

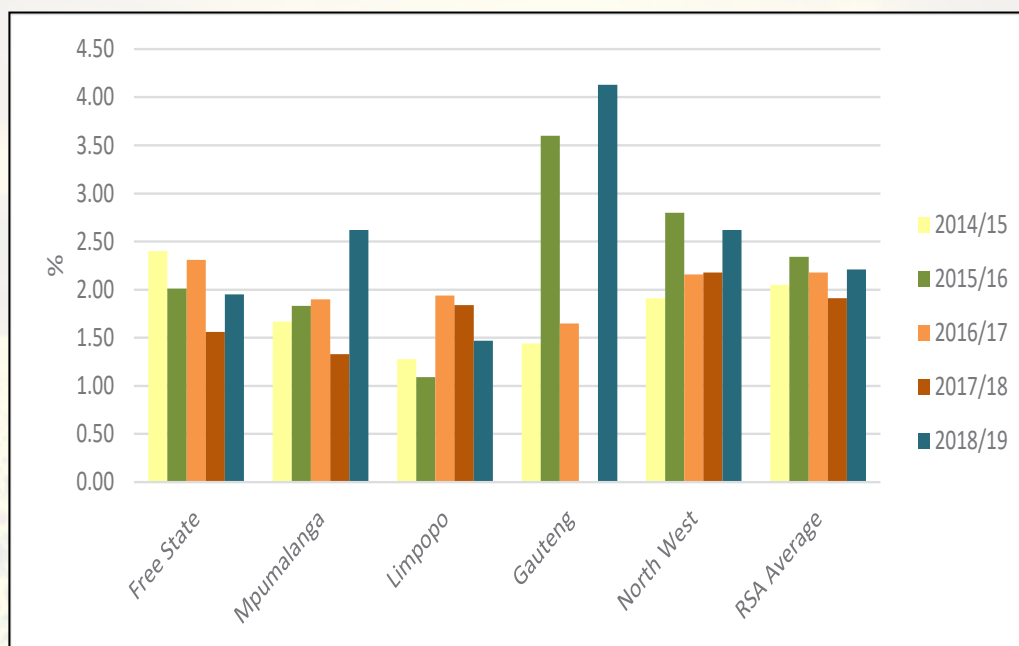
Sunflower Crop Quality 2018/19 – Summary of results

Seventy-six percent (133) of the 176 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade FH1, with 43 of the samples downgraded to COSF (Class Other Sunflower Seed). The percentage of FH1 samples decreased compared to the 81% of the previous season. In the 2016/17 season, this percentage was 85%.

- Twenty-one 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.
- Four samples were downgraded as a result of both the presence of sclerotia produced by the fungus *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and the collective deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviations, namely 4% and 6% respectively.
- Four samples were downgraded as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds (*Datura spp.*) exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 1 per 1000 g.
- Three samples were downgraded due to the presence of a musty odour.
- The remaining eleven samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of one or more of the following deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviation: percentage screenings, percentage foreign matter, percentage collective deviations as well as the presence of poisonous seeds (*Datura spp.*) or an undesired odour.

Gauteng province (3 samples) reported the highest weighted average percentage screenings namely 4.13%, followed by North West (N = 58) and Mpumalanga (N = 8) provinces both with 2.62%. Limpopo (12 samples) reported the lowest average percentage screenings of 1.47%. The weighted national average was 2.21% compared to the 1.91% of the previous season.

Graph 16: Average percentage screenings per province over five seasons



The highest weighted average percentage foreign matter (1.36%) was reported on the 95 samples from the Free State. North West followed closely with an average of 1.34%. The lowest percentages were found in Mpumalanga and Limpopo with 0.85% and 0.71% respectively. The South African average was 1.28% compared to the 1.16% and 1.06% of the previous two seasons. Please see Graph 17.