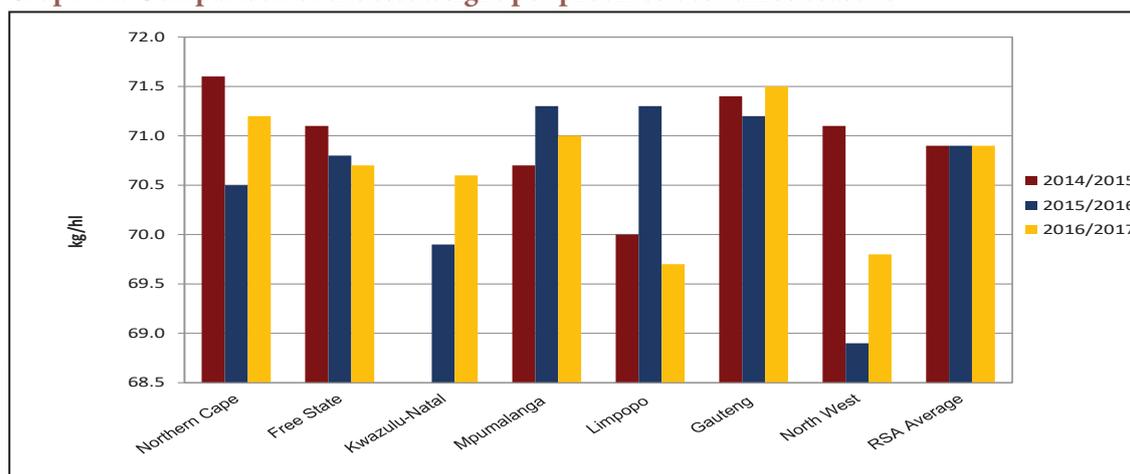


**Graph 21: Comparison of the test weight per province over three seasons**



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 'as is' basis results are provided in Table 3. These 'as is' values were calculated using the weighted national average values.

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

Season	2016/2017		2015/2016		2014/2015		2013/2014	
Moisture, % (17hr, 103°C)	7.4		7.4		7.0		7.1	
<b>Moisture basis</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>						
Crude protein, %	40.15	37.18	40.22	37.24	39.89	37.10	39.84	37.01
Crude fat, %	19.8	18.3	19.4	18.0	19.3	17.9	19.7	18.3
Crude fibre, %	5.9	5.9	7.3	7.3	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.1
Ash, %	4.58	4.24	4.61	4.27	4.64	4.32	4.66	4.33
<i>No. of samples</i>	150		143		150		150	

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 40.15%, slightly lower than the 40.22 of the previous season. The samples from Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude protein content of 40.65%, while the Free State reported the lowest average, namely 39.45%. The weighted average crude fat percentage of 19.8% was almost half a percentage point higher than the 19.4% in 2015/2016. This is also the highest average percentage over the six seasons that this survey has been done. The samples from North West had the highest weighted average crude fat content of 21.9%. The lowest average fat content was observed in Mpumalanga with 19.4%.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre varied from 5.3% in the Northern Cape to 6.0% in Gauteng. The RSA weighted average was the lowest of the past four seasons. A small variation of only 0.08% is observed with regards to the national weighted average ash content over the six seasons that this survey has been conducted. This season, the average ash content was 4.58%, the lowest of the six seasons. Samples from the Northern Cape tend to show higher ash contents over seasons compared to the other provinces. With the exception of this season, this is also true for Limpopo province.

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

A summary of the RSA Soybean Crop Quality averages of the 2016/2017 season compared to those of the 2015/2016 season, is provided in Table 4 on page 19.

All fifteen samples tested for genetic modification (GM), tested positive for the presence of the CP4 EPSPS trait (Roundup Ready®). Please refer to the results in Table 5 on page 20 of this report.

Please see pages 21 to 26 for the average soybean quality per region.