UPDATE 11 OF 19 • 03 May 2019

TOPIC: 2nd Industry Call for Submissions on 2019/20 GTA Standards

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

1. Issue

In March 2019, Grain Trade Australia (GTA) released an industry submission paper calling for industry input into the development of Grain Trading Standards (Standards) for the 2019/20 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 2019/20.

This document lists the following information on the 2019/20 Standards for further industry consideration:

Table of Contents

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 Friday 24th May 2019.

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

Industry is encouraged to provide supporting evidence for any change proposed in Standards. Preference is for industry to use the proforma for lodging submissions located on the GTA website 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 2019/20

Unless otherwise noted below, industry did not object to the list of changes advised in the first round calling for industry submissions, as listed below.

3.1 Agreed Change: Visual Recognition Standards Guide – all commodities

As advised during 2018 and in the call for the first round of industry submissions, the existing Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) produced by GTA was being reviewed for the existing commodities.

The following areas will be modified in the 2019/20 version in many instances to provide greater clarity and aid interpretation (industry should note that the following table also lists issues considered but not agreed by the Committee). A draft version of the VRSG for 2019/20 incorporating these changes including revised photos can be obtained by contacting GTA at admin@graintrade.org.au.

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
All Commodities	Numbering of Sections removed	As the Section numbers in the VRSG are not relevant to the Standards and page numbers are in the VRSG, Section numbers have been removed. For ease of reference by industry to changes as proposed in the 2019/20 edition, the section numbers have stayed in this Industry Submission document but will be removed in future.
Barley	Varietal List (Section 1.1)	Updated the list of varieties having a short versus long Rachilla based on barley varieties advised by Barley Australia.
Barley	Sprouted (1.2)	Included a side view photo of Sprouted.
Barley	Dark Tipped (1.2)	Removed the word "dark" in the following definition to provide greater clarity with the photo – "Grains exhibit a distinct ~~dark~~ brown to black discolouration".
Barley	Field Fungi (1.2) - Clarify Grey Discolouration wording and replace photo	As the previous wording implied Grey Discolouration must meet the minimum 10% requirement, the wording has been altered to remove the reference to 10% for Grey Discolouration. Changed the Grey Discolouration photo as the previous Grey photo did not accurately depict this defect (i.e., it was too shiny).
Barley	Severely Damaged (1.5) – Replace Diseased Fusarium photo and alter wording	As the previous photo did not accurately depict this disease, the photo has been replaced with a more suitable grain depicting Fusarium. Altered the wording to remove the term "diseased" as this is not required.
Barley	Severely Damaged (1.5) – the previous Mould photo showed a significant level of Mould.	The intent of the VRSG is to show the minimum level of a defect before the grain is classified as defective. The existing photo has been replaced with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Barley	Blue Aleurone (1.6)	To provide a distinction between Blue Aleurone Layer and Blue Pickling Compounds, a photo has been added under 1.6.
Durum	Vitreous (2.1) – a trait in the Durum Standards that is required to be assessed.	As this quality parameter was previously not included in the VRSG for wheat, a description and a photo of a vitreous and non-vitreous durum grain (whole grain and a cut grain) has been added.

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Wheat	Stained (2.2)	A photo and definition of "Adherence of contaminants such as soil, dust, plant parts and other material", commonly referred to as "Staining due to Moist Plant Material" has been added.
Wheat	Sprouted (2.3)	To provide clarity, the following wording has been included "Grains with pin holes are not included in this definition".
Wheat	Severely Damaged (2.4) – the previous Mould photo showed a significant level of Mould.	The intent of the VRSG is to show the minimum level of a defect before the grain is classified as defective. The existing photo has been replaced with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Wheat	Severely Damaged (2.4) – Heat Damaged	The previous photo of Heat Damaged did not accurately depict this quality parameter as it was considered to light, hence the photo has been replaced.
Sorghum	Severely Damaged (3.1)	The previous photo of a "Heat Damaged" grain did not accurately depict this quality parameter as it was considered to light, hence the photo has been replaced.
Sorghum	Severely Damaged (3.2) – the previous Mould photo showed a significant level of Mould.	The intent of the VRSG is to show the minimum level of a defect before the grain is classified as defective. The existing photo has been replaced with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Oats	Heat Damaged or Bin Burnt (4.1) – altered to Severely Damaged.	The definition has been expanded to be similar to wheat/barley and other cereals, being the following: "Severely Damaged includes: - Heat Damaged or Burnt. Heat damaged or burnt refers to those kernels that have become severely discoloured. Affected grains appear reddish brown, dark brown or in severe cases, blackened. - Mould. Affected grains appear discoloured and visibly affected by mould. Note also that a photo is to be included in the VRSG depicting Mould. - Other Serious Visual Defects. Refers to those kernels that have become discoloured and / or have a serious visual defect that is not otherwise listed in these Standards. Affected grains may have a range of visual appearances. Does not include Field Fungi affected grains, refer to Field Fungi. This definition is to be read in conjunction with the photo in the Visual Recognition Standards Guide which depicts the minimum affected standard for a grain to be classified as Severely Damaged." For clarity with the definition, a photo has been added of a Mouldy grain and a Heat Damaged Groat.
Oats	Field Fungi (4.1)	While industry had previously raised that the ventral photo should be replaced, it was agreed no change was needed as the existing photo accurately depicted this quality parameter.
Oats	Stained Grain/Stained Groat (4.2) - For both quality parameters, the wording has been modified to remove any reference to "must" and replaced with "it is recommended".	The wording has been revised to the following: "Where Stained Grains are present in a sample it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined to determine if the defect is present." "Where this staining has occurred, it is recommended the husk is to be removed and the Groat examined". This change reflects that industry is free to implement their own management practices to implement the Standards.

