

Member Update

UPDATE 12 OF 15 • 07 August 2015

TOPIC: *Trading Standards 2015/16*

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

1. Issue

Trading Standards to apply for the 2015/16 season as of 1 August 2015 are now available on the GTA website.

2. Background

GTA Member Updates No.2 of 15 and No.7 of 15 sought feedback from industry on potential changes to Trading Standards (Standards) for the coming 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 2015 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 all Standards for implementation in 2015/16;
- Those issues raised by industry where changes were not accepted; and
- Issues potentially to be addressed in the 2016/17 Standards and beyond.

3. GTA Standards Development Policies

A number of industry submissions generally referred to the process the Committee undertakes in making decisions on Standards based on industry input. For clarity industry should refer to the following:

- In developing Standards, the Committee follows an agreed procedure to ensure transparency in the process and consistency in decision making. For further information see the Charter of the Committee at <http://www.graintrade.org.au/committees>.
- In making decisions, the Committee considers all feedback from industry provided in submissions. Submissions are able to be provided at any time of the year. All submissions from industry and responses from the Committee to those submissions where documented, are placed on the GTA website for transparency. Refer http://www.graintrade.org.au/commodity_standards.

In response to other issues raised by industry in relation to the process of Standards setting, the Committee has recommended to the GTA Board the following:

- Development of a broader communication strategy. When decisions are made on Standards, GTA relies on all changes to be disseminated to relevant industry sectors by its Members. At times, broader communication from the Committee (via GTA) is needed, sometimes focussed on providing greater detail on specific issues raised in submissions. The Committee has recommended to GTA development of a

communication strategy. Once developed, that strategy will be implemented during the latter half of 2015 to consult with particular industry sectors on specific issues raised during development of the 2015/16 Standards.

4. Changes Made for Implementation in 2015/16

4.1 All Cereals

4.1.1 Agreed Change: Visual Recognition Standards Guides

The existing Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) produced by GTA has been updated for barley, wheat, sorghum, oats, canola, desi chickpeas, maize, kabuli chickpeas, *Angustifolius* lupins, red lentils, field peas and faba beans:

- Definitions in the VRSG have been upgraded and made consistent with terminology in each Standards Booklet for the respective commodity. Material changes to definitions are detailed in this document for each commodity.
- Additional photographs depicting particular defects have been added to aid interpretation.
- Additional photographs of sound (non-defective) grains have been added for clarity.
- For particular defective grains, the different terminology used in Western Australia has been added to the respective GTA terminology.

4.1.2 Agreed Change: Minor Wording Changes & Other Issues

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

- Weed Seed Identification booklet.
- Insect Identification booklet.
- Visual Recognition Standards Guide.
- The document entitled "Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2015/16" (see <http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwppg>) has been updated based on outcomes of the 2015 National Working Party on Grain Protection meeting.

4.1.3 Agreed Change: Stored Grain Insects

A nil tolerance of live stored grain insects applies in all Standards. This nil tolerance applies to all stored grain insects specified in the Standards, and those considered as a stored grain insect at export, as listed in the Export Control Act as implemented by the Department of Agriculture.

The previous list in each Standard did not specify all stored grain insects for which a nil tolerance applies at export.

For clarity, the Committee agreed to include all insects in each Standard for which a nil tolerance applies. This required removal of the Hairy Fungus Beetle (*Typhaea stercorea*) from the category of Insects (Large) to Stored Grain Insects.

Wheat

In addition to the points outlined in 4.1 above that apply to all cereals, the following changes were made to wheat Standards only.

4.1.4 Agreed Change: Frost and Take-all

Given the practical difficulty of differentiating these two parameters in a sample of grain, it was agreed that the categories should be combined. For each grade, the applicable Frost tolerance will apply, given that it is not expected that a sample of grain would contain significant levels of both Frost and Take-all Affected grains.

All references in the Standards and the VRSG have been updated to reflect this change.

