



A.B.N. 70 979 095 411  
A.C.N. 097 228 656

PO Box 448  
Turrumurra NSW 2074

Phone +61 2 9402 9402  
Fax +61 2 9144 3526

[admin@nacma.com.au](mailto:admin@nacma.com.au)  
[www.nacma.com.au](http://www.nacma.com.au)

## Member Update

**Title:** DRAFT NACMA Grain Standards 2008/2009 season

**Update No.:** 17 of 08

**Date of Issue:** 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008

### Distribution

- NACMA Members – primary contact list. Please circulate to all appropriate internal parties

### Background

NACMA Member Update No. 6 of 08 sought feedback from industry on potential changes to grain standards for the coming season.

The NACMA Standards Committee has met and reviewed feedback from industry on suggested changes to the wheat and cereal grain Standards for the 2008/09 season. This Member Update lists changes proposed by the Committee for implementation in 2008/09 and those issues where changes were not recommended. Also listed, are issues potentially to be addressed in the 2009/10 Standards.

**NACMA encourages *industry* feedback on the issues listed below.**

### Process for Implementation

1. Feedback is sought from industry on issues listed in this member update and any other issues industry feels relevant to the Standards for 2008/09.
2. Following receipt of feedback, the Standards Committee will consider all issues raised and prepare a final draft of the 2008/09 Standards.
3. The final draft will be presented to the Common Interest Forum preceding the Australian Grains Industry Conference on 28 July 2008.
4. Following ratification at that Forum and by the NACMA Board, the final Standards will be published on the NACMA website and available for industry use.
5. **All feedback from industry on the above issues and any other Standards matter must be received by NACMA ([admin@nacma.com.au](mailto:admin@nacma.com.au)) by COB 16 June 2008. In your email message line please put "Submission - Standards 2008/2009".**

## Proposed Changes to the 2008/09 Standards

### 1. Wheat

*Proposed change:* AUH2 - Change the Falling Number minimum from 250 to 300 seconds and the maximum for Stained grain from 15 to 10 %.

*Rationale:* These changes are required as this grade is increasingly being sold as a straight milling grade and the existing tolerances are considered too loose.

*Proposed change:* Remove Varietal Pool Grades, Dynamic Binning Strategy and all reference to AWB.

*Rationale:* As a consequence of the change to AWB's Export Role, AWB's Golden Rewards program will not operate for the 2008/09 wheat harvest. There is no longer the requirement for Varietal Pool Grades and Dynamic Binning Strategy (DBS) rules for Protein, Moisture and Screenings as implementation of these strategies are purely commercial decisions. Reference to AWB is no longer valid as NACMA now produces the Standards on behalf of industry.

*Proposed change:* Increase the minimum test weight for major milling grades to 76kg/hl.

*Rationale:* The current minimum of 74kg/hl has little relevance in international trade. Wheat with a test weight of 74kg/hl is generally not desired by customers and must be blended with higher quality to make suitable quality wheat. Relatively little tonnage is received between 74-76kg/hl and this tonnage is often affected by other quality defects or contaminants causing downgrading. The Committee seeks industry views on impacts of the change on non-milling grades.

*Proposed change:* Combine categories of Stained (Black point etc), Pink stained and Staining due to moist plant material into Stained grains for all grades. Thus the tolerance for Staining due to moist plant material will be subsumed into the Stained grain tolerance.

*Rationale:* The presence of Staining due to moist plant material is rarely seen. It is a form of staining and often indistinguishable from other forms of staining. There should be minimal impact of altering the current tolerances of:

- Black point 5%, of which
- Pink stained 2%
- Staining due to Moist plant material 1% (currently listed separately)

into the one total of 5% (for milling grades). Non-milling grade tolerances will be altered accordingly.

*Proposed change:* Combine categories of Field fungi and Black field fungi into Field fungi affected grains for all grades.

*Rationale:* Difficult in practice to distinguish between Field fungi and Black field fungi. There should be minimal impact of altering the current tolerances of:

- Field fungi 10 per half litre
- Black field fungi 1 per half litre

into the one total of 10 per half litre (for milling grades). Non-milling grades will be altered accordingly.

*Proposed change:* Combine categories of Heat damaged, Bin burnt or Storage Mould Affected and Rotted.

*Rationale:* All have a nil tolerance, have a similar impact on grain quality and occur due to similar reasons.

