

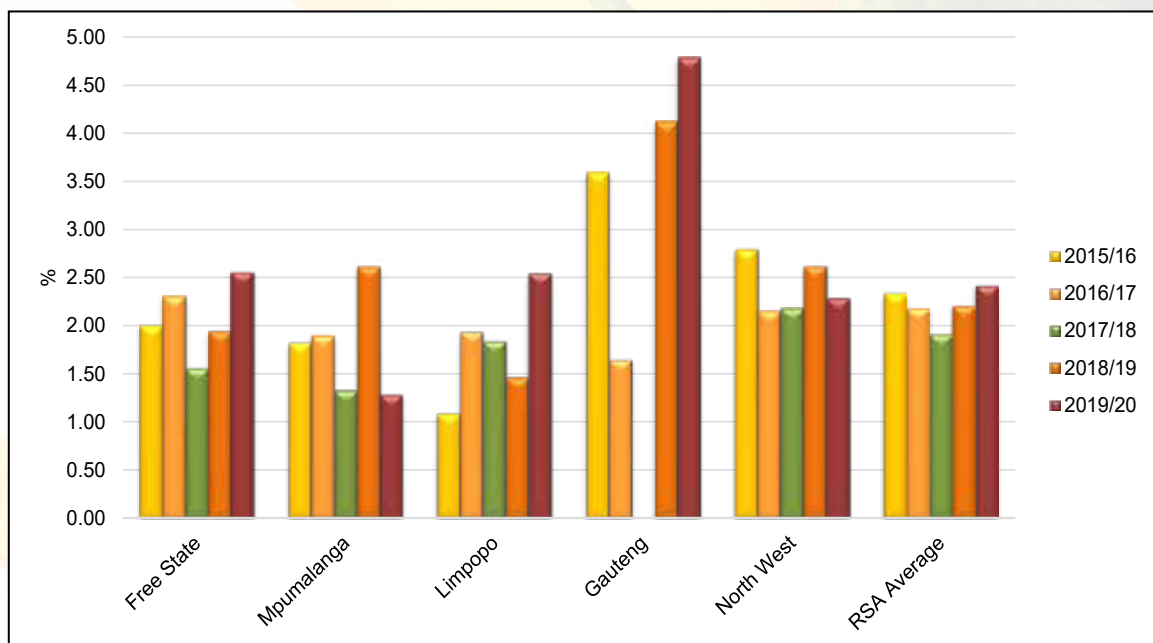
Sunflower Crop Quality 2019/20 – Summary of results

Sixty-three percent (111) of the 176 samples analysed for the purpose of this survey were graded as Grade FH1, with 65 of the samples downgraded to COSF (Class Other Sunflower Seed). This is the highest percentage (37%) of samples downgraded to Class Other since commencement of the sunflower crop surveys in 2012/13. Last season's percentage, namely 24%, was the second highest in the history of the crop surveys.

- Nineteen (29%) 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.
- Five samples (8%) were downgraded due to the percentage damaged sunflower seeds exceeding the maximum permissible deviation of 10% as well as presence of a sour odour.
- Fifteen samples in total (23%) were downgraded as a result of the presence of poisonous seeds. Thirteen samples were downgraded due to the presence of *Datura sp.* and one sample due to *Crotalaria sp.* exceeding the maximum permissible number, namely 1 per 1000 g. Another sample was downgraded due to *Xanthium strumarium* (cocklebur) seeds exceeding 7 per 1000 g.
- The remaining 40% (26) samples were downgraded as a result of a combination of one or more of the following deviations exceeding the maximum permissible deviation: damaged sunflower seeds, screenings, sclerotia, foreign matter, collective deviations as well as the presence of poisonous seeds (*Datura spp.*) or an musty odour.

The sample from Gauteng province reported the highest average percentage screenings namely 4.79%, followed by the Free State (N = 84) and Limpopo (N = 13) with 2.56% and 2.55% respectively. North West province (N = 72) averaged 2.29% and Mpumalanga's six samples the lowest percentage screenings of 1.29%. The weighted national average was 2.42% compared to the 2.21% of the previous season.

Graph 16: Average percentage screenings per province over five seasons



The highest weighted average percentage foreign matter (1.83%) was reported for the Free State provinces' regions. Gauteng and North West followed with 1.65% and 1.44% respectively. The lowest percentages were found in Mpumalanga with 0.70% and Limpopo with 0.72%. The South African average was 1.55% compared to the 1.28% and 1.16% of the previous two seasons. This season's average was also the highest reported since commencement of these crop surveys in the 2012/13 season. Please see Graph 17.