4.1.5 Agreed Change: Noodle Grade

a) Cascade Rules

AGP1 wheat has historically been used opportunistically in 'hard-grained' cargoes. Under the previous variety cascading rules, noodle wheat may have been downgraded into this AGP1 grade if it failed to meet the ANW1 or ANW2 grade specifications. In recent seasons blending of this AGP1 wheat containing noodle varieties has negatively impacted on the performance and reputation of Australian wheat, with customer complaints received.

The Committee agreed that ANW variety cascading rules be altered so that noodle varieties are not eligible as AGP1 for the 2015/16 harvest and onwards. Specifically, the cascading rules have been altered to the following:

Class	Bin Grade Cascade
ANW	ANW1 / ANW2 / AUN1 / SFW1 / FED1

b) Creation of AUN1 Grade

As outlined in point c) below, changes have occurred to the tolerance for various quality parameters for the ANW2 grade. To assist receipt of grain failing ANW2 specifications, it was agreed that a new grade AUN1 be created.

AUN1 (CSG111) has the same specifications as the existing AUW1 grade with the exception of variety:

- Only noodle (and soft) varieties are eligible for receipt into AUN1.
- AUW1 remains an option for all other hard-grain milling varieties that may be down-graded due to quality concerns.

c) Change to ANW2 Specifications

A review of the Standards for ANW2 has occurred as a result of this change in cascading rules and introduction of the AUN1 grade. It was agreed that the Standard for ANW2 is amended as follows to capture loads that have retained sufficient quality to be marketed as a noodle grade:

Test Weight

- The previous tolerance of 76.0kg/hl has been reduced to 72.0kg/hl.
- The Test Weight was not reduced to that of AGP1, being 68kg/hl, as this level was considered too low for the grain to be considered suitable for noodle end-use purposes.

Stained / Pink Stained

- The tolerances have been increased from 5% of total stained grain of which 2% can be pink stained i.e. 5%/2% to 15%/5% respectively to align with those applying for AGP1.

Dry Green / Sappy / Frost Damaged / Take-all Affected

- The tolerance for these quality parameters remains as per the original ANW2 grade standard of 1.0% .
- The level of these quality parameters in the existing AGP1 grade was considered too high for the revised ANW2 grade given the limit for other quality parameters such as Falling Number, as impacts on starch quality and thus end-use of the grain would occur at those higher levels.

Insect Damaged

- The tolerance has been increased from 1% to 2% to align with those applying for AGP1.

Foreign Seed Contaminants

- No change to the previous ANW2 grade tolerances has occurred.

Earcockle / Snails / Sand / Earth

- The tolerance for these contaminants has increased to align with those applying for AGP1.

4.1.6 Agreed Change: Soft Grades

a) Cascade Rules

Similar to the situation outlined in 4.1.5 above, the current cascading rules allow soft wheat varieties failing to meet SFT1 / SFE1 (NSW/VIC) / SFE1 (SA) or SFT2 / SFE2 (NSW/VIC) / SFE2 (SA) grade to be downgraded into AGP1.

To prevent the negative impact in hard wheat cargoes that may contain these soft varieties, the cascading rules for 2015/16 onwards have been altered to the following:

Class	Bin Grade Cascade
ASF1 (SFE)	SFE1 (NSW/VIC) / SFE1 (SA) / SFT1 / SFE2 (NSW/VIC) / SFE2 (SA) / SFT2 / SGP1 / SGP2 / AUN1 / SFW1 / FED1

b) Change to SFT2 / SFE2 (NSW/VIC) / SFE2 (SA) Specifications

A review of the Standards for SFT2 / SFE2 (NSW/VIC) / SFE2 (SA) has occurred as a result of this change in cascading rules and the introduction of the AUN1 grade. It was agreed that the Standard for these grades is amended as follows to capture loads not making SFT1 /SFE1 (NSW/VIC) / SFE1 (SA) but still retaining sufficient quality in order to be marketed as a Soft grade as required:

SFE2 (SA)

- No change is warranted as the current specifications meet expectations of the market.

SFE2 (NSW/VIC)

- No change is warranted as the current specifications meet expectations of the market.

SFT2

Test Weight

- The limit has been reduced from 76kg/hl to 72.0kg/hl as the proposed limit for AGP1 of 68kg/hl was considered too low for a soft grade.