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Oats	Stained Groat (4.2)	As the previous photos depicting Stained Groats had varying levels of Staining, the photos have been altered to clarify the minimum level of Staining before a Groat is classified as defective.
Oats	Stained - Septoria (4.1) definition and photos included as a new quality parameter in Stained.	A revised photo of Septoria (less stained (dark) than the existing WA version) has been added to the GTA Standards and VRSG within Stained Grains.
Oats	Sprouted (4.3) – "whiskers" added	As "whiskers" is sometimes seen on Sprouted grains, a photo has been revised.
Canola	Broken / Split - Insect Damaged (5.1) grain added	A photo has been added to depict this quality parameter as it was previously not shown in the VRSG despite being in the Broken / Split category.
Canola	Heat Damaged, Bin Burnt, Badly Damaged (5.1)	The definition has been clarified to reflect the quality parameters included, being "Heat Damaged, Bin Burnt or Badly Damaged seed are those seeds and pieces of seed that are materially discoloured and damaged by heat or have other serious visual defects. Seeds may have a heated odour or a brown powdery appearance when crushed". A revised photo of a crushed grain has been added to provide a better depiction of this defect.
Pulses – except Mung Beans	Stained and/or Weather Damaged, Green.	For all pulses except Mung Beans, the wording in the VRSG for each pulse has been clarified that Stained and/or Weather Damaged and Green is included in Poor Colour. Where possible, photos of these defects have been moved to place them in adjacent areas and on a single page for ease of review.
Desi	Frost Damaged, Shrivelled and Wrinkled (6.1)	A photo of fused seeds has been added as this defect is included under this category.
Desi	Broken / Chipped / Loose Seed Coat / Split (6.2)	As the split in the previous Split grain was too dark to clearly identify, this photo has been altered.
Desi	Tiger Striping/Speckling (6.6)	The wording has been clarified that any level is acceptable provided the kernel is not affected.
Desi	Fungal Affected (6.6)	The wording has been simplified and an example (e.g., Ascochyta) added as this is the most common defect present in this quality parameter.
Kabuli	Poor Colour (7.1)	The wording has been revised to "Seed coats may vary from dark brown to black but may be depicted by other colours. Includes Stained and Weather Damaged" to reflect grains that are not necessarily always dark brown to black.
Kabuli	Mouldy & Caked (7.3)	Wording has been simplified for greater clarity.
Maize	Broken Grain (8.1)	A revised photo has been added as the previous photo did not represent a 1/4 missing as per the definition.
Maize	Dead Maize (8.2)	For greater clarity the wording has been revised to state that a grain needs to be at least 50% opaque to be classified as Dead.
Maize	Storage Mould (8.2)	The intent of the VRSG is to show the minimum level of a defect before the grain is classified as defective. The existing photo has been replaced with one which shows a lesser degree of Mould, to reflect current industry interpretation of this defect.
Lupins	Split Seed Coat (9.1)	Added a side-on photo of a Split seed coat to aid interpretation.

