

Vitreous Kernel Alignment Program

The US Durum Growers Association (USDGA) and North Dakota Wheat Commission (NDWC) have asked the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) to establish a program to ensure producer confidence in the official inspection system in the determination of Hard Vitreous kernels of Amber Color (HVAC) in durum wheat by official agencies (OAs). HVAC as determined by OAs will be compared to results generated by the USDA Domestic Inspection Operations Office (DIOO) at the National Grain Center in Kansas City, Mo. DIOO will determine HVAC on the same durum wheat samples as the OAs.

The alignment program will analyze samples garnered by two processes:

- Collect in-house samples selected out of the FGIS inspection process
- Collect samples for which farmers specifically requested official inspection

Data will be combined from both collection processes and statistically analyzed to determine the degree to which the OAs are aligned to the National Grain Center on the factor HVAC. Findings will be reported to the USDGA after the data analysis is completed.

In-house samples from the FGIS inspection process

FGIS has established a program for identifying daily samples of durum submitted to each of the three specific North Dakota OAs that grade durum wheat. It is expected the program will generate approximately 200 random samples for submission to DIOO to determine HVAC. The OAs have been instructed to retain file samples for an extended period in order to be selected for this program. There is no cost to farmers for this component of the program.

Farmer requesting official inspection

Farmer-submitted grain samples provide farmers the opportunity to flag specific samples for the alignment program.

The farmer participates by performing two steps:

1. Arranging for a North Dakota OA to receive the sample for grading (see "North Dakota Official Agencies" below), and
2. Informing the USDA a sample has been sent to a North Dakota OA for alignment testing. This is done by sending a prompt email to FGISforDurumGrowers@usda.gov.

Messages to this email address will be treated anonymously and can be used for any other concerns or questions. The farmer is responsible for shipping costs and official agency inspection fees for this component of the program. Any sample inspected by an official agency may be eligible for a federal appeal, at the farmers' expense.

The following information must be included in the email request:

- Date sample was sent to the North Dakota OA
- North Dakota OA name
- Sample identification information
- Grower name and phone number
- Elevator name

FGIS North Dakota Official Agencies

North Dakota Grain Inspection Service, Inc.

2601 N. University Dr., Fargo, ND 58102-1303
701-293-7420 (phone), 701-241-8818 (fax)
ndgi@graininspection.com
www.graininspection.com

Minot Grain Inspection, Inc.

P.O. Drawer B, Minot, ND 58702-0210
1804 Valley Street, Minot, ND 58701-6076
701-838-1734 (phone), 701-838-3782 (fax)
motgrins@srt.com

Grain Inspection, Inc.

P.O. Box 1652, Jamestown, ND 58402-1652
314 2nd Street, N.W., Jamestown, ND 58401-3119
701-252-1290 (phone), 701-252-1298 (fax)
grain@csicable.net
www.graininspectionservices.com