

Crop quality for 2005/2006 season

The protein average dropped to 12.4 % (12 % mb) (13.0 % in the previous season). The protein distribution graph of all the wheat produced was slightly skewed to the lower proteins between 10.0 % to 11.9 % (12 % mb). Irrespective of quality analyses on Utility grade (UT) and Class Other Wheat (COW) included in the survey as from this year, the dough quality was slightly better than the previous year.

The average hectolitre mass was 78.2 kg/hl (normal average). An average thousand kernel mass of 35.5 g was obtained.

The average screenings (1.8 mm sieve) was 1.68 %.

For the past two years (two previous seasons) the Western Cape experienced drought as did the Free State the previous season, but this season was a normal year. However, there were a few exceptions in some areas (see page 9 for Free State).

Although the average falling number was 375 seconds, there were a few samples that gave falling number values of less than 250 seconds and some were even less than 150 seconds. This was because of some rain during the harvest period mainly in the Eastern-Free State and Northern KwaZulu-Natal.

The mixogram peak time, milled on the Quadromat and Bühler averaged 2.8 and 2.5 minutes respectively.

The average Bühler extraction was 75.5 %, with an average Kent Jones colour of -1.7 KJ. (Both are better than the previous year.)

The farinogram had an average water absorption of 62.3 % (61.0 % the previous year) and an average development time of 5.0 minutes (5.2 minutes last season). The average alveogram strength was 40.6 cm² and the average P/L value 0.81 (40.0 cm² and 0.62 the previous season). The average extensogram strength was 107 cm².

Quality of imported wheat for 2004/2005 season (previous season)

During the 2004/2005 season, 1 226 496 tons of wheat were imported. The biggest quantity was imported from Argentina, namely 574 600 tons, followed by the United States with 281 165 tons, then Australia with 154 112 tons and Germany with 115 332 tons. Smaller quantities were imported from Canada (43 766 tons), Ukraine (29 935 tons) and UK (27 586 tons). (SAGIS web site) (No imported wheat samples from the UK was received by SAGL.)

For grading as well as dough and baking quality of the imported wheat, please see pages 50 to 61.