Unmillable Material Above the Screen

- The tolerance has increased from 0.6% to 1.2% to align with AGP1.

Screenings

- The tolerance has increased from 8% to 10% to align with AGP1.

Stained / Pink Stained

- The tolerance has increased from 5% of total stained grain of which 2% can be pink stained i.e. 5%/2% to 15%/5% respectively to align with AGP1 as per existing SFE2 and SFE2 (SA) grades.

Dry Green / Sappy

- The tolerance increased from 1% to 5% to align with AGP1.
- This level is not expected to have a significant impact on starch quality.

Frost Damaged / Take-all Affected

- The tolerance has increased from 1% to 5%.
- The proposed level of 5% is set at a level that is not expected to have a significant impact on starch quality given the limit for other quality parameters such as Falling Number, whereas a level of 10% as per AGP1 was considered too high for this grade and its intended end-use.

Insect Damaged

- The tolerance has increased from 1% to 2% to align with AGP1.

Foreign Seed Contaminants

- No change to the previous weed seed tolerances has occurred.

Earcockle / Snails / Sand / Earth

- The tolerance for these contaminants has increased to align with those applying for AGP1.

4.1.7 Agreed Change: Introduce SGP1 and SGP2 Grades

In general industry did not support any changes to SFE (NSW/VIC) or SFE (SA) and recommended the introduction of SGP1 and SGP2 grades. The Committee agreed with those recommendations and the two grades have been implemented for the 2015/16 season:

- The two new grades are depicted as SGP1 (CSG 146) and SGP2 (CSG 147).
- All existing specifications for these two grades as used by the domestic industry in recent seasons in Eastern Australia will apply.
- Only soft varieties designated as ASF1 (SFE) in the Varietal Master List will be applicable for receipt into these grades. Cascade rules have been updated to reflect these two grades.

4.1.8 Agreed Change: Varietal Master List

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 2015 following a final review by Wheat Quality Australia.

4.2 Sorghum

In addition to the points outlined in 4.1 above that apply to all cereals, the following changes were made to sorghum Standards only.

4.2.1 Agreed Change: Standards Implementation Date

There is no longer the need to have two dates for implementation of Standards as previously existed, being for summer and winter crops. To assist development and implementation of Standards, in future all Standards published by GTA are to be implemented as at 1 August each year.

4.2.2 Agreed Change: Sorghum Standards

As advised to industry during 2014/15, a major review of the sorghum Standards has occurred and proposed changes were provided to industry for feedback during the first and second round calls for industry submissions.

Based on industry feedback on the proposed draft Standards, the Committee agreed to a number of changes as previously advised to industry. Note however, some of the previously proposed changes were not supported by industry and have not been implemented.

To assist industry understanding of the sorghum Standards to be implemented for 2015/16, the following is a summary of all the proposed changes which have been adopted and those which were not adopted in the Standards:

a) Grades

- The previous four grades have been reduced to two grades, being No.1 and No.2.
- These two grades are a compromise between the needs of the market and the ability of the production sector to produce the quality required.
- The two grades reflect the various uses for on both the domestic and export market.
- It is recognised the two grades will not always meet the needs of all markets and as for other commodities, industry is free to implement other grades and receipt standards as required to meet specific market needs.

- Comments were received from industry on the potential impact on growers should grain be harvested outside of the No.2 grade specifications. Concerns were raised that grain would be rejected and not able to be received "into the system". As with other commodities (and existing sorghum Standards), should inclement weather or harvest conditions severely impact on the crop, industry would be expected to develop regional grades to cater for the relevant quality parameters present in the harvested grain.

b) Total Admixture, Trash, Foreign Material & Screenings

Total Admixture

- There was support for deletion of the quality parameter of Total Admixture.
- Total Admixture has been deleted from the Standards.

Trash

- The category of Trash has been deleted.
- Trash is now included in the definition of Foreign Material.
- Data reviewed by the Committee indicates the level of Trash has been relatively low in recent years and the agreed tolerances can be readily met.

