

Field Management Division



FIELD MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

ANTHONY GOODEMAN

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

FGIS FIELD MANAGEMENT DIVISION

MAY 17, 2016



United States Department of Agriculture

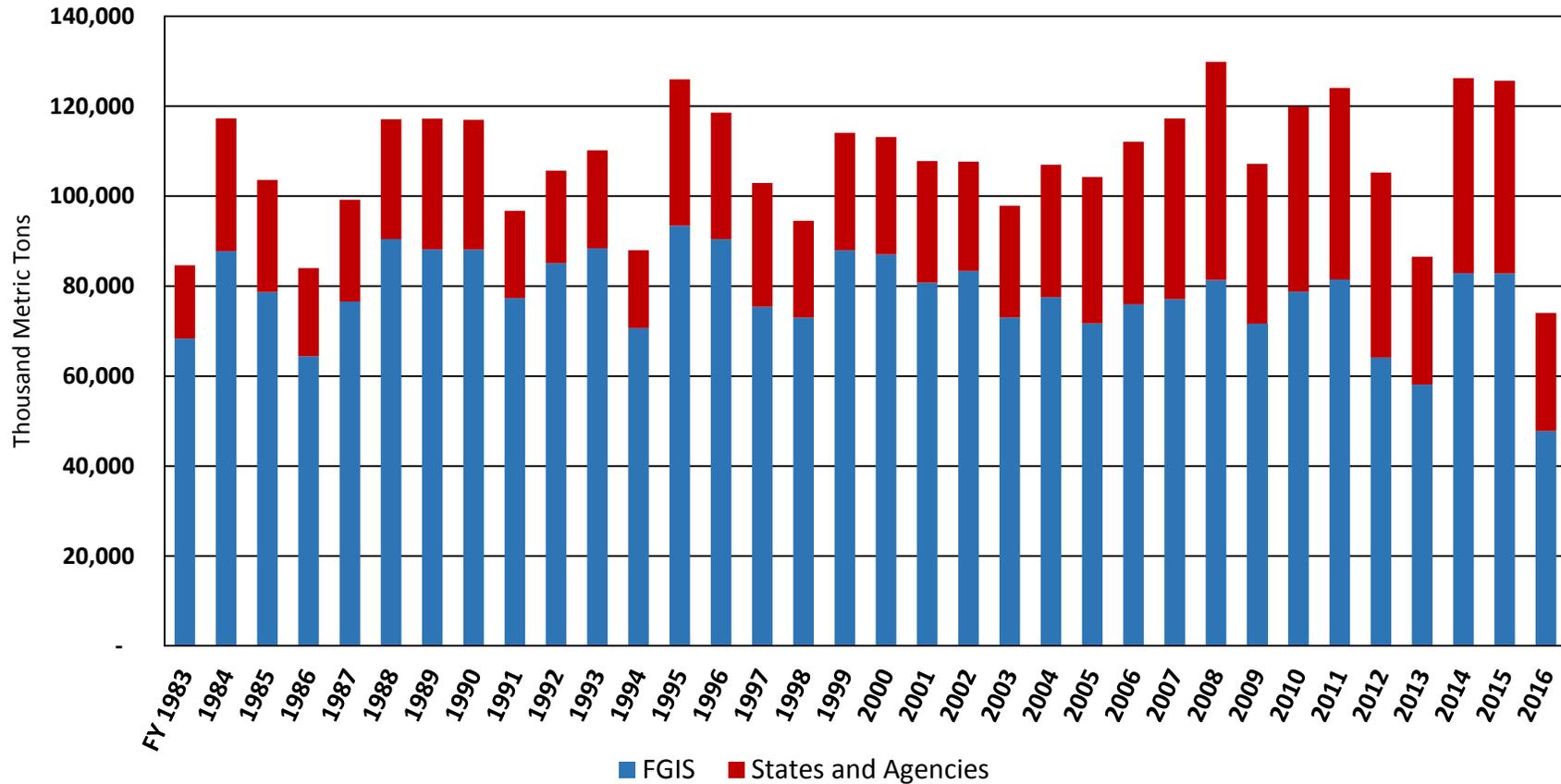
Field Management Initiatives



