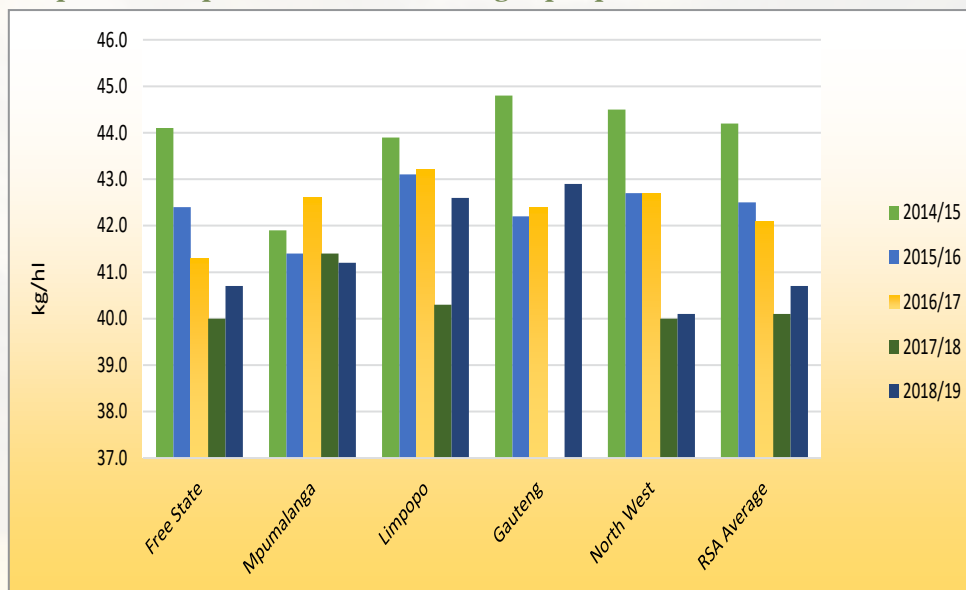


Table 3: Approximation of test weight per province over three seasons									
Province	Test weight, kg/ha								
	2018/19 Season			2017/18 Season			2016/17 Season		
	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples
Free State (Regions 21 - 28)	40.7	33.1 - 46.8	95	40.0	34.9 - 45.7	64	41.3	34.2 - 45.1	76
Mpumalanga (Regions 29 - 33)	41.2	39.8 - 42.8	8	41.4	35.0 - 42.2	8	42.6	35.0 - 42.2	10
Limpopo (Region 35)	42.6	37.8 - 45.4	12	40.3	38.5 - 43.1	5	43.2	40.4 - 45.5	11
Gauteng (Region 34)	42.9	42.5 - 43.6	3	-	-	-	42.4	41.2 - 43.7	3
North West (Region 12 - 20)	40.1	30.9 - 46.5	58	40.0	33.2 - 45.9	*98	42.7	39.1 - 45.1	76
RSA	40.7	30.9 - 46.8	176	40.1	33.2 - 45.9	175	42.1	34.2 - 45.5	176

*One sample with an outlier value was not taken into account for calculation purposes.

Graph 19: Comparison of the test weight per province over five seasons



The nutritional component analyses, namely crude protein, -fat, -fibre and ash are reported as % (g/100 g) on an 'as received' or 'as is' basis.

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 16.40%, compared to the 16.61% of the previous season. Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude protein content of 18.30% and Mpumalanga the lowest with 15.41%. Mpumalanga has consistently reported the lowest average protein content since commencement of this survey in the 2012/13 season. North West's crude protein content averaged 16.71% and that of the Free State 16.06%. The weighted average crude fat percentage of 37.9% was almost one percent higher than last season's 37.0%, but still the second lowest of the last six seasons. Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude fat content of 39.0%, closely followed by Gauteng with 38.9%. The lowest average fat content was the 37.6% of the North West province. North West also reported the lowest average in the previous two seasons.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre was the highest of the last seven seasons at 22.4% (21.9% in 2017/18). Average values varied between 20.2% in Limpopo to 23.0% in North West. The weighted average ash content was 2.60%, slightly lower than the 2.69% of the previous season. The provincial averages ranged from 2.37% in Mpumalanga to 2.64% in the Free State.

Graphs 20 to 23 on page 21 provide comparisons between provinces and over seasons for the nutritional components discussed above.