

GIPSA Prepares to Implement New Official Moisture Meter

WASHINGTON, DC (April 9, 1998) -- The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration today announced in the [Federal Register](#) the selection of the Grain Analysis Computer Model 2100 (GAC 2100), manufactured by Dickey-john Corporation, Auburn, Illinois, as the new official moisture meter. The GAC 2100 will replace the Motomco Model 919 Moisture Meter.

The meter will serve as a device approved by GIPSA for determining the moisture content of grain inspected under the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

GIPSA has selected transition dates for each product to minimize the impact of the changes on the value of carry-over stocks. Tentative transition dates are: August 1, 1998 for corn, soybeans, and sunflower seeds; and May 1, 1999 for barley, oats, rough rices, sorghum, and all wheats. Transition dates for peas, beans, lentils, and other commodities may lie beyond 1999.

According to GIPSA administrator Jim R. Baker, the new moisture meter is expected to improve the ease, speed, and reliability of official moisture measurement and to allow automated measurements and electronic transmission of results. Selection of this instrument, he added, is another indication of GIPSA's ongoing commitment to introducing new technology and improved methods into the official system to facilitate U.S. grain marketing.

Technical information: Steven N. Tanner, Director, Technical Services Division, (816) 891-0401.

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Dana Stewart (202) 720-5091
E-mail dstewart@gipsadc.usda.gov