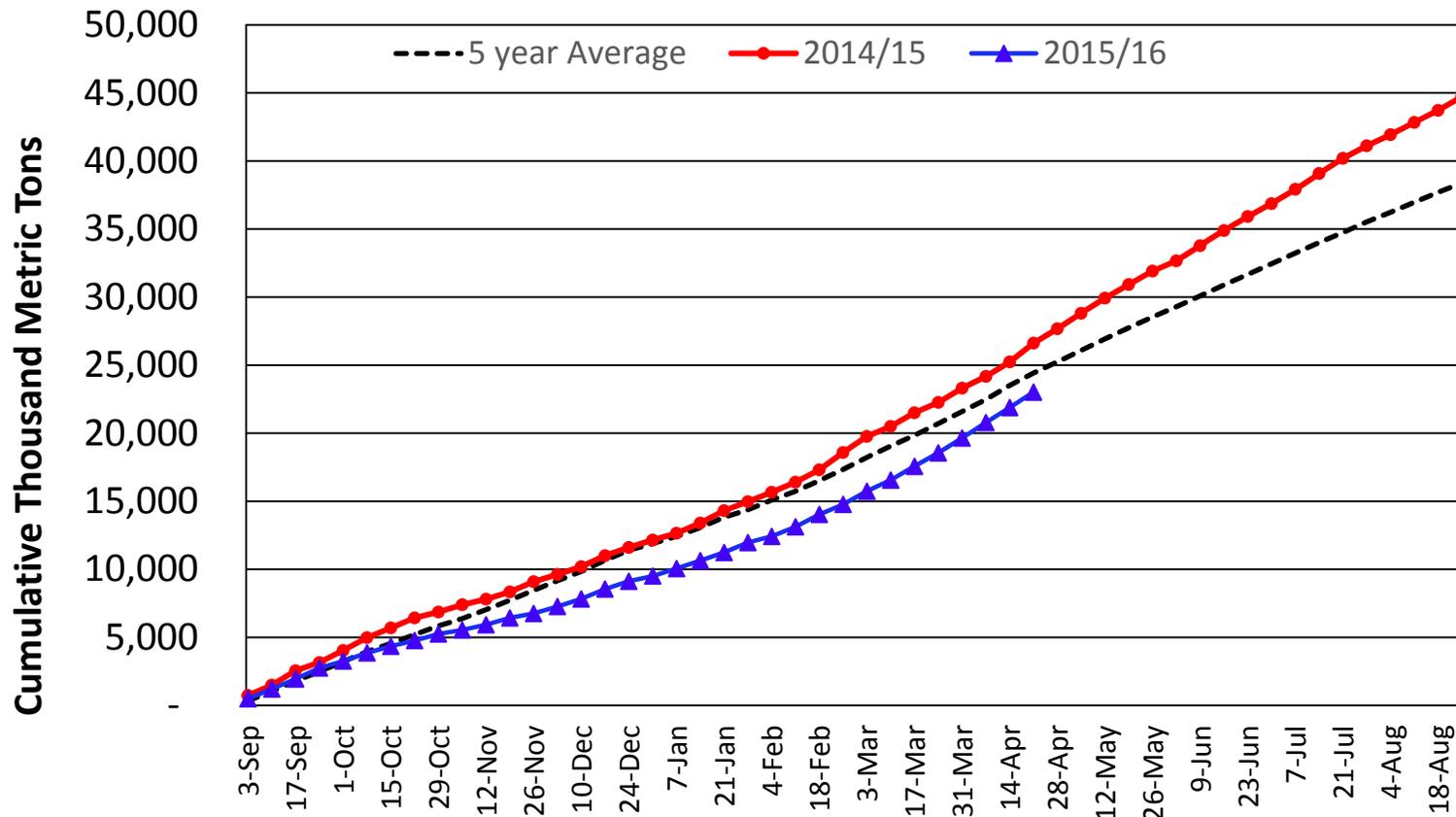
- **Overview - Export Inspections and Tonnage**
- **Federal Register Activity**
 - Reauthorization Act Proposed Rule
 - Standards Under Review
 - Request for Information Publications
- **Service in Texas**
- **Licensing Program**
- **Signature Process Improvement**
- **Staffing Initiatives**