Foreign Material

- The definition has been altered to "all material not already categorised specifically in other definitions within the Standard". This includes Trash as listed in previous Standards. It does not include any contaminant (e.g. weed seeds) that are listed in the Standards.
- In the No.1 grade Foreign Material has been limited to 2% to reflect market requirements for a clean product.
- 4% has been set as the tolerance for the No.2 grade to allow for higher levels.
- Analysis of deliveries and consignments in recent years indicates relatively low levels of Foreign Material is present in sorghum supplied to the domestic and export market.

Screenings

- Screenings has been retained at 11% in the No.1 grade. Some industry submissions did not support the proposed reduction to 10%, despite there being a strong preference for marketing sorghum with a significantly lower level and deliveries to that market in recent seasons indicating screenings levels well below 11%.
- The screenings limit in the No.2 grade has been set at a maximum of 25% to cater for unseasonal conditions that may produce small grain.
- Screenings will continue to be analysed using the existing 2.00mm slotted screen as there was no industry support for a change to the use of the USDA screen.

c) Total Defective & Defective Quality Parameters

Total Defective

- The tolerance for the No.1 grade has been set at 5%, a limit that reflects market requirements and is aligned to a major competitor supplier, being the No.2 USDA grade.
- The tolerance for the No.2 grade has been set at 25% to cater for seasonal and harvest impacts on grain quality parameters within this category.
- As the new tolerance for the No.1 grade is a relatively significant tightening from the prior tolerance in the No.1 grade, it has been agreed to remove Sprouted from the count for Total Defective and assess this individually.

Stained

- There was widespread industry support for the deletion of Stained.
- Based on the relatively low impact of Staining in samples and associated end-use of sorghum, all references to Staining as a defect has been deleted in the Standards. Therefore unlimited Staining may be present on sorghum in the No.1 and No.2 grades.

- A photo of Stained has been retained in the VRSG for reference and to assist industry to visibly distinguish Field Fungi from Stained. Similarly, reference to Stained has been retained in the Standards Booklet for industry guidance but is no longer classified as a defective grain.

Sprouted

- There was industry support for changes to Sprouted.
- The definition has been altered to now only include those grains where the shoot is visible. The previous reference to a "split in the germ" has been deleted. The VRSG has been updated to reflect this change.
- Sprouted has been removed from Total Defective and a separate tolerance now exists.
- The previous tolerance of 5% for the No.1 grade has been reduced to 3% to reflect a loosening of the definition, market requirements and the impact of Sprouted grain on the end-use of sorghum.
- The tolerance for the No.2 grade has been set at 10% to cater for unseasonal harvest conditions.

Field Fungi

- There was general industry support for changes to the tolerances for Field Fungi.
- Field Fungi potentially has a significant impact on the human consumption and stockfeed industries when using sorghum.
- The previous tolerance of 5% for the No.1 grade was considered too high and has been reduced to 3% to reflect market requirements and the impact of Field Fungi grain on the end-use of sorghum (both human consumption and livestock feed).
- The tolerance for the No.2 grade has been set at 10% to cater for unseasonal harvest conditions.
- The previous photo depicting the minimum requirement for a grain to be classified as Field Fungi has been updated. A photo with less Field Fungi present on the grain has replaced the existing photo as it better reflects the level of Field Fungi present in a sample at the revised tolerance (given Stained has been set at "unlimited").

Sappy, Frost Damaged, Insect Damaged

- There was general industry support for the changes to these quality parameters.
- As these quality parameters are rarely detected in sorghum the separate tolerance has been removed and these parameters now fall within the Total Defective category.

Heat Damaged & Bin Burnt

- There was general support for the new tolerance to apply as a % by weight in a half litre sample in order to assist implementation and assessment. Additionally, as these quality parameters are difficult to differentiate and have a similar impact on quality, they have been categorised together.
- The tolerance for the No.1 grade has been set at 0.5%.
- The limit for No.2 grade is now 1.0%, to allow for higher levels present.

Storage Mould

- Storage Mould has been included in the Total Defective category to assist the interpretation of Total Defective.
- A higher level has been set in the No.2 grade at 0.1% to differentiate this grade from the lower tolerance in the No.1 grade of 0.05%.