Commodity	Standards Issue (VRSG Section)	Agreed Outcome
Lupins	Poor Colour (9.3)	Removed the word "White" from the description and added the wording "yellow or tan" to reflect the Standards definition.
Lupins	Mouldy & Caked (9.4)	Wording has been simplified for greater clarity.
Green Lentil	Clarify green lentils in red lentils (10)	Added a photo on the front page of the Red Lentil section and included wording that Green Lentils are a contaminant in Red Lentils.
Red Lentils	Mouldy & Caked (10.3)	Wording has been simplified for greater clarity.
Red Lentils	Poor Colour (10.4)	Have re-introduced a photo of an Orange Tip grain that has been seen in recent harvests.
Red Lentil	Fungal Affected (10.6)	The wording has been simplified and an example (e.g., Ascochyta) added as this is the most common defect present in this quality parameter.
Field Peas	Section 11 Front Page	For reference, added photos of a White pea and a Blue pea.
Field Peas	Insect Damaged (11.1)	Included a photo of a field insect damaged grain.
Field Peas	Mouldy and Caked (11.1)	Wording has been simplified for greater clarity.
Field Peas	Broken, Chipped, Loose Seed Coat and Split (11.2)	Included photos of a Broken and Split kernel on a side view.
Field Peas	Poor Colour dark field pea on Seed Coat (11.4)	Included a picture of dark field pea in Poor Colour (i.e., old field pea) as this type of grain was previously not included.
Field Peas	Poor Colour kernel (11.4)	Revised the photos of the Green kernels as they were previously difficult to interpret.
Faba Beans	Fungal Affected (12.1)	The wording has been simplified and an example (e.g., Ascochyta) added as this is the most common defect present in this quality parameter.
Faba Beans	Mouldy and Caked (12.1)	Wording has been simplified for greater clarity. Added a picture of a grain impacted by Pod Fluff to distinguish it from Mouldy and Caked.
Faba Beans	Sprouted (12.2)	Added a picture of a side sprouted grain. Revised the definition to clarify that if a split is present but not yet Sprouted the grain should be included in the definition/photo for Broken, Chipped, Loose Seed Coat and Split.
Faba Beans	Poor Colour Green faba bean (12.5)	Included a picture of Poor Colour Green faba bean, seed coat and kernel.

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

- As no further requests were received, no tags to separate each commodity would be included in the VRSG as the cost was considered to outweigh the benefits.
- While re-ordering the sections of the VRSG to coincide as per Standards charts for each defect and commodity was initially requested, this would significantly lengthen the document and increase production costs. There may also be impacts on current users of the VRSG understanding the VRSG in detail and where the particular defects reside in each section/page. Hence this will not occur,

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

Minor changes to wording in all Standards charts and Standards booklets have been approved given that industry did not object to the following approved changes. These changes refer to the latest versions of reference material available to assist industry implementation of Standards, including:

- Visual Recognition Standards Guide for 2019/20.

- The document entitled "Australian Grains Industry Post Harvest Chemical Usage Recommendations and Outturn Tolerances 2019/20" (see http://www.graintrade.org.au/nwpgp).
- For temperature, it was agreed to include a reference to the maximum temperature in all standards in relation to grain supplied ex a dryer, as per sorghum and maize.
- For Snails, it was agreed to include in the definition as per pulses that more than half a body is defined as a Snail.
- For Sticks, it was agreed to clarify the definition regarding length and diameter required i.e., the current definition requires "greater than 1cm in length AND 0.5cm in diameter" and this is to be re-worded to clearly articulate this requirement.
- To clarify where in the Standards Carrot Weed is to be classified, being the catch-all Type (generally Type 7b or the equivalent in most cereals).
- For Turnip Weed it was noted that pods may vary in size. Clarification in the Standards will be made that size has no impact on the tolerance to apply given that this weed seed is to be assessed on the entire half litre sample.

3.3 Agreed Change: Wild/Black Oats Assessment Method – All Commodities

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

The Committee has not recommended a subsequent change in the tolerance to apply for Wild/Black Oats. Industry views on the need for and proposed tolerance changes by commodity and grade were sought and no objections received, hence this interpretation change will occur for the 2019/20 season Standards.

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

As in previous seasons, the Varietal Master List for the above commodities will be reviewed following receipt of the changes from the industry sectors responsible for maintenance of those lists. All Standards will be revised based on those changes and advised to industry when the 2019/20 season Standards are released.

At present the barley update has been received and the remaining oats and wheat varietal lists are expected to be received before publication of those Standards on 1 August 2019.