*Proposed change:* Separate categories of Dry Green, Sappy or Frost Distorted into two categories, being:

- Dry green & Sappy – tolerance 1% (Milling grades)
- Frost Distorted – tolerance 1% (Milling grades)

*Rationale:* Dry green and Sappy are different quality issues than Frost distorted. The cause of Frost distorted is different than for Dry green and Sappy. Both categories are visually distinguishable. The tolerance for Dry green and Sappy has been reduced given the potential for the presence of Frost distorted grain also to be present in a sample that has Dry green or Sappy grains. There should be minimal impact of altering the current tolerances of Dry green, Sappy and Frost distorted separated into 2 categories:

- Dry green and Sappy 1% (Milling grades) & 5% AGP1
- Frost distorted 1% (Milling grades) & 10% AGP1

Other Non-milling grades will be altered similar to the above.

The Committee seeks industry views on impacts of the change in tolerances for Non-milling grades.

*Proposed change:* Review the procedure for sprouted grain assessment.

*Rationale:* Implementation of the Standard is the responsibility of individual Storage Agents. Standards only need to include a reference to the broad principles to be applied by Storage Agents.

## **2. Barley**

*Proposed change:* Malt and Feed barley to be assessed using two screens, being 2.5mm top and 2.2mm bottom.

*Rationale:* This combination is used for the majority of barley receivals in the Eastern States but a difference occurs in Western Australia.

## **3. Sorghum**

*Proposed change:* Change CSG2 to CSG9, CSG3 to CSG2.

*Rationale:* There has been confusion regarding the differences in sorghum grade numbering between GrainCorp Charts and NACMA Standards. Confusion arises with the sequencing of sorghum grade numbers i.e., SOR2 equating to CSG3.

GrainCorp does not segregate the current CSG2 as this is a trading grade only.

The proposed name changes will relieve the problem caused by having different numbering between NACMA Standards and GrainCorp sorghum grades. This change will cause CSG1 to correspond with SOR, CSG2 with SOR2, etc.

## **4. Oilseeds**

The Committee agreed to adopt fully the Australian Oilseeds Federation Standards for 2008/09. This includes revised fuzzy cottonseed and cottonseed hulls standards. The existing NACMA cottonseed standard in the By-products section of the Standards will be deleted.

## **5. Pulses**

The Committee decided to adopt fully the Pulse Australia Standards for 2008/09.

## Issues Considered but No Changes Recommended

### 1. Wheat

AUH2, AGP1, AUW1 - Change the tolerance for Earth from 3 to 1 per half litre. This change was considered because of the strict tolerances applied by AQIS at export.

The Committee felt no change was required as significant rejection issues have not been raised by industry. Additionally, there have been no major issues for the domestic market.

Grain protein measurement – change from 11% Moisture basis to Dry Matter basis. The Australian system operates differently to other countries. There is no imperative for change as there is no international method used by all countries. Australia Trade Measurement regulations specify N X 5.7 @ 11% moisture basis.

## Potential Changes to the 2009/10 Standards

### 1 General

- 1.1 Establish a glossary of definitions to ensure terms used in Standards are understood and are consistent across all commodities.
- 1.2 Alter the sampling procedure to ensure actual practice meets the stated requirements. There are several theoretical requirements in the procedures than in practice are difficult to implement.
- 1.3 Review the various weed seed categories to better reflect market and quarantine requirements. New categories should be more easily applied at receipt. Ensure consistency of weed seeds groupings across all commodities. The review would involve the potential to introduce a Foreign Material category in all Standards and the removal of parameters such as Other Non-Objectionable Material.
- 1.4 Establish a hierarchy of test methods.
- 1.5 Review the names of each grade to ensure consistency in application, with the No.1 grade the better quality, No.2 grade of lesser quality etc. Include a review of off-grade names and potentially revise to use terminology of No.1, No.2, No.3 etc rather than terms such as AUH, HPS etc.
- 1.6 Review the Reference method for Screenings, including screen specifications, in all commodities in light of the practicality of production of screens for use in the field.

### 2 Wheat

- 2.1 *Proposed change:* Standardize the protein minimum on APW at 10.0% nationally.  
*Rationale:* Currently APW2 in WA has a protein min of 10.0% and APW1 in all other States has a protein min of 10.5%. APW1 could be deleted from the standards and APW2 opened nationally. Could also simply be a naming issue with a change to APW grade names as outlined above.
- 2.2 *Proposed change:* Change the Falling Number minimum in AGP1 from 200 to 250 seconds.  
*Rationale:* This change is proposed because grain with a Falling Number of less than 250 seconds is severely limited in its suitability for end products.
- 2.3 *Proposed change:* Review the tolerances for Bread wheat contamination of durum.  
*Rationale:* Current tolerances are difficult to implement given the practical difficulties of identification of Bread wheat in Durum.