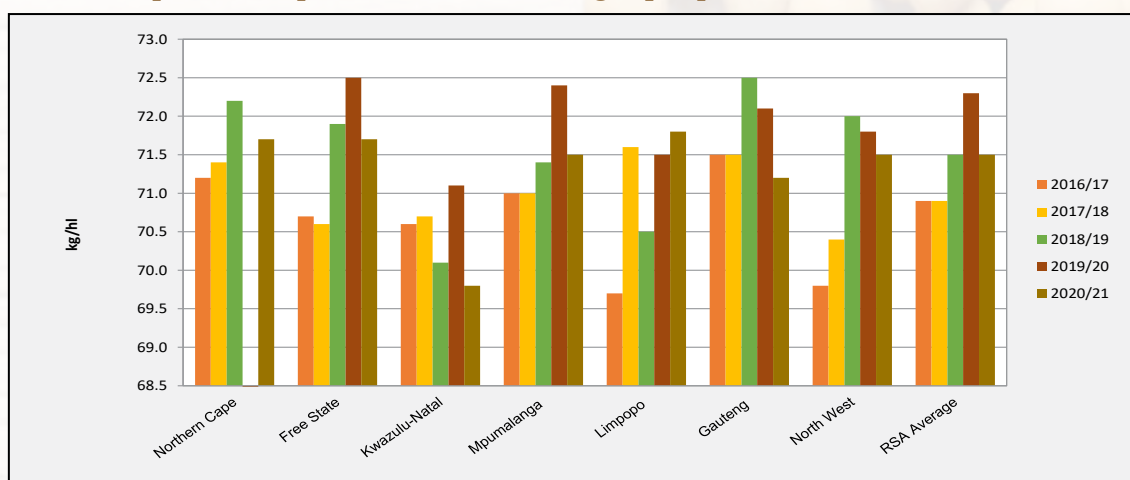


Graph 21: Comparison of the test weight per province over five seasons



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 average ‘as is’ or wet basis results for the last five seasons are provided in Table 3. These ‘as is’ average values were calculated by converting each individual value from dry basis to ‘as is’.

Season	2020/21		2019/20		2018/19		2017/18		2016/17	
Moisture, % (17hr, 103°C)	7.5		7.2		7.0		7.4		7.4	
Moisture basis	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is	Dry basis	As is
Crude protein, %	39.96	36.95	39.99	37.12	40.43	37.60	40.18	37.40	40.15	37.20
Crude fat, %	19.5	18.0	18.0	16.7	19.1	17.8	19.3	18.0	19.8	18.5
Crude fibre, %	6.8	6.3	7.0	6.5	6.8	6.3	5.9	5.5	5.9	5.4
Ash, %	4.55	4.21	4.63	4.19	4.67	4.34	4.59	4.27	4.58	4.24
No. of samples	150		150		150		150		150	

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 39.96% compared to the 39.99% of the previous season. As in the previous four seasons, Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude protein content (41.25%). North West (5 samples) reported the lowest average namely 39.05%. The weighted average crude fat percentage of 19.5% was the highest since the 2016/17 season. The samples from KwaZulu-Natal (N = 10) had the highest weighted average crude fat content (as in the previous two seasons), namely 21.5%. The lowest fat averages were observed in the Free State and Gauteng provinces, with 19.1% and 19.2% respectively.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre varied from 5.8% in the Northern Cape to 7.2% in North West. The RSA weighted average was 6.8% compared to the 7.0% of the previous season. A small variation of only 0.12% is observed with regards to the national weighted average ash content over the ten seasons that this survey has been conducted. This season, the average ash content was 4.55%, the lowest average of the 10 seasons. Last season this value was 4.63%.

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