Soybean Crop Quality 2013/2014 – Summary of results

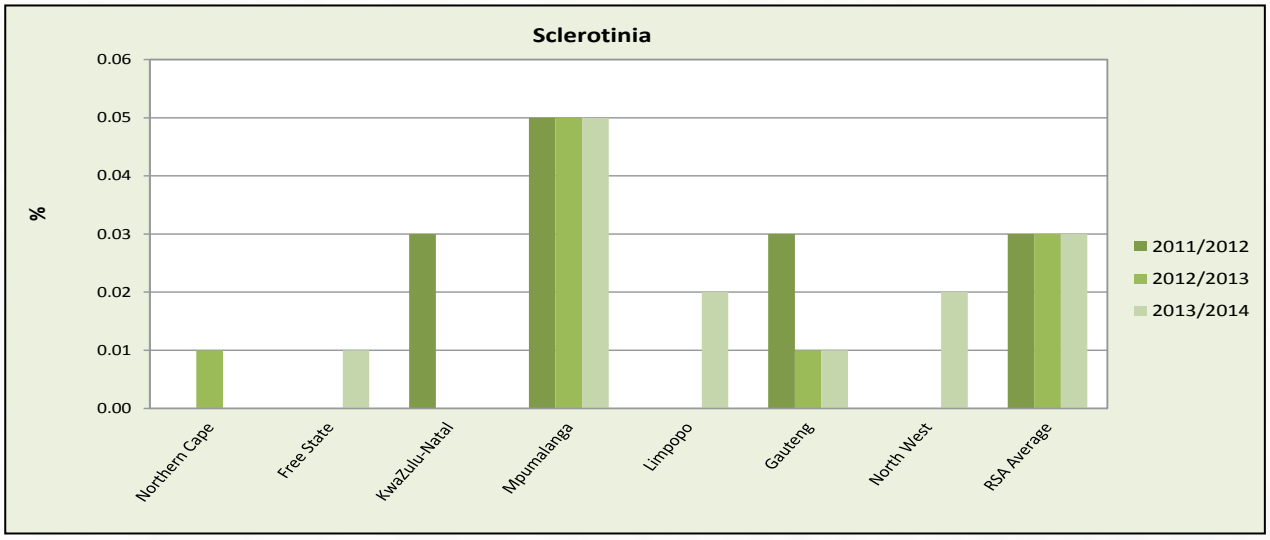
Eighty-eight percent (132) of the 150 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade SB1 and 18 of the samples were downgraded to COSB (Class Other Soya Beans). During the previous two seasons, 5% (2012/2013) and 15% (2011/2012) of the samples were downgraded to COSB.

- Nine of the 18 samples were downgraded as a result of the percentage other grain present in the samples exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 0.5%
- Four of the samples were downgraded as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds (Crotalaria sp., Datura sp., Ricinis communis) exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 1 per 1000 g.
- The remaining five samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of one or more of the following deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviation: percentage foreign matter, other grain, sunflower seed, defective soybeans on the 4.75 mm round hole screen, poisonous seeds and undesirable odour.

According to the South African soybean grading regulations, the determination of the percentage wet pods in a consignment shall be done on a working sample of at least 10 kg of soybeans from a representative sample of the consignment. Due to practical considerations the samples received at the SAGL from the grain storage companies is typically ± 5 kg. Pods were found in 33 of the 150 samples graded, all of these pods were dry on receival at the SAGL. The percentage of these pods in the samples ranged from 0.02% to 1.67% based on a working sample size of at least 200 g. Fourteen samples contained pods, not identifiable as wet pods according to the definition, in percentages exceeding the wet pod maximum permissible deviation of 0.2%.

Based on the samples received for this crop survey, Sclerotinia did not pose any problems. The highest percentage of Sclerotinia observed (0.40%) was on a sample from Mpumalanga, which is well below the maximum permissible level of 4%. Over the last three seasons, Mpumalanga consistently had the highest weighted average percentage Sclerotinia compared to the other provinces. The national weighted average percentage over the last three seasons was 0.03%.

Graph 16: Average persentage Sclerotinia soybeans per province over the last three seasons



Gauteng province (seven samples) reported the highest weighted average percentage soybeans and parts of soybeans which pass through the 4.75 mm round hole screen namely 2.02% and Limpopo (three samples) the lowest at 0.42%. Mpumalanga province with the highest number of samples (67) reported an average of 1.50%. The Free State province averaged 1.34% (51 samples).