GRAIN TRADE AUSTRALIA

MemberUpdate

UPDATE 20 OF 16 • 28 November 2016

TOPIC: 2016/17 Clarification of GTA Barley Trading Standards for 2016/17

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

1. Issue

Clarification of GTA Barley Trading Standards for 2016/17.

2. Background

GTA publishes Trading Standards for the purpose of facilitating trade, and a Visual Recognition Standards Guide (VRSG) to assist with interpretation of various grain defects when assessing grain samples.

The 2016/17 GTA Trading Standards were released to Industry on 2/08/16 as GTA Member Update No. 11 of 16.

GTA is not able to alter existing GTA Trading Standards once published due to existing commercial contracts in place. Nor is it able to revise interpretation of visual images as published in the VRSG. GTA can however provide clarification on those images where deemed necessary. Industry may create their own grades/segregations outside the GTA Standards based on seasonal conditions in a regional area.

A GTA Fact Sheet on Trading Standards, with Information regarding GTA Trading Standards and the associated development process is available by clicking **here**.

GTA Member Updates No.2 of 16 and No.8 of 16 sought feedback from industry on potential changes to GTA Trading Standards for the 2016/17 season. Submissions were received from Industry on the proposed changes and a range of other issues. These were reviewed by the GTA Standards Committee when developing the Trading Standards, prior to making a recommendation to the GTA Board for adoption.

GTA Technical Committees are driven by Industry, and the Technical Committee process is more effective when written submissions are made by Industry. GTA therefore strongly recommends and encourages Industry to make **written submissions** when seeking consideration on Technical Committee issues.

3. Development of visual images for GTA Barley Trading Standards for 2016/17.

In response to Industry concerns regarding some unusual seasonal impacts on visual quality aspects of barley, the GTA Standards Committee, in consultation with local Industry, has been asked to assist Industry as it seeks consistency and commonality of assessment of barley samples. While not part of the Standards Committee Charter or normal operating procedures, the images below were developed in response to that request.

It is hoped these images will assist industry to reach greater consistency and commonality of barley assessment when using GTA barley Trading Standards as receival standards.

They are issued as a **GUIDE** only. These images are in addition to the published VRSG (2015/16). GTA Trading Standards are issued for the purpose of facilitating trade. Storage Operators remain responsible for implementing their own receival standards and interpreting the published VRSG images.

Again, Industry should note GTA is not able to alter existing GTA Trading Standards once published due to existing commercial contracts in place. As occurs every year, the GTA Standards committee will review the existing VRSG and attached images when developing the 2017/18 season standards.

These documents, along with the current 2016/17 and prior season Trading Standards, and industry submissions are located on the GTA website

4. Additional images of common barley defects.

The link below depicts several images that display an array of barley defects that may not be fully captured in the VRSG based on the quality of barley being seen as advised by industry this harvest:

- Heat Damaged
- Bin Burnt
- Fusarium / Pink Staining
- Dark Tipping; and
- Storage Mould

Barley defect images harvest 2016/17 (click here)

It is noted, the images have been taken under harvest operational conditions, supplied in low resolution and are not the usual quality of VRSG standards.

However, due to time limitations and harvest operations they are being provided by the GTA Standards Committee as a GUIDE only for the 2016/17 harvest.

Note: If multiple defects exist on the one grain, as per existing rules, a grain may only have one defects. In all cases the defect with the tighter tolerance is to be applied.