

Soybean Crop Quality 2015/2016 – Summary of results

Eighty-nine percent (127) of the 143 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade SB1 and 16 of the samples were downgraded to COSB (Class Other Soya Beans). During the previous two seasons, 13% (2014/2015) and 12% (2013/2014) of the samples were downgraded to COSB.

- One of the sixteen samples was downgraded as a result of the percentage other grain present in the sample exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 0.5%.
- One sample was downgraded as a result of the percentage sunflower seed present in the sample exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 0.1%.
- One sample was downgraded as a result of the percentage stones present in the sample exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 1%.
- Four of the samples were downgraded as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds (*Datura sp.*) exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 1 per 1000 g.
- Four samples were downgraded as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds (*Ipomoea purpurea Roth.*) exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 7 per 1000 g.
- One sample was downgraded for exceeding both maximum permissible number of poisonous seeds (*Datura sp.* and *Ipomoea purpurea Roth.*).
- The remaining four 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, percentage other grain, the presence of an undesired odour as well as poisonous seeds (*Datura sp.*).

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 12 of the 143 samples graded, all of these pods were green, but not wet according to the definition, upon receipt at the SAGL. The percentage of these pods in the samples ranged from 0.05% to 0.50% based on a working sample size of at least 200 g. Only two 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 sclerotiorum* did not pose problems, although the number of samples containing sclerotia increased from 20 in the previous season to 36 this season. The highest percentages of sclerotia observed (0.76% and 0.64%) was on samples from Mpumalanga, followed by a sample from North West with 0.60%. These percentages are however still well below the maximum permissible level of 4%. The national weighted average percentage this season was 0.04% compared to the 0.01% of the previous season. See Graph 16.

Graph 16: Average percentage sclerotia per province over five seasons

