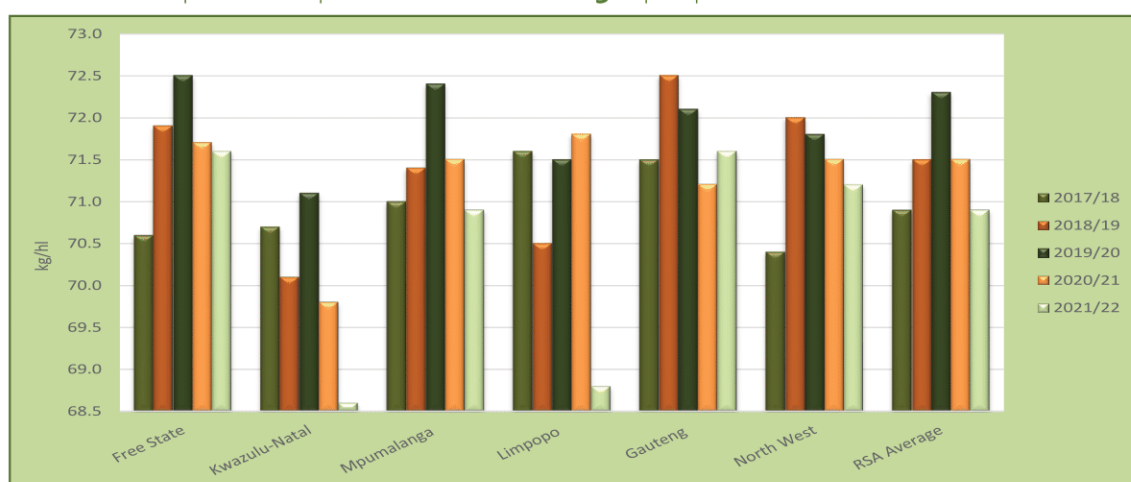


Graph 21: Comparison of the test weight per province over five seasons



The nutritional component analyses, namely crude protein, - fat, - fibre and ash are reported on a dry/moisture-free basis (db) for the current as well as the previous surveys. For comparison purposes the national average 'as is' or wet basis results for the last five seasons are provided in Table 3. These 'as is' average values were calculated by converting each individual value from dry basis to 'as is'.

Table 3: Comparison of weighted average nutritional component values on a dry and 'as is' basis over five seasons

Season	2021/22		2020/21		2019/20		2018/19		2017/18	
Moisture, % (17hr, 103°C)	8.2		7.5		7.2		7.0		7.4	
Moisture basis	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is
Crude protein, %	39.54	36.31	39.96	36.95	39.99	37.12	40.43	37.60	40.18	37.40
Crude fat, %	19.6	18.0	19.5	18.0	18.0	16.7	19.1	17.8	19.3	18.0
Crude fibre, %	7.2	6.6	6.8	6.3	7.0	6.5	6.8	6.3	5.9	5.5
Ash, %	4.63	4.25	4.55	4.21	4.63	4.19	4.67	4.34	4.59	4.27
No. of samples	150		150		150		150		150	

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 39.54% compared to the 39.96% of the previous season. This value is the second lowest since the 2011/2012 season (39.42%) when these annual surveys commenced. Limpopo reported the highest average (39.99%) and North West the lowest average (39.09%). The weighted average crude fat percentage of 19.6% was the highest since the 2016/17 season (19.8%). The samples from Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude fat content, namely 21.6%. The lowest fat average was observed in the Free State province with 19.2%.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre varied from 5.8% in Limpopo to 7.7% in KwaZulu-Natal. The RSA weighted average was 7.2% compared to the 6.8% of the previous season. The national weighted average ash content ranged from 4.55% to 4.67% over the eleven seasons that this survey has been conducted. This season, the average ash content was 4.63%, compared to the 4.55% of the previous season (the lowest average value of the eleven seasons).

Graphs 22 to 25 on page 18 provide comparisons between provinces over seasons for the nutritional components mentioned above.