

Soybean Crop Quality 2014/2015 – Summary of results

Eighty-seven percent (131) of the 150 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade SB1 and 19 of the samples were downgraded to COSB (Class Other Soya Beans). During the previous two seasons, 12% (2013/2014) and 5% (2012/2013) of the samples were downgraded to COSB.

- One of the 19 samples was downgraded as a result of the percentage foreign matter, including stones, other grain and sunflower seed present in the sample exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 5%.
- Five samples were downgraded as a result of the percentage other grain present in the samples exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 0.5%.
- Two samples were downgraded as a result of the percentage sunflower seed present in the samples exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 0.1%.
- One sample was downgraded as a result of the percentage soiled soybeans in the sample exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 10%.
- Six 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 as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds (*Ipomoea purpurea Roth.*) exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 7 per 1000 g.
- One sample was downgraded for exceeding both maximum permissible number of poisonous seeds (*Datura sp.* and *Ipomoea purpurea Roth.*).
- The remaining two samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of one or more of the following deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviation: percentage other grain, defective soybeans and parts of soybeans above the 1.8 mm slotted sieve which pass through the 4.75 mm round hole sieve as well as poisonous seeds.

According to the South African soybean grading regulations, the determination of the percentage wet pods in a consignment shall be done on a working sample of at least 10 kg of soybeans from a representative sample of the consignment. Due to practical considerations the samples received at the SAGL from the grain storage companies is typically ± 5 kg. Pods were found in 22 of the 150 samples graded, all of these pods were dry on receipt at the SAGL. The percentage of these pods in the samples ranged from 0.14% to 0.63% based on a working sample size of at least 200 g. Eleven samples contained pods, not identifiable as wet pods according to the definition, in percentages exceeding the wet pod maximum permissible deviation of 0.2%.

Based on the samples received for this crop survey, Sclerotinia did not pose any problems. The highest percentage of Sclerotinia observed (0.20%) was on a sample from Mpumalanga, which is well below the maximum permissible level of 4%. During this season, the samples from the Northern Cape had the highest weighted average percentage Sclerotinia (0.07%). The national weighted average percentage this season was 0.01% compared to the 0.03% of the previous three seasons. See Graph 16.

Graph 16: Average percentage Sclerotinia per province over four seasons