Musty, Mouldy & Rotted

- There was general industry support for the changes proposed to these quality parameters.
- Given that a separate tolerance applies to Storage Mould, the reference to Mouldy has been deleted.
- As advised last year, the reference to Musty and Rotted has been deleted.
- Industry should note that as applied in previous Standards, any odour detected that is not the normal odour associated with sorghum, is included under "Objectionable Material as Odour".

d) Foreign Seed Contaminants

- In response to industry submissions the Committee agreed that no changes to the current weed seed listings would occur for the 2015/16 standards.
- The categories and tolerances for weed seeds in the new No.1 and No. 2 have been set at those that previously applied to the No.1 and No.2 sorghum grades.

e) Ergot

- There was not a clear agreement from industry on proposed changes to all ergot types listed in the Standards.
- In response to industry submissions, the Committee agreed that no changes to ergot would occur.
- The categories and tolerances for ergot in the new No.1 and No. 2 have been set at those that previously applied to the No.1 and No.2 sorghum grades.

f) Honeydew

- The reference to "generally when infected with Sorghum Ergot" has been deleted as this statement is not correct in some circumstances.

g) Sand & Soil

- The previous separate categories of Earth and Sand have been combined into Sand/Soil with a tolerance of 0.06% by weight applying for both grades.
- This category is now consistent with that applying for all oilseed commodities.
- The change should assist the assessment of this parameter. The old method of physically counting pieces of Earth, measuring the diameter of those pieces and counting grains of Sand was not considered very practical.

4.3 Barley

4.3.1 Agreed Change: Varietal Master List

The Varietal Master List for barley varieties has been updated based on advice on approved malt variety changes made by Barley Australia.

4.3.2 Agreed Change: Cleaved

The definition in the Standards and in the VRSG has been updated to include wording to reflect that "any visible cleaving is defective".

4.3.3 Agreed Change: VRSG

As per advice to the Committee that the CBH Group will be using the GTA VRSG for 2015/16, additional definitions and photos have been added to reflect the following quality parameters that apply in Western Australia Standards but not in GTA Standards:

- Heavily Discoloured
- Fusarium/Pink Staining

4.4 Agreed Change: Varietal Master List – Oats

The Varietal Master List for oat varieties has been updated based on advice on changes to the classification for oat varieties in the various oat growing regions.

4.5 Agreed Change: Adoption of other Commodity Standards

The Committee agreed to fully adopt the following Standards for 2015/16:

- Oilseeds – developed and updated by the Australian Oilseeds Federation
- Pulses – developed and updated by Pulse Australia

5. Issues Considered but Not Approved

The following issues were not approved by the Committee for adoption in the 2015/16 Standards. 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 2016/17 or future Standards.

5.1 Rejected Change: Revised Visual Recognition Standards Guide

The following changes were requested by industry but were not supported by the Committee:

Commodity	Change Requested and Rejected
All	Request for a range of photos to be included for all quality parameters – the Committee re-confirmed its policy of “one photo for each quality parameter however additional photos would be added on a case by case basis where this provides additional clarity”.
All	Request for wording of “photos depict the minimum required for a grain to be defective” to be included throughout the VRSG booklet – the Committee re-confirmed its policy that the wording be included in the Introduction only and industry should appropriately train staff on the use of the VRSG.
New commodities	Request for new commodities Albus lupins, sunflower, safflower and soybeans to be considered for 2016/17 – if possible, grain and/or photos and definitions to be sourced during 2015 in preparation.
Contaminants	Committee re-confirmed its policy that contaminants would not be included in this booklet as its primary goal is to deal with defects (other than Pickled grain).
Barley	Skinnings – A comment was received that side skinning is not defective. Committee did not agree.
Wheat	Sprouted – industry sought inclusion of a photo depicting rootlet growth. The Committee rejected this proposal as that is not the minimum extent for Sprouting and a photo is therefore not required.
Canola	Immature – no picture is needed as it cannot be readily distinguished from other quality parameters.
Desi Chickpeas	Poor Colour – do not need to insert a genetic black grain as distinct from Poor Colour as these are rarely seen “old varieties”.
	Tiger Striping/Speckled – additional photos are not required as grains with low or higher “levels” of these parameters are not defective.
	Caked – no change to the definition required as any form of Foreign Material adhering to the grain is classified under this heading.
	Ascochyta – current definition is adequate, no change required.
Faba beans	Insect Damaged – insect damage photo and definition was considered suitable. Mirid photos are only to be included once it is confirmed this damage was caused by Mirid insects.
	Ascochyta – definition and photos are considered suitable.

