

METHODS

GRADING:

Full grading was done in accordance with the Regulations relating to the grading, packing and marking of wheat intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa (No. R. 905 of 10 July 1998 as amended by Nos R. 1421 of 6 November 1998, R. 876 of 14 September 2001 and R. 979 of 19 July 2002, R. 1210 of 29 August 2003 and Dispensation: Reference No. 21/4/1/1 and Serial No. 791 of 25 July 2003).

Hectolitre mass, screenings, protein and falling number were determined. The determination of deviations relating to wheat kernels comprised foreign matter including gravel, stones, turf and glass; other grain and unthreshed ears; damaged kernels including heat-damaged kernels, immature kernels, insect-damaged kernels and sprouted kernels; heavily frost-damaged kernels; field fungi; storage fungi; ergot; noxious seeds; possible presence of undesirable odours and live insects.

Hectolitre mass means the mass in kilogram per hectolitre. Hectolitre mass provides a measure of the bulk density of the grain and is also useful as a guide to grain soundness and potential milling extraction.

Screenings means all material that passes through a standard sieve. A standard sieve is a hand sieve which consists of a slotted, stainless steel sieve with a thickness of 1,0 mm, mounted in durable plastic, with apertures 1,8 mm wide and 12,7 mm long, which fits into an aluminum pan with a solid bottom, and has an inner diameter of 300 mm and an outer diameter of 302,5 mm.

Foreign matter means all material (including gravel, stones, turf and glass) excluding wheat, other grain and unthreshed ears.

Combined deviations is calculated as the sum of the percentages screenings, foreign matter, other grain and unthreshed ears as well as total damaged kernels (comprising heat damaged, immature, insect damaged and sprouted kernels.)

THOUSAND KERNEL MASS:

This is the weight in grams of one thousand kernels of grain and provides a measure of grain size and density. This determination does not include kernels that are broken or chipped.

FALLING NUMBER MILLING:

At least 300 g of wheat is cleaned by using the standard 1,8 mm sieve and by removing coarser impurities by hand. The sample is then milled on the falling number hammer mill fitted with a 0,8 mm screen.

PROTEIN:

The Dumas combustion analysis technique is used, according to AACC method 46-30, 1999.

This method prescribes a generic combustion method for the determination of crude protein. Combustion at high temperature in pure oxygen sets nitrogen free, which is measured by thermal conductivity detection. The total nitrogen content of the flour sample is determined and converted to equivalent protein by multiplication with a factor of 5.7 to obtain the protein content.

FALLING NUMBER:

This method is based upon the rapid gelatinization of an aqueous suspension of meal or flour in a boiling water bath and subsequent measurement of the liquefaction of the starch paste by the alpha-amylase in the sample. The method measures the alpha-amylase activity.

ICC Standard No.107/1, 1995 is used to determine the falling number. Only the altitude- corrected value is reported.

QUADROMAT MILLING:

Cleaned wheat samples are conditioned by adding 3 ml water per 100 g wheat, 18 hours prior to milling. The samples are then milled on the quadromat junior laboratory mill.

MIXOGRAPH:

A 35 g mixograph is used. The amount of water added to the flour is adjusted according to the flour protein content. Industry Accepted Method 020 based on AACC method 54-40A, 1999 is followed.

Mixogram peak time is the time measured in minutes that a dough takes to reach its maximum consistency or first indication of dough weakening. The peak time is a measure of optimum dough development and thus a measure of protein quality.

Mixogram tail height at 6 minutes is the distance in millimetres measured from the base line of the paper at 6 minutes to the graph centre point at 6 minutes. This figure is an indication of the weakening effect of the dough. Higher values indicate flours that are more tolerant to mixing.

BÜHLER MILLING:

Cleaned wheat samples are damped to between 15,0 % and 16,0 % moisture according to the wheat moisture and kernel hardness and allowed to stand for 20 hours. Samples are then milled on a standard Bühler MLU 202 mill and passed through a bran finisher.

BÜHLER EXTRACTION:

The extraction represents the flour yield after milling plus flour obtained from bran that passed through a bran finisher. Flour extraction is calculated from the mass of the total products. Bühler MLU 202 mill set for South African wheat, mill settings and sieve sizes deviate from AACC method 26-21A, 1999.