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

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

3.6 Agreed Change: Unmillable Material above the Screen, Small Foreign Seeds – Wheat ANW2 grade

As advised to industry during 2018, the Committee had received a proposal from industry to revert the ANW2 grade standard back to what it was 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. The Committee 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. The Committee was advised there was a risk such grain could be consequently downgraded to a feed quality.

The Committee recognised the importance of continuing to meet customer requirements through the availability of appropriate grade specifications and stock selection. However, given the timing of the request for the change to

Standards being outside of the Standard Operating Procedures in 2018, the Committee agreed that no changes should occur for 2018/19 and industry would be further consulted during development of the 2019/20 Standards.

As advised to industry in the first round call of industry submissions the Committee agreed to the following changes to the ANW2 grade to apply for 2019/20:

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

Industry agreed to those changes and these will be made for the 2019/20 Standards.

See also point 4.1 for other information on the ANW2 grade.

3.7 Agreed Change: Screenings – Wheat

A submission was reviewed seeking a change in wording to the heading "Unmillable Material below the Screen". It was considered the current wording is not consistent with other grains and can lead to confusion from customers as most material falling below the screen (i.e., commonly referred to as Screenings) are small wheat grains that are millable:

- This terminology of "Unmillable Material below the Screen" was requested to be changed to Screenings as the wording of unmillable is considered problematic.
- The request was for this change to be made for the 2019/20 Standards given it only involves a change in wording associated with the heading of this quality parameter and has no material impact on the Standards.

This change was agreed by the Committee and the change in wording will be introduced in the 2019/20 Standards.

3.8 Agreed Change: Vitreous – Durum

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

3.9 Agreed Change: Foreign Material - Barley

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

3.10 Agreed Change: Grade Names - Barley

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

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

- The name changes from Feed1 and Feed2 to Barley1 and Barley2 respectively would occur for the 2019/20 season.
- The name change reflects the multiple use of existing specifications and is recognised in the market-driven price of the specifications.
- The change is not anticipated or expected to impact the existing interpretation of the price offered for the existing grades, given the existing tolerances and Standards for those two grades would not alter.

- Further industry communication on the use of these two grades would assist.
- To assist industry implementation of common codes, the Committee agreed to recommend the system codes of B1 and B2 respectively for these two grades.

As there was no dissention from industry, the above changes will be implemented in the 2019/20 season Standards.

3.11 Agreed Change: Field Fungi - Oats

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

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

As advised to industry in 2018 and following no disagreement from industry, the Committee has agreed to implement the following tolerances for Field Fungi in the 2019/20 season:

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

3.12 Agreed Change: Septoria - Oats

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

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

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

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

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

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

3.13 Agreed Change: Severely Damaged - Oats

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

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

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

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

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

Mould
Affected grains appear discoloured and visibly affected by mould.

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

Does not include Field Fungi affected grains, refer to Field Fungi.
This definition is to be read in conjunction with the photo in the Visual Recognition Standards Guide which depicts the minimum affected standard for a grain to be classified as Severely Damaged."

A photo is to be included in the VRSG depicting Mould. Refer also to point 3.1 above for other applicable changes in the VRSG.

3.14 Agreed Change: Stained Grain/Stained Groat – Oats

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

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

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

3.15 Agreed Change: Foreign Material - Maize

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

3.16 Agreed Change: "Of Which" in Defectives - Triticale

The current Triticale Standards have the following tolerances:

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

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

Industry did not disagree and therefore this change will occur in the 2019/20 Standards.

3.17 Agreed Change: Millrun Standards – By-Products

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

Description

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

Texture

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

Nil Acceptance

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

4. Issues Raised by Industry – Not Agreed

4.1 Not Agreed: Screenings – Wheat ANW2 grade

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

As advised to industry in 2018, the Committee agreed to reduce the Screenings tolerance from 10% to within a range of 5% to 10% by weight. The tolerance to apply for 2019/20 would be determined following further analysis including review of prior data including data from the 2018/2019 harvest.

The Committee has now reviewed data and industry views on the potential reduction in Screenings for the 2019/20 season and the proposed tolerance to apply. Following a review of all industry feedback and a review of data including that from the 2018/19 harvest, the Committee has concluded that the data indicates no change in screenings is required for the 2019/20 season. Therefore no change is proposed for this season although industry is free to consider and propose changes in future following provision of suitable supporting information.

See also point 3.6 for other information on the ANW2 grade.

4.2 Not Agreed: Stained - Durum

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

No further information was received from the submitter on this issue for any subsequent changes. Therefore unless any further information is received for consideration by the Committee, no changes will occur to the durum Standards for 2019/20.

