Agreed Change: Snail Tolerances - Barley

As advised to industry in 2017 it is recognised there is a gap between the tolerances for snails in Trading Standards (that may be applied at receipt) versus that required by some consumption 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.

Given the need for advance notice for these significant changes, industry was advised in 2017 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)

Tightening the tolerance in 2018/19 Standards is warranted given international market requirements to minimise the presence of snails in barley consignments. It is 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 recognise these market signals and continue to minimise the level of snails in both grain received and outturned.

As such the above changes have been agreed to be implemented in the 2018/19 Standards.

### 3.10 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 in 2018/19, giving one year's notice to this proposed change.

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. To aid this decision, the Committee further considered receival 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 now apply in 2018/19 sorghum Standards:

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

### 3.11 Agreed Change: Other Foreign Material – Oats

For greater consistency amongst Standards, the definition for Other Foreign Material in the oat Standards has been 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".

The wording in the Standards charts is to reflect the above wording, being as per wheat Standards charts.

### 3.12 Agreed Change: Temperature – Maize

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.”

#### **4. Issues Considered but not Approved**

The following issues were not approved by the Committee for adoption in the 2018/19 Standards. Unless otherwise stated, these issues will not be re-considered by the Committee unless a further submission is received from industry. Industry is free to provide their original submission or further information to support their views should they wish for any of these issues to be considered by the Committee in developing the 2019/20 or future Standards.

##### **4.1 Rejected Change: Ergot and Sclerotinia Tolerances – All Commodities**

The Committee was advised of the difficulty of distinguishing between ergot and sclerotinia affected grain using field methods of assessment (i.e., visual inspection). While this mainly impacts canola and some pulses, references to ergot and/or sclerotinia occur in many commodity standards.

The Committee agreed that despite the difficulties of assessment, it was appropriate to continue to refer to these contaminants in Standards and for tolerances as previously set to remain.

As guidance to industry, the following should be considered to assist in the differentiation of these two contaminants in harvest deliveries:

- Assess the harvest as early as possible if sclerotinia/ergot is detected in loads by sending these early delivery samples to a plant pathologist.
- The test by a plant pathologist is visually conducted using a microscope, usually in a matter of an hour or so if advance notice is provided.
- On the basis of the laboratory results, receipt samplers are advised of the result.
- Samplers should continue assessment based on those results provided the samples contain “material that looks the same as that identified in the laboratory”.
- The material is either called ergot or sclerotinia, not a combination given the difficulty of distinguishing material.
- Thus samplers receive the above guidance and may not be rigorously trained in the assessment of ergot or sclerotinia.

Industry is encouraged to utilise and / or modify the above procedure to suit their own commercial arrangements.

##### **4.2 Rejected Change: Earth / Sand – All Cereals**

A submission was received from industry seeking a change in the definition for Soil/Earth/Sand, specifically clarification of the lower limit size for Soil/Earth:

- The current definition for Soil/Earth defines it as “a clod of dirt, being 5mm or less in diameter”.
- The current definition of Sand (e.g., for Wheat) defines a grain of sand as “a particle of unconsolidated (loose), rounded to angular rock fragment or mineral grain larger than 0.06mm that falls below the 2.0mm screen during the screening process. Smaller material is classified under Other Foreign Material. Material that is retained above the 2.0mm screen is classified as Earth or Stones”.

The submission sought a change to indicate that pieces of Earth that fall below the screen should be treated like unconsolidated grains of “Sand”.

The Committee resolved there was no requirement to change the definition in the Standards as it was considered suitable.

##### **4.3 Rejected Change: Ryegrass on Stalk – All Cereals**

A submission was received from industry seeking a wording change regarding the definition for any Ryegrass on Stalk falling through a screen. The submission sought a change in the definition to clarify whether Ryegrass on Stalk in this instance would be classified as either a Weed Seed Type 7b or a Small Foreign Seed.