COLOUR:

The Kent Jones colour is determined by following FTP Method No. 0007/3, 7/1991. This method determines the influence of the branny material present in flour by measuring reflectance with a light source in the green band of the light spectrum. The lower the Kent Jones colour, the brighter the flour.

FARINOGRAPH:

AACC method 54-21, 1999 constant flour weight procedure is followed, using 300 g of flour on a 14 % moisture basis.

The **farinograph** measures and records the resistance of a dough to mixing, as it is formed from flour and water, developed and broken down. The dough is subjected to a prolonged, relatively gentle mixing action at a constant temperature.

The **water absorption** is the amount of water required for a dough to reach a definite consistency (500 Brabender units). The amount of water added to the flour is expressed as a percentage of the flour mass and reported on a 14 % moisture basis.

The **development time** is the time from the beginning of water addition until the dough reaches its optimum consistency and the point immediately before the first indication of weakening. A long mixing time can be associated with flours that have a high percentage of gluten-forming proteins.

The **stability** is the time during which the top of the curve intercepts a horizontal line through the centre of the curve. This gives an indication of the dough's tolerance to mixing: the longer the stability, the longer the mixing time that the dough can withstand. A dough with a longer stability can also withstand a longer fermentation period.

The **mixing tolerance index value** is the difference, in Brabender units, between the top of the curve at the peak and the top of the curve measured 5 minutes after the peak is reached. The value gives an indication of the extent to which breakdown of the dough occurs. The higher the value, the more and the quicker the breakdown of the dough occurs. This value is similar to the mixogram tail height.

EXTENSOGRAPH:

ICC Standard No. 114/1, 1992 is followed.

The **strength** gives an indication of the total

force (work) needed to stretch the dough and is represented by the area under the curve.

The **maximum height** gives an indication of the dough's resistance to stretching and is measured as the mean of the maximum heights of the curves of the two test pieces.

The **extensibility** is the mean length at the base of the 2 curves and indicates the stretchability of the dough.

ALVEOGRAPH:

ICC Standard No.121,1992 is followed.

The **alveograph** measures the resistance of the dough to stretching and also how extensible the dough is. The **alveograph** stretches the dough in more than one direction (as is happening during proofing), whereas the extensograph stretches the dough in only one direction.

Strength: The area under the curve gives an indication of the dough strength.

Stability (P): Obtained by multiplying the maximum height of the curve with a constant factor of 1.1. This value is an indication of the resistance of the dough to extension.

Distensibility (L): The length of the curve, measured along the base line, gives an indication of the extensibility of the dough and also predicts the handling characteristics of the dough.

P/L-value: This ratio is obtained by dividing the P-value by the L-value, thus providing an approximate indication of the shape of the curve that combines stability and extensibility.

100 g BAKING TEST:

This procedure, according to Industry Accepted Method 022 based on AACC Method 10-10B, 1999, provides an optimized bread-making method for evaluating bread wheat flour quality and a variety of dough ingredients by a straight-dough method in which all ingredients are incorporated in the initial mixing step.

Keys for the evaluation characteristic of the 100 g Baking test:

- 0 - *Excellent*
- 1 - *Very Good*
- 2 - *Good*
- 3 - *Questionable*
- 4 - *Poor*
- 5 - *Very Poor*
- 6 - *Extremely Poor*

Please note:

This 100 g Baking test evaluation does not give an indication of the baking quality of the flour, but refers to the relationship between the protein content and the bread volume.

MYCOTOXIN ANALYSES

Mycotoxins are natural contaminants of food and feedstuffs with serious implications for public health and economics, in particular with relation to the international food trade.

The mycotoxin analyses were carried out in accordance with the Vicam immunoaffinity column technique using the different Vicam instruction manuals for the different mycotoxins. Detection of the toxins was done on a fluorometer. Thirty samples of the 480 wheat crop samples were tested for aflatoxin, deoxynivalenol and ochratoxin.

Fungi	Toxin	Method reference
<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	Aflatoxin	Vicam Aflatest Instruction Manual May 5, 1999
<i>Aspergillus ochraceus</i> and several species of <i>Penicillium sp.</i>	Ochratoxin	Vicam Ochratest Instruction Manual May 4, 1999
<i>Fusarium graminearum</i>	Deoxynivalenol (DON)	Vicam DON FQ Instruction Manual June 11, 2002