

# Industry Codes

## The Australian Grain Industry Code of Practice for the Management of Grain

A quality product is one that has the ability to perform in service and is suitable for its intended purpose, i.e. it is predictable and will perform as intended.

Delivery of a quality product to an end user, domestic or export will ensure that Australian grain is recognised as a premium product able to compete on world markets based on its intrinsic properties. Also, Australia enjoys a natural freight advantage into Asian markets.

Therefore, into our largest regional export market the combination of a quality product plus a freight advantage is a formidable combination.

However, it would be pure folly to expect this situation to continue unchallenged.

To Australia's historical competitors, i.e. Canada and the USA can now be added grain from Black Sea ports. Australia has a natural freight advantage, over Black Sea grain into Asian markets, however this "advantage" can be eroded should freight rates fall and the quality of product emanating from the Black Sea will only do one thing, improve. And as for Canada and the USA, quality improvement is embedded in their processes.

Therefore, it follows, that quality improvement must drive the behaviour of everyone involved in the Australian grain industry. For instance:

- What processes can the producer implement to ensure they deliver a "quality" product?
- Could a prior load in a trailer compromise delivery of a "quality" product.

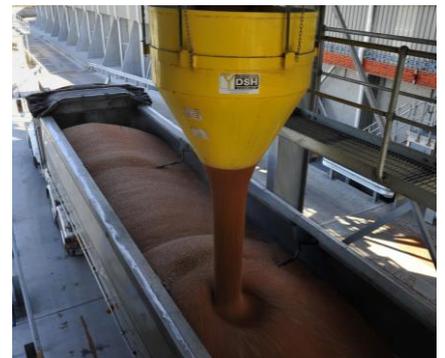
- The rigor around the sampling & testing at point of receipt determine the grade of a load and ensure segregations are appropriate to ensure out turn of a "quality" product.
- Trading standards attached to the grain contract detail the customer requirements, detail a quality product.

The above are examples of the actions that are required across the Australian supply chain that ensure the ultimate end user receives product that suits their needs.

Grain Trade Australia recognised the cross supply chain challenges to ensure delivery to customers of a quality product and determined the need to develop the **Australian Grain Industry Code of Practice (Code)**.

### PURPOSE OF THE CODE

The purpose of the Code is to describe practices that the grain industry use to ensure Australian grain and grain products meet domestic or export customer requirements. Customer requirements include those stipulated in contracts and



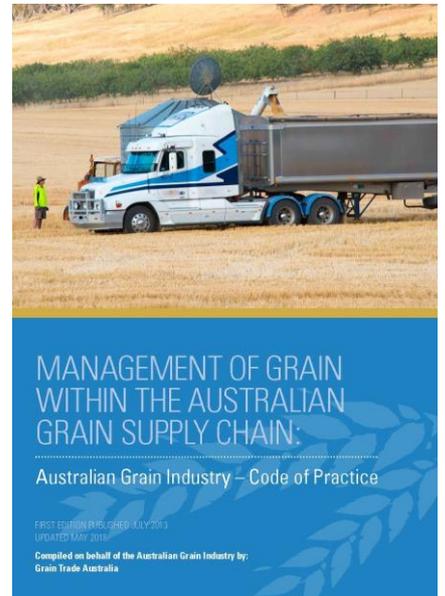
regulatory requirements at the Australian State, Territory and Federal levels and international and overseas country level. There are also a range of industry standards that are covered under the Code.

The Code focuses on those common standards, operating procedures and documented processes. The Code assumes that all participants in the grain supply chain have in place established practices that ensure compliance with this Code.

By following the Code, all sectors related to the grain industry, governments, researchers and consumers will gain confidence that processes exist in Australia to successfully produce, store and supply grain that meets the expectations of the entire grain supply chain.

# The Australian Grain Industry Code of Practice

- Details best practice used across the Australian grain industry
- Details in one document the:
  - Quality systems embedded in the Australian grain supply chain
  - Ensures customers of Australian grain receive a quality product
- Adherence to the Code became mandatory for GTA members from 1 July 2014
- The Code was reviewed and updated in May 2018.



## GTA MEMBERS ADHERENCE TO THE CODE

The Code became mandatory for GTA Members on 1 July 2014.

## IN CONCLUSION

The Australian Grain Industry Code of Practice

- Was developed as a result of a call from GTA members, the broader grains industry and government;
- Is a detailed description of the activities across the Australian grain supply chain that ensures the Australian grain industry delivers a quality product.
- Enables end users, domestic and export, to buy with confidence understanding the quality systems in behind the Australian industry; and
- Will encourage all industry participants to continually improve their processes.

Resulting in a more profitable grain industry for all participants who have invested, time, hard work and financial resources.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

The Australian Grain Industry Code of Practice for Management of Grain and Technical Guideline Documents are available for download from the GTA website

<http://www.graintrade.org.au/grain-industry-codes>

The grain industry is committed to self-regulation. This Code assists that purpose by providing a process that is transparent and which outlines minimum requirements of all involved in the Australian grain supply chain.

The Code of Practice has been developed to provide further guidance to industry and confidence to customers that the grain industry is committed to meeting its obligations of providing grain according to industry-recommended criteria as defined in this Code and according to those mandatory regulatory requirements.

## SCOPE OF THE CODE

This Code is intended to cover all participants of the Australian grain industry.

It has been developed to be applicable to all grain and grain products and applies to all stages along the supply chain.

The Code has been designed to promote the use of best management practice by industry participants. This means:

- Mandatory compliance with all regulations as required by law; and

- Recommended compliance with accepted industry practices as documented in the Code.

## QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS

Industry recognises the value of formal Quality Assurance systems. While these have been implemented by some sectors of the industry, their widespread adoption has not occurred.

Adherence

Implementation of this Code may assist adoption of Quality Assurance systems at all stages of the supply chain.

## TECHNICAL GUIDELINE DOCUMENTS

As this Code is further developed and reviewed over time, GTA will develop:

- Technical Guideline Documents providing detailed information to industry on specific activities. These will assist implementation of activities as outlined in this Code;
- Generic forms outlining data to be collected for various activities, to support those Technical Guideline Documents.