The Committee disagreed that the definition needs to alter as the current definition for Type 7b weed seeds states the tolerance applies to all weed seeds in the 0.5L sample, whether detected above or below the screen.

#### **4.4 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 Ryegrass Ergot assessment from length (in cm) to a % by weight basis (gram).

The Committee has reviewed research data. This review indicated it is impractical to assess Ryegrass Ergot on a weight basis in "sample stands" due to the practical difficulties of measuring Ryegrass Ergot to the required degree of accuracy on weigh balances. Therefore, the current method of assessment, being length in centimetres will remain in Standards until further notice.

#### **4.5 Rejected Advice: APWN Grade – Wheat**

A submission was received advising that in Western Australia the noodle grade APWN was segregated previously but hadn't been for some years. As receipt of this grade would potentially be a market requirement, the submission sought consideration of the APWN grade being offered in Western Australia for the 2018/2019 harvest.

The Committee did not concur with the proposal "for GTA to set the segregation for this grade" on the basis that implementation of segregations is a commercial trade issue and it is not the role of GTA to resolve commercial segregations, noting a grade exists within the GTA Trading Standards for use by industry.

#### **4.6 Rejected Advice: Varietal Master List Variety Deletion - Wheat**

Each year Wheat Quality Australia (WQA) provides advice to industry a list of varieties approved for removal from the Varietal Master List.

The Committee's advice was sought on whether the old varieties proposed to be removed from the Varietal Master List should be removed or if there were any that should have been retained.

The Committee responded to WQA noting that the role of the Committee is not to make decisions on the removal (or addition) of varieties from the wheat Varietal Master List.

#### **4.7 Rejected Change: Protein – Barley**

A submission was received from industry seeking a potential increase in the maximum protein tolerance for Malt 1 and Malt 2. The proposal was made on the basis that some export customers have a minimum requirement of 10% protein. It was suggested to raise the upper limit of protein to ensure the average protein of barley stacks is greater than 10% in order to meet those customer requirements.

The Committee rejected the proposed change on the basis that the current Standards met most customer requirements. Where specific market quality specifications were required, commercial arrangements could be implemented to meet those needs.

#### **4.8 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 may be seen 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 and therefore no change will be made in the VRSG to be produced for 2019/20.



## 5. Issues for Future Review & Agreed/Proposed Changes 2019/20

### 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](http://www.graintrade.org.au/news/member_updates)).

Research has commenced and updates will be provide to industry as findings are reviewed:

- 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

### 5.2 Sampling of Road Trucks using Vacuum Probes – All Commodities

The Committee noted a submission questioning the suitability of vacuum probes for taking a representative sample from a truckload of grain tendered for delivery:

- This issue has had several reviews previously.
- It was noted that BHCs continue to review the performance of their vacuum probes and modify this equipment as required.
- While the issue mainly relates to pulses, all commodities are impacted.
- Training of samplers is a key factor in correct use of equipment, as is design and maintenance of the equipment.
- A Technical Guideline Document on the GTA website is available for industry guidance. [Click here to access.](#)

The submission advised that a research project was being undertaken to assess the suitability of vacuum probes to take a representative sample in a number of scenarios. The Committee agreed to assist the proposed research project given this type of review is extremely problematic to design and undertake given the complexity associated with measuring the variances between machine and human error in the taking of a representative sample.

Industry will be advised in due course as the research project progresses.

### 5.3 Future Review: Communication of Standards – All Commodities

As per recent meetings, in response to various submissions from industry, a significant level of discussion among Committee members arose during 2018 on the communication of Committee deliberations to industry. In general, some industry submissions had requested significantly more feedback from the Committee to explain each recommended change in Standard. For example, one 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 Standards 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 Updates](#) 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.

#### **5.4 Future Review: High Moisture Tasmania – All Cereal Commodities**

In developing the 2017/18 Standards, the Committee received a request to increase the maximum moisture content to 13.5% in Standards (receival and trading) for Tasmanian cereal grains. 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 specifications at receipt for the purposes of capturing grain and facilitating its movement through the supply chain to markets and domestic users/processors.

