

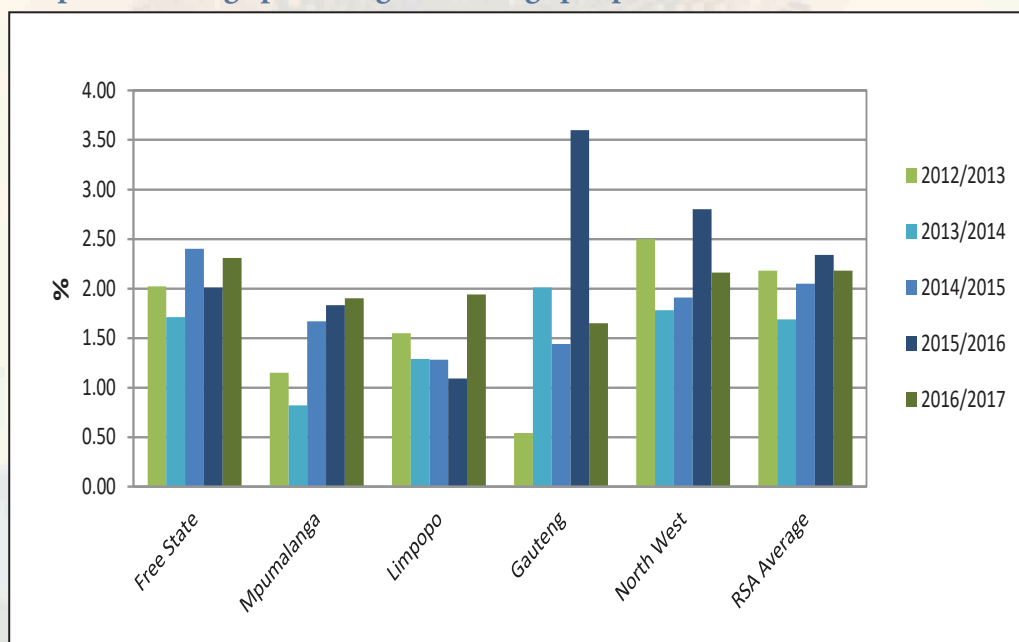
Sunflower Crop Quality 2016/2017 – Summary of results

Eighty five percent (150) of the 176 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade FH1, with 26 of the samples downgraded to COSF (Class Other Sunflower Seed). The percentage of FH1 samples increased compared to the 78% of the previous season and is similar to the 86% of the 2014/2015 season.

- Five samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of the percentage damaged sunflower seed exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 10% as well as the presence of an undesired odour.
- Seventeen 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.
- Two samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of the foreign matter and collective deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviations of 4% and 6% respectively.
- 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 damaged sunflower seed, percentage sclerotia, percentage collective deviations as well as the presence of an undesired odour.

The Free State province (76 samples) reported the highest weighted average percentage screenings namely 2.31%, followed by North West (N = 76) and Limpopo (N = 11) provinces with 2.16% and 1.94% respectively. Gauteng (three samples) reported the lowest average percentage screenings of 1.65%. Last season, Gauteng reported the highest average percentage screenings. The weighted national average was 2.18% compared to the 2.34% of the previous season.

Graph 16: Average percentage screenings per province over five seasons



The highest weighted percentage foreign matter (3.71%) was reported on the samples from Gauteng. The Free State and North West provinces averaged 0.98% and 1.09% respectively. The lowest average percentage was found in Mpumalanga, namely 0.83%. The RSA average of 1.06% was the lowest of the five seasons for which the crop quality survey has been conducted.