6. Potential Changes for the 2016/17 Standards & Beyond

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

6.1 Proposed Review: Weed Seed Categories and Tolerances

Based on feedback from industry indicating varying degrees of support and awareness of the previously announced weed seed changes that would be implemented in 2015/16, the Committee agreed not to make any changes in the 2015/16 Standards.

A further review of all industry submissions received in 2015 is underway and the Committee will advise industry of its deliberations in an industry Discussion Paper to be released for comment prior to the commencement of the 2015/16 harvest.

During the review of all industry submissions in 2015 the Committee noted:

- The number of discussion papers previously provided to industry since the Weed Seed Review commenced in 2011.
- A number of trials have occurred over consecutive harvests since the review commenced supporting the amendments.
- The limited detail provided in some submissions, citing only general concerns by industry unable to be considered, but nevertheless noted.
- There was some industry support for all of the proposed changes and others, whilst supporting the implementation of the review, sought amendments for specific weed seeds. Other submissions did not support any amendments to weed seed tolerances.
- While some of these proposed changes were agreed to be adopted by the Committee, these will be further considered prior to the release of the abovementioned Discussion Paper.
- The Committee received submissions requesting that a "full analysis of the economic impact on industry of the proposed changes" be undertaken. The Committee re-confirmed this was outside of their scope of activities and requirements for a change in Trading Standards.

While the outcome of the further review by the Committee in the latter part of 2015 is unclear at this stage, the Committee noted its intention for some changes to the weed seeds to be made, in order:

- To meet the previously stated objectives of the review; and
- For these changes to be implemented in the 2016/17 Standards.

6.2 Proposed Review: Falling Number/Germination – Malt Barley

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6.3 Proposed Review: Foreign Material Category – All Commodities

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

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

The Committee will consider any feedback from industry. Based on that feedback and the outcome of its own deliberations, the Committee will determine:

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

6.4 Proposed Review: Reference Screen Specifications – All Commodities

The Committee is currently compiling information gathered from industry on screens used for the assessment of various commodities where reference specifications do not currently exist in Standards. Once all relevant information has been received and reviewed, the Committee will consider the development of reference screen specifications. Industry will then be invited to provide comment on the appropriateness of those proposals before introduction into the Standards.

6.5 Proposed Review: Visual Recognition Standards Guide – All Commodities

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

Commodity	Change Requested and Rejected
All	Review the definition and photos for Mould.
Canola	Immature – Seek advice on deletion from Standards by AOF as this quality parameter is generally indistinguishable from others.
Sorghum	Frost – Review possible deletion of the reference to Frost in Standards as this quality parameter is rarely seen. If retained, source a photo for inclusion in the VRSG if relevant.
Durum	Vitreous – consider inclusion of vitreous grain.

6.6 Proposed Review: ANW1, APW2, ASW1 Specifications – Wheat

The Committee will consider a proposal from industry requesting a review of the protein levels in the following grades in Western Australia:

- ANW1 – alter the minimum and maximum protein range to more accurately reflect the market requirements.
- APW2 – potential to include a maximum protein to reflect specific market requirements.
- ASW1 – potential to create a separate standard reflecting the minimum protein level required by many markets.

6.7 Proposed Review: Standards Specifications – Oats

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

The Committee agreed to form a working group to review both the milling and feed grade oat Standards.

6.8 Proposed Review: Objective Measurement of Grain Quality

The Committee continues to liaise with equipment manufacturers developing technology for the objective assessment of grain quality.

As previously advised to industry, guidelines have been developed and these are available on the GTA website via http://www.graintrade.org.au/sites/default/files/file/Policies/GTA%20Assessment%20of%20Technology%20Guidelines%20Final%2015_09_14.pdf