



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3630
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3630

January 8, 2010

Reference # 225

TO: FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

FROM: Robert Lijewski, Acting Director /s/ *Robert Lijewski*
Field Management Division

SUBJECT: Certification of Moisture Results Outside Approved Calibration Range

ORIGINATING OFFICE: Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch

1. PURPOSE

This memorandum provides clarification on the certification of moisture results outside of the GAC 2100 approved calibration range.

2. BACKGROUND

Periodically Field Offices and Official Service Providers receive grain and/or graded commodity samples that contain extremely high and/or low moistures. In most of these instances, the moisture exceeds the GAC 2100 approved calibration ranges; however, as stated in the Moisture Handbook, Chapter 3, Section 3.2 t., the GAC 2100 is equipped to report moisture results outside of the approved ranges.

When performing a moisture analysis on samples outside of the approved calibration range the instrument will display a moisture result, accompanied by an Error Code; however, in some cases the GAC instrument may just display ** and Error 11.

3. POLICY

When the moisture reading is outside of the approved calibration range and a moisture result is displayed, another determination shall be made from the work sample or file. If the second determination is not outside the approved calibration range, record the second moisture result. Otherwise, the final moisture shall be based on the average of the two determinations and rounded to the nearest 0.1 percent moisture. Record the final moisture in the results section of the certificate.

In a case of extreme moisture conditions the GAC instrument may not display a result, and will only show ** and Error 11. If this occurs and there are no results available to average, report the following statement in the remarks section of the certificate, “Moisture exceeds approved calibration range.”

4. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

File a copy of this memo with the Moisture Handbook until the handbook is revised to include this change. Field office managers must ensure that a copy of this memo is provided to official agencies within their circuit.

5. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions concerning this policy to Beverly Whalen, Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch, at (816) 823-4648 or email at Beverly.A.Whalen@usda.gov