GTA management will seek to further engage with industry to explain in detail implementation of Trading Standards across regions.

#### **5.5 Future Review: Weed Seeds – All Cereal Commodities**

Clarification was sought on the classification of various weed seeds and their plant parts in commodity Standards. While minor clarifications have been included in the 2018/19 standards (see 3.4), further assessment will occur on the following during development of the 2019/20 Standards, in order to determine if any changes are required and the impacts on industry:

Turnip Weed

- It was noted that pods may vary in size.

Wild Oats

- It was 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.

The Committee noted the above concerns from industry and agreed:

- Current Standards need review based on the submission and a range of variations that may exist for the below categories of pods, for consideration during development of the 2019/20 Standards.
- The current intent of the Standards continue to apply for 2018/19 until that review is completed being, that:
  - Pods greater than 5mm in diameter fall within Type 7a, as listed in the definition.
  - Where pods are listed in a Type that tolerance continues to apply no matter the size of the pod.
  - Pods are not to be broken open unless specifically stated in the definition for that pod.
  - Unless specifically stated, one pod containing many seeds is counted as one pod.
  - A cluster of seeds joined together is counted as one seed.
  - For commodities that list a Foreign Material category, as per the existing definition, all Seed Pods not listed such as those that are 5mm or less in diameter are included as Foreign Material, whether pods are whole or part thereof.
  - For commodities that do not list a Foreign Material category, but list an Unmillable Material above the Screen category, as per the existing definition, all Seed Pods not listed such as those that are 5mm or less in diameter are included as Unmillable Material above the Screen, whether pods are whole or part thereof.

#### **5.6 Future Review: VRSG – Various Commodities**

As noted in 3.1, during development of the 2018/19 Standards and receipt of submissions from industry, it was apparent that there are no significant issues arising that required a new version of the VRSG to be published for the 2018/19 season.

Nevertheless various clarifications have been requested to wording and photos in the current VRSG edition. These changes will be developed in the ensuing months and a revised draft version will be supplied to industry for review before the 2018/19 season harvest.

### **5.7 Potential Future Change: ANW2 Standards - Wheat**

The Committee discussed a proposal received 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 noted the request from industry to alter the Standards for some quality parameters for the 2018/19 Standards. This request to make the proposed changes for the 2018/2019 season Standards was noted as not being consistent with GTA Standards Committee Operating Procedures, which require at least one seasons notice for changes to Standards that are considered significant.

Further industry consultation requested by the Committee noted that further engagement and consultation with industry and production sector would be necessary to ensure widespread support for the proposed changes.

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, agreed that no changes should occur for 2018/19 and industry would be further consulted during development of the 2019/20 Standards on the following proposed changes to the ANW2 grade that is proposed 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.
- Reducing Screenings from 10% to a point range within a range of 5% to 10% by weight. The percentage point will be determined following further analysis including data from the 2018/2019 harvest.

### **5.8 Future Review: Stained - Durum**

Advice was received from industry, 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.

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

### **5.9 Agreed Future Change: Feed 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:

- 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.

### **5.10 Agreed Future Change: Field Fungi - Oats**

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.

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

### **5.11 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 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 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.

### **5.12 Agreed Future Review: 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.

The Committee will review the outcome of the GIWA deliberations during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

### **5.13 Agreed Future 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 agreed that for the 2019/20 Standards the following changes 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.

### **5.14 Agreed Future Change: Stained Grain/Stained Groat – Oats**

The Committee agreed 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".

### **5.15 Agreed Future 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 generally 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 will occur in the 2019/20 Standards.

### **5.16 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.

### **5.17 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.

### **5.18 Agreed Future Change: Millrun Standards – By-Products**

A submission was received requesting a change to the current 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 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.