

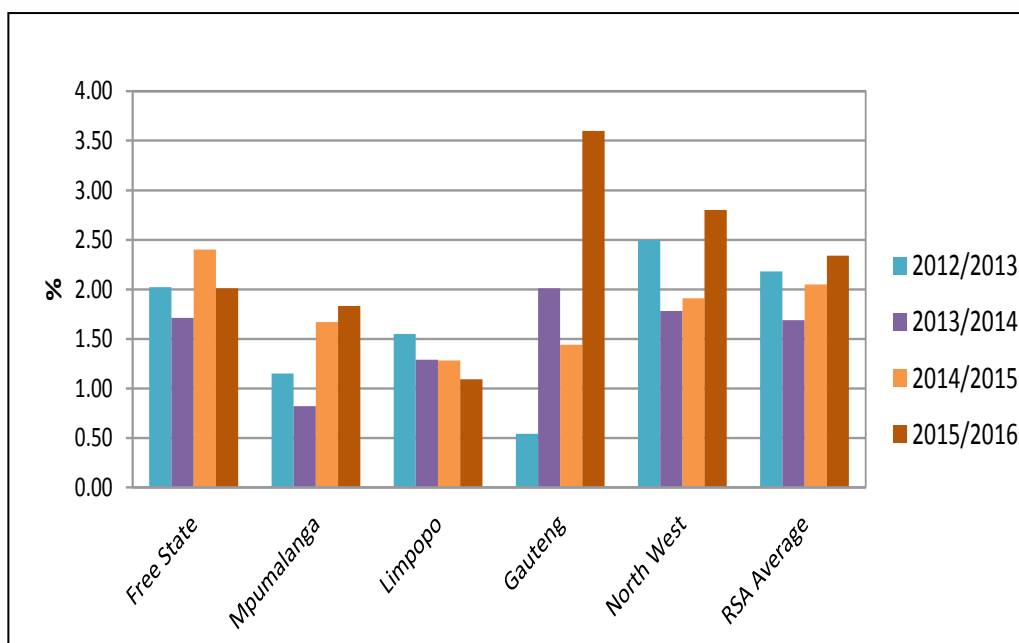
Sunflower Crop Quality 2015/2016 – Summary of results

Seventy eight percent (138) of the 176 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade FH1 and 38 of the samples were downgraded to COSF (Class Other Sunflower Seed). The percentage of FH1 samples showed a decrease compared to the 86% and 82% of the 2014/2015 and 2013/2014 seasons respectively.

- Two samples were downgraded as a result of the percentage damaged sunflower seed exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 10%.
- Fifteen of the samples were downgraded as a result of the percentage of either the screenings or the collective deviations or a combination of both exceeding the maximum permissible deviations of 4% and 6% respectively.
- Five samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of the foreign matter and collective deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviations of 4% and 6% respectively.
- Eight 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.
- One sample was downgraded due to the presence of an undesired odour.
- The remaining seven samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of one or more of the following deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviation: percentage damaged sunflower seed, percentage screenings, percentage foreign matter, percentage collective deviations as well as poisonous seeds (*Datura sp.*).

Gauteng province (two samples) reported the highest weighted average percentage screenings namely 3.60%, followed by North West (N = 80) and Free State (N = 80) provinces with 2.80% and 2.01% respectively. Limpopo (seven samples) reported the lowest average percentage screenings of 1.09%. The weighted national average was 2.34% compared to the 2.05% of the previous season.

Graph 16: Average percentage screenings per province over four seasons



The highest weighted percentage foreign matter (1.77%) was reported for the seven samples from Mpumalanga. The Free State and North West provinces averaged 1.61% and 1.23% respectively. The lowest average percentage was found in Limpopo, namely 1.01%. The RSA average of 1.41% was the highest of the last three seasons.