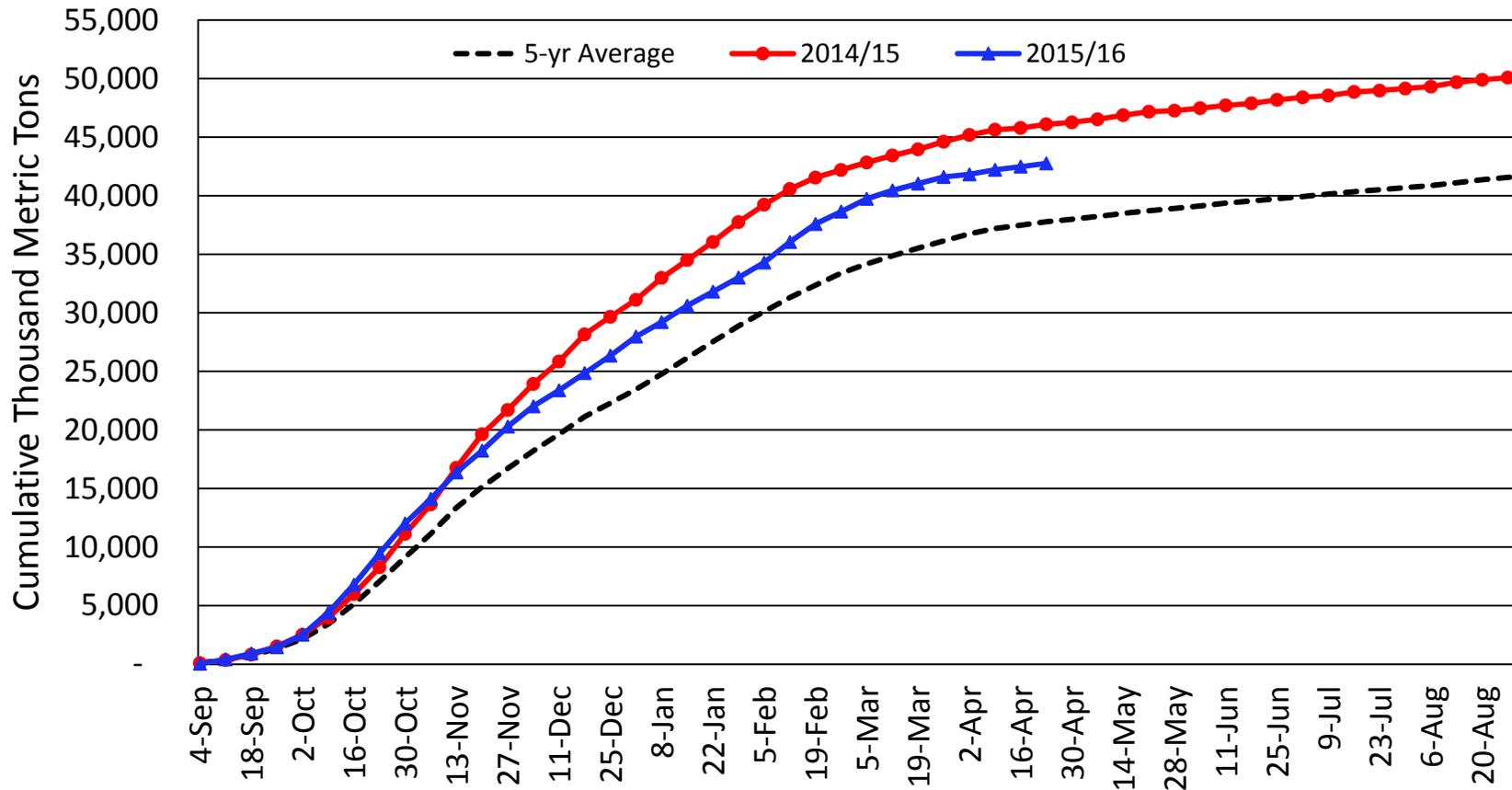
Export Inspections



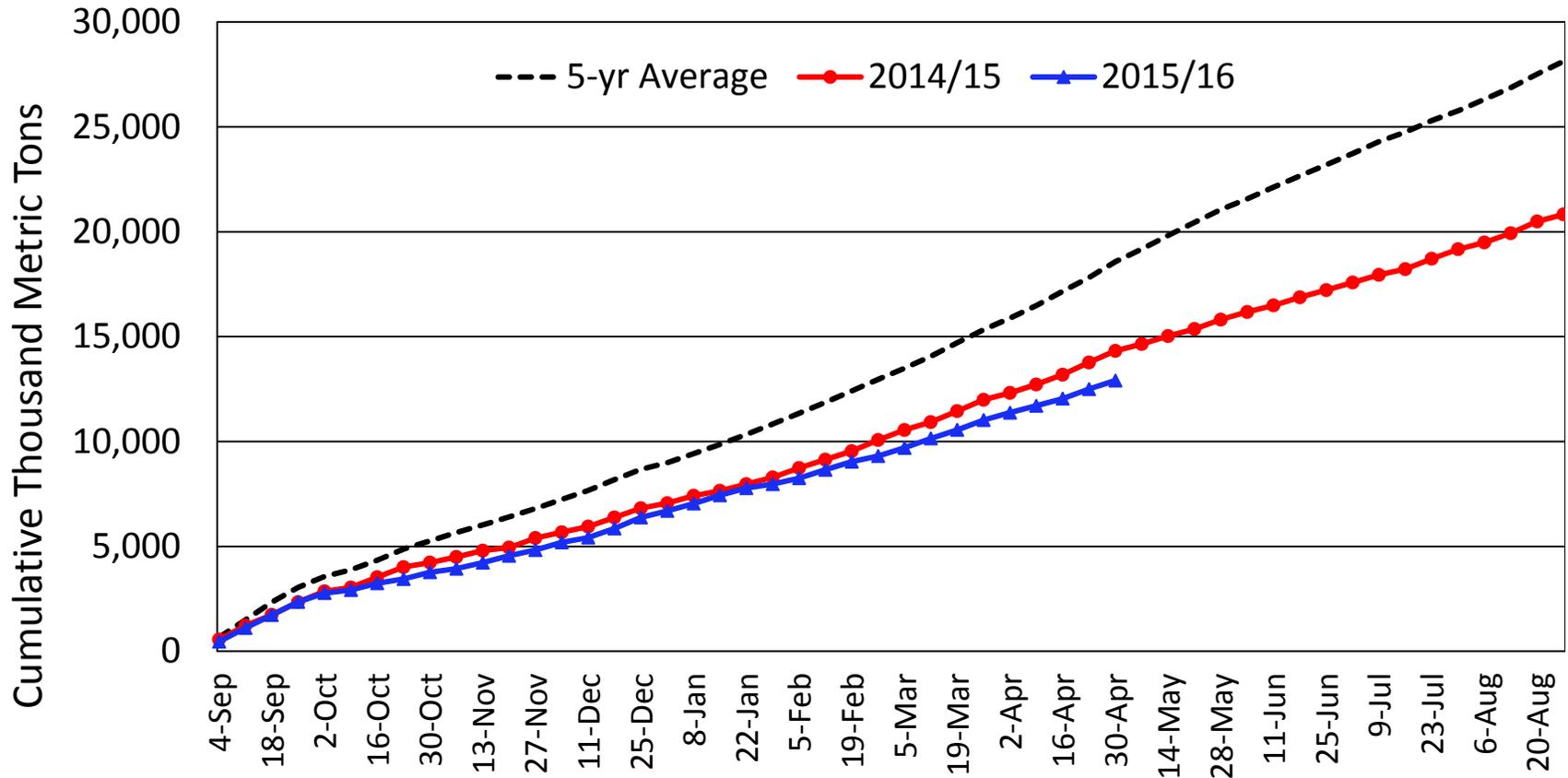
Export Corn : FGIS, States & Agencies



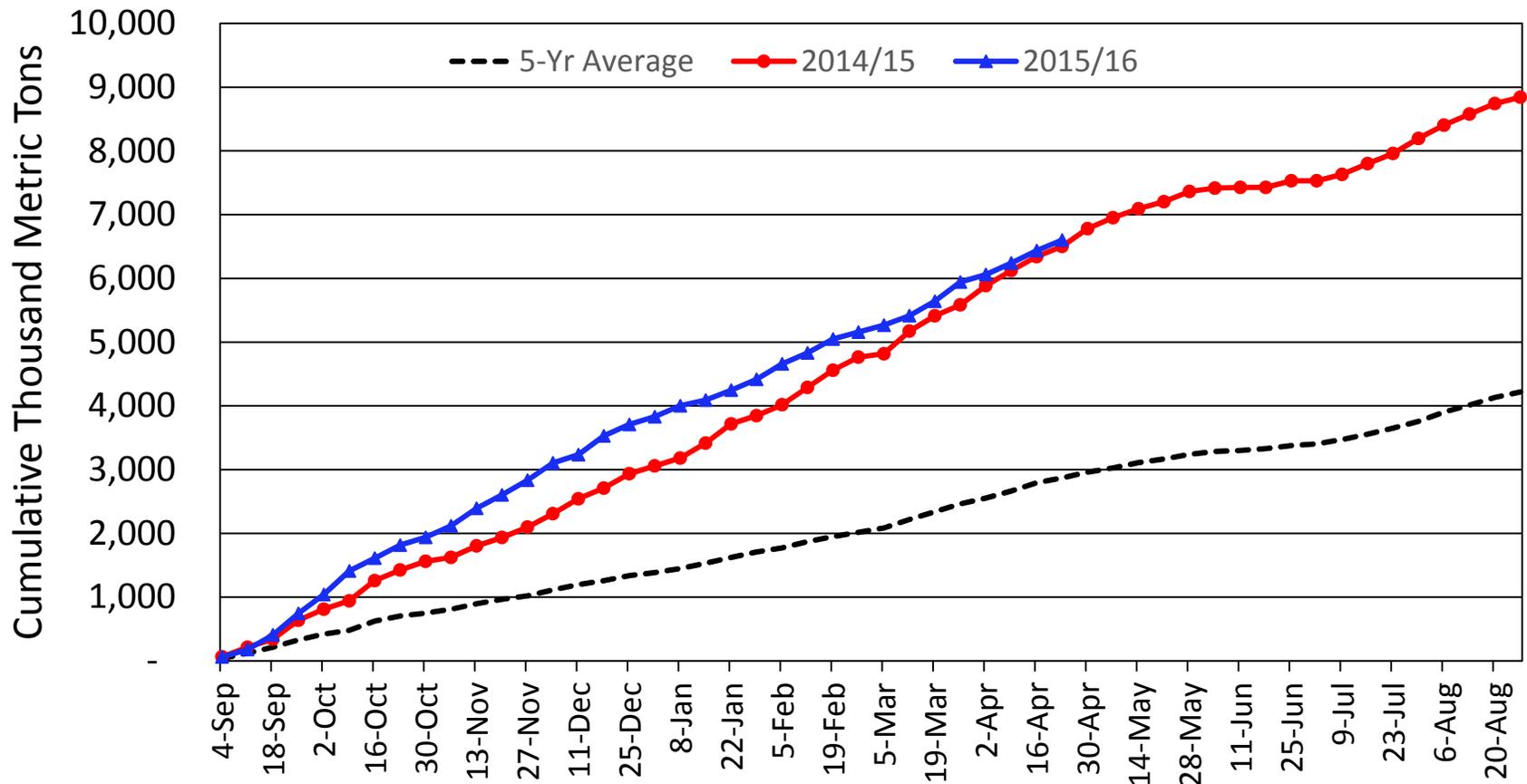
Export Soybeans : FGIS, States & Agencies



Export Wheat : FGIS, States & Agencies



Export: Sorghum-FGIS, States & Agencies



Reauthorization Proposed Rule



- **Published January 2016**
- **GIPSA proposed changes to:**
 - Inbound barge weighing
 - Waivers
 - Fees
 - Geographic boundaries
 - Designation and license term
 - Exceptions
 - Delegations
 - Notification
 - Consultations



Reauthorization Proposed Rule



- **Comment period ended April 25, 2016**
- **Next steps:**
 - Review comments
 - Publish Final Rule
 - Revise instructions



Requests for Information



FGIS published six “Requests for Information” in the Federal Register for these commodities:

Triticale	0
Oats	1
Rye	0
Mixed Grain	1
Flaxseed	0
Sunflower	3
Rice	28
DDG & Services	8

Barley final rule has been drafted and is being reviewed.



