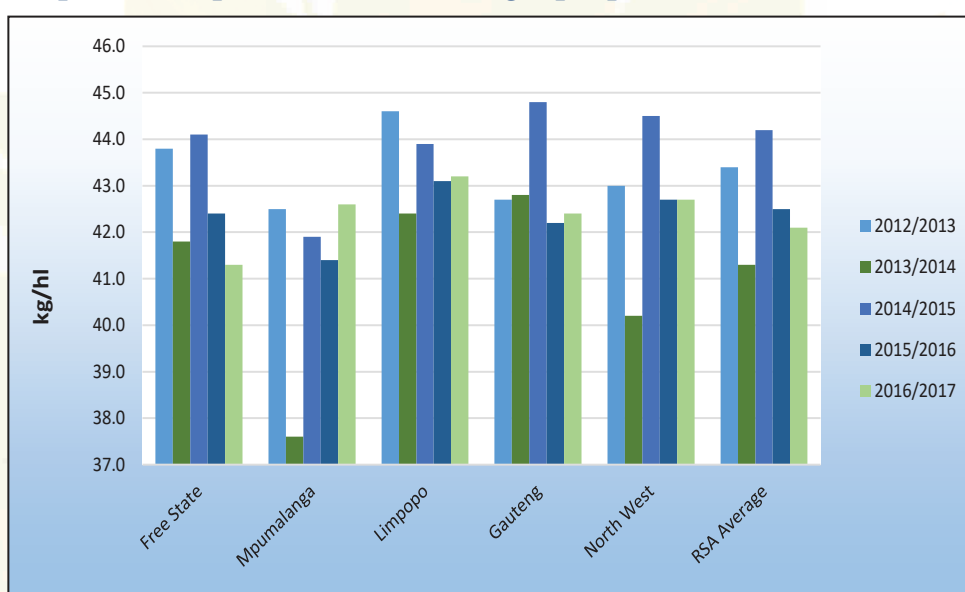


**Table 3: Approximation of test weight per province over three seasons**

Province	Test weight, kg/hl								
	2016/2017 Season			2015/2016 Season			2014/2015 Season		
	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples	Weighted average	Range	No. of samples
Free State (Regions 21 - 28)	41.3	34.2 - 45.1	76	42.4	36.3 - 48.1	80	44.1	38.9 - 49.9	69
Mpumalanga (Regions 29 - 33)	42.6	35.0 - 42.2	10	41.4	35.0 - 42.2	7	41.9	35.0 - 42.2	8
Limpopo (Region 35)	43.2	40.4 - 45.5	11	43.1	42.7 - 43.8	7	43.9	42.2 - 50.5	8
Gauteng (Region 34)	42.4	41.2 - 43.7	3	42.2	41.7 - 42.8	2	44.8	42.2 - 47.6	5
North West (Region 12 - 20)	42.7	39.1 - 45.1	76	42.7	40.0 - 46.2	80	44.5	34.0 - 48.9	86
<b>RSA</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>34.2 - 45.5</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>35.0 - 48.1</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>34.0 - 50.5</b>	<b>176</b>

**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/100g) on an ‘as received’ or ‘as is’ basis. See Table 4 for a summary of the RSA Sunflower Crop Quality averages of the 2016/2017 season compared to those of the 2015/2016 season.

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 16.63%. This average is 1.30% lower than the previous season but equal to the average of the first three seasons of this survey. Gauteng had the highest weighted average crude protein content of 17.37% and Mpumalanga the lowest with 15.43%. Mpumalanga has consistently reported the lowest average protein content over the last five seasons. The Free State’s crude protein content averaged 16.78% and that of North West 16.53%. The weighted average crude fat percentage of 38.6% was the second lowest of the last five seasons and 0.4% higher than the previous season. Mpumalanga had the highest weighted average crude fat content of 40.2%. The lowest average fat contents were observed in North West and the Free State with 38.4% and 38.5% respectively.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre is the highest of the five seasons at 21.0%. Average values varied between 19.4% in Gauteng to 21.6% in North West. The weighted average ash content is slightly lower (2.52%) than last season (2.59%). The provincial averages ranged from 2.29% in Mpumalanga to 2.67% in both Limpopo and the Free State.

Graphs 20 to 23 on page 18 provide comparisons between provinces for the nutritional components discussed above.

Please also see pages 20 to 26 for the average sunflower quality per region.