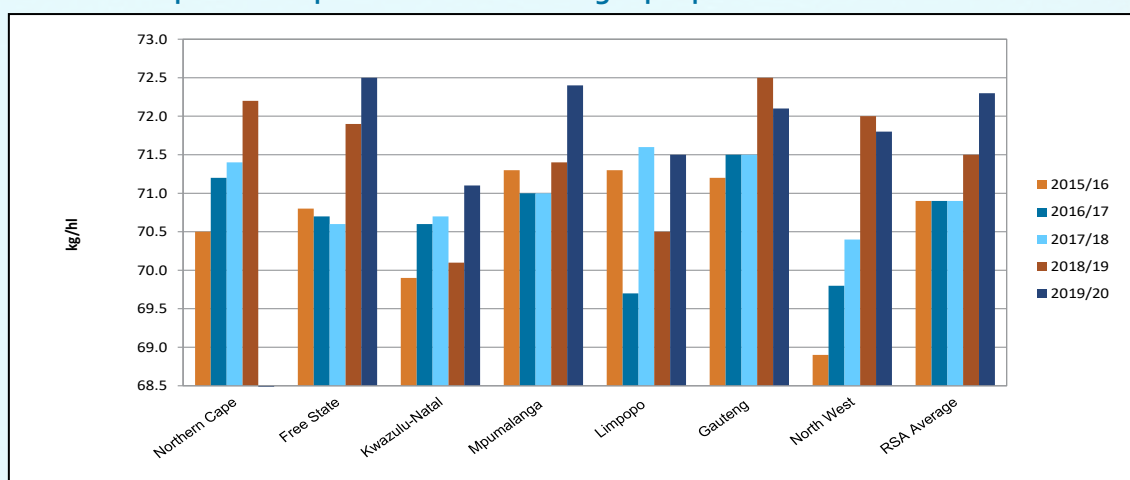


**Graph 21: Comparison of the test weight per province over five seasons**



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'.

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

Season	2019/20		2018/19		2017/18		2016/17		2015/16	
Moisture, % (17hr, 103°C)	7.2		7.0		7.4		7.4		7.4	
<b>Moisture basis</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>	<b>Dry basis</b>	<b>As is</b>
Crude protein, %	39.99	37.12	40.43	37.60	40.18	37.40	40.15	37.20	40.22	37.22
Crude fat, %	18.0	16.7	19.1	17.8	19.3	18.0	19.8	18.5	19.4	17.9
Crude fibre, %	7.0	6.5	6.8	6.3	5.9	5.5	5.9	5.4	7.3	6.8
Ash, %	4.63	4.19	4.67	4.34	4.59	4.27	4.58	4.24	4.61	4.27
<b>No. of samples</b>	<b>150</b>		<b>150</b>		<b>150</b>		<b>150</b>		<b>150</b>	

The weighted average crude protein content this season was 39.99% compared to the 40.43% of the previous season. As in the previous three seasons, Limpopo had the highest weighted average crude protein content (41.58%). North West (39.08%) and Gauteng (39.55%) reported the lowest averages. The weighted average crude fat percentage of 18.0% was the lowest since the 2011/12 season. The samples from KwaZulu-Natal had (as in the previous season) the highest weighted average crude fat content, namely 20.0%. The lowest average fat contents were observed in the Limpopo and Free State provinces, with 16.6% and 17.5% respectively.

The weighted average percentage crude fibre varied from 6.2% in Gauteng to 7.5% in the Free State. The RSA weighted average, 7.0%, was the second highest of the annual surveys since the 7.3% reported in the 2015/16 season. A small variation of only 0.09% is observed with regards to the national weighted average ash content over the nine seasons that this survey has been conducted. This season, the average ash content was 4.63%. Last season this value was 4.67% and the highest of the nine seasons since 2011/12.

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