Requests for Information



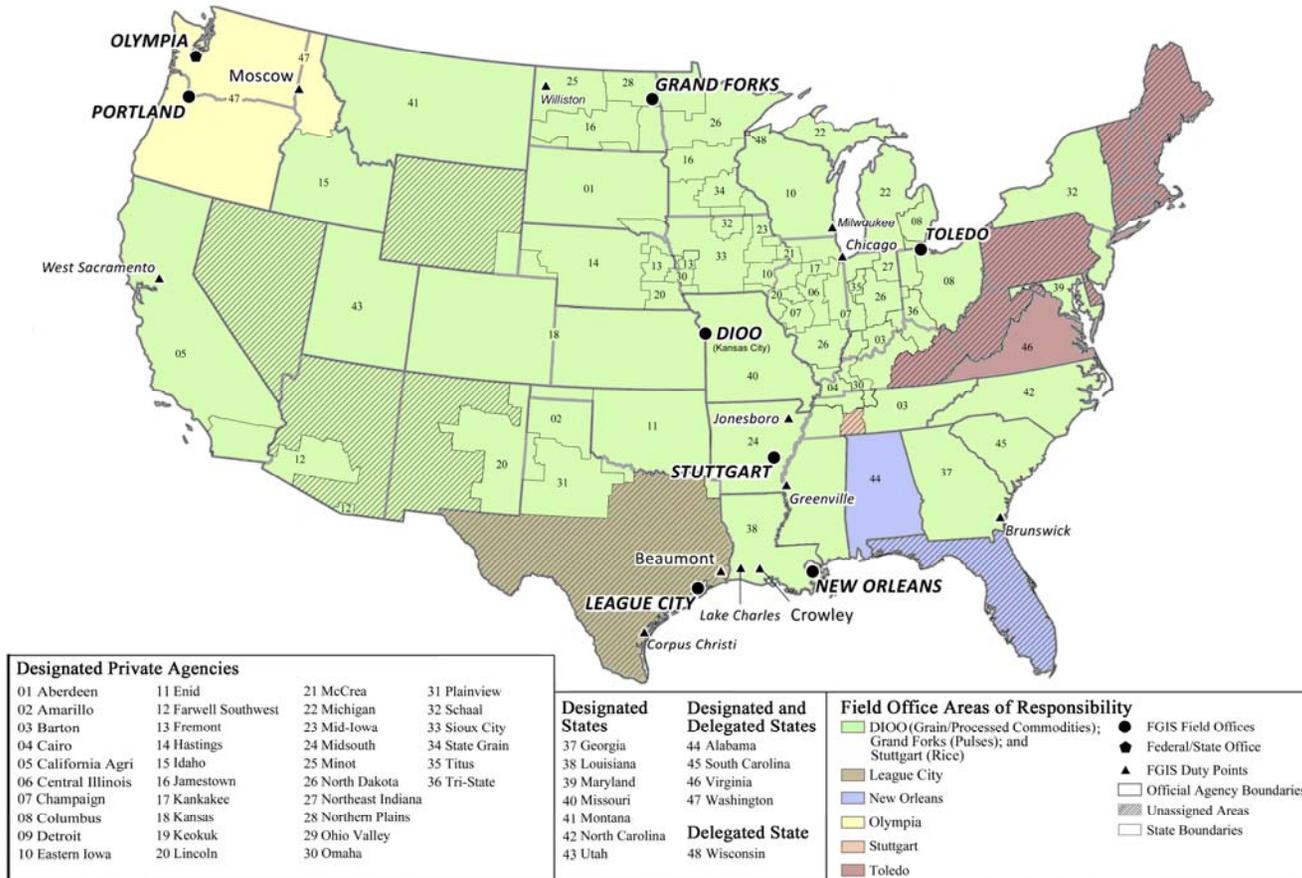
- **Services currently offered or needed to facilitate the marketing of grain and related products**
- **Grains, oilseeds, rice, pulses, related products**
- **Follow-up to 2007 ANPR: Co-products of Ethanol Production (a.k.a. DDG's)**
- **90-day comment period**
- **Comment period closed in April 2016**
 - 8 Comments



1916 Supervision Districts



2016 Official Service Provider Map



Prepared by USDA, GIPSA, FGIS Quality Assurance and Compliance Division, January 2016



