

Program Notice

FGIS-PN-09-13

05-04-09

STANDARDIZATION OF CORN ONLY CARTER DAY DOCKAGE TESTERS

1. PURPOSE

This program notice announces that the standardization of Carter Day Dockage Testers (CDDT) for Broken Corn and Foreign Material (BCFM) determinations only, may now be accomplished without initially standardizing the CDDT with wheat.

2. BACKGROUND

The standardization of “corn-only” CDDT has always been established by first standardizing and testing the CCDT using wheat samples, then subsequently testing the CDDT with corn. The Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Equipment Handbook, Chapter 4, outlines the procedures for standardizing the CCDT.

3. POLICY

FGIS is rescinding the policy that “corn-only” dockage testers used only for the determination of BCFM must be tested with wheat in the initial phase of standardization. “Corn-only” CDDT will require preliminary testing and routine standardization checks (yearly) with corn only. Tolerances for approval are set at ± 0.20 percent mean deviation from the Standard Dockage Tester, for the factor BCFM.

4. PROCEDURES

a. Technical Services Division (TSD)

- (1) Prepare three test samples of yellow corn containing approximately 3.0 percent broken corn and foreign material.
- (2) Test the samples using the TSD Standard CDDT, place them in moisture proof metal cans numbered from one to three; and send to the appropriate office for testing.

b. Testing Office

- (1) Thoroughly clean the CDDT, insert the appropriate sieve, and set the air and feed control to the proper positions. The corn sample is expected to clear the sieve in 50 – 60 seconds. This may not be obtainable at the No. 10 setting. If not, adjust the controls as necessary.

- (2) Empty the first sample into a hand sieve bottom pan and mix it thoroughly. Do not weigh the samples; calculations shall be based on 1,000 grams.
- (3) Turn the tester on and pour the sample into the hopper. Empty the first sample into the hopper, activate a stopwatch. After the sample has cleared the sieve, stop the stopwatch and record the total time that elapsed on the form FGIS-928 then, turn the machine off.
- (4) After the machine has stopped, clean the sieve and place any material that was lodged in the sieve into the appropriate separation pan.
- (5) Weigh the separation to 0.01 gram and record the results on the form FGIS-928. Do not handpick the sample. Place the separation into an envelope identified by sample number; place the BCFM-free sample in a plastic bag with proper identification.
- (6) Test the second and third samples in the same manner as the first. Record the results on the form FGIS-928.
- (7) Log on to the Equipment Capability Testing (ECT) section of FGIS online, enter the test reference number that was supplied with the test samples, and enter the test results. If the average variations of the test results are within the allowable deviation, the tester is acceptable.

6. ACTIONS

Retain this notice until the Equipment Handbook is updated to reflect this change.

7. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions concerning this policy to William Bates, FGIS Policies Procedures Branch, at (202) 690-0961 or email at william.e.bates@usda.gov.

/s/ John Giler

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