4.3 Not Agreed: Groats - Oats

The current GTA Standards do not list a tolerance for Groats in any oat grades. Tolerances exist in grades listed by GIWA based on industry expectations of those grades. The Committee initially considered that a tolerance should apply to this parameter in each oat grade and sought industry advice on the tolerances to apply. As none was received no tolerance in the oat Standard for any grade are proposed to be developed for 2019/20.

4.4 Not Agreed: Light Box - Maize

In the procedure for assessment of maize defects the reference method refers to "a light box may be used". Industry advice was sought on the need to clarify for what purpose this may be used and the need to list any specifications that were required for this equipment. Industry advised various units were being used and there was not a need to develop a list of specifications, hence the Committee agreed to not include any reference specifications for this equipment.

4.5 Not Agreed: New By-Product Standard – Almond Hulls

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

The Committee sought advice on suitable quality parameters and tolerances for this new Standard if developed and as none was received no Standard is currently planned for inclusion in the 2019/20 season.

4.6 Not Agreed: New Standard – Spelt

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

The Committee sought advice on suitable quality parameters and tolerances for this new Standard if developed and as none was received no Standard will be developed for 2019/20.

4.7 Not Agreed: High Moisture Tasmania

The Committee discussed the request for a GTA Standard to cater for high moisture cereals in Tasmania. This issue had been provided in submissions to the Committee on previous occasions.

Industry had previously been advised that additional segregations for high moisture grain in regional areas were not supported by the Committee. The Committee re-enforced that in other cropping areas with similar climate the issue is managed locally by the storage agents and / or the market through pricing arrangements. Hence the Committee agreed no changes to the existing Standards were warranted.

As per current procedures, the Committee confirmed the Standards are set at a national level and regional based Standards will not be applied or set by GTA. Hence it was agreed that a national approach to Standards will continue and regional GTA Standards will not be created.

5. Issues for Future Consideration

5.1 Potential Change: Screen Specifications – Oats

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

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

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

5.2 Further Research: Foreign Material – All Cereals

The Committee had previously advised industry of further research and work required on ensuring clarity and consistency across commodities of the definition and method of assessment of Foreign Material. The Committee had commenced this activity however as this is not considered a major priority, that work has been deferred until the vacuum sampling project listed below in point 5.4 has been completed.

5.3 Further Research: Nil Tolerance Parameters – All Cereals

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

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

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

A submission was received from industry seeking a higher priority to "Nil Tolerance" and in response the Committee has commenced a review of this topic. Findings of the review will be provided to industry in the second half of 2019 for consideration.

5.4 Further Research: Vacuum Sampling of Road Trucks – All Commodities

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

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

5.5 Further Research: Screen Specifications – All Cereals

Various commodities have reference screen specifications outlined in detail in the Standards whereas other do not. The committee had commenced development of these specifications however this project is not considered a high priority and extensive work is not expected until the vacuum sampling project has been completed.

5.6 Further Research: Other Topics – All Cereals

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

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

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

5.7 Potential Change: Fungal Stained – Maize

The Committee received advice that the current definitions and tolerances required updating. The submission requested the following changes were required and the Committee intends to make the following changes for 2020/21:

Silk Cut – It was noted that these types of kernels are not always affected by fungi/moulds but they are generally considered as Damaged by the maize industry when maize is used for human consumption. Of concern to industry is that a Silk Cut kernel creates an entry point for fungi or moulds to enter the kernel. Generally a Silk Cut kernel is damaged and does not hold the same test weight and nutrition as an undamaged kernel. It was recognised that generally these kernels will be taken out during the cleaning process if machine dressed. Hence the industry proposal is for Silk Cut to remain under the Damaged section in the Standards for all grades. Comment is sought on the applicability of this classification, including for the stockfeed sector.

Star Burst – Star Burst is generally considered by industry as a precursor to the Fumonisin mycotoxin being present. The Fusarium mould creates the visual Star Burst. Industry has recommended that Star Burst therefore should be included under the quality parameter of “Dead, Mouldy or Storage Mould”.

5.8 Future Review: Severely Damaged – Barley

The Committee intends to review the existing tolerances in all Standards and the photo of “black skinned barley grain” in the Severely Damaged defective category.

A submission was received from industry seeking further clarity of the extent of these grains to be “black/dark” before they are classified under Severely Damaged. When Standards for 2019/20 are released, the views of the Committee on any potential change will be provided to industry and comments will be sought prior to any potential change being considered in 2020/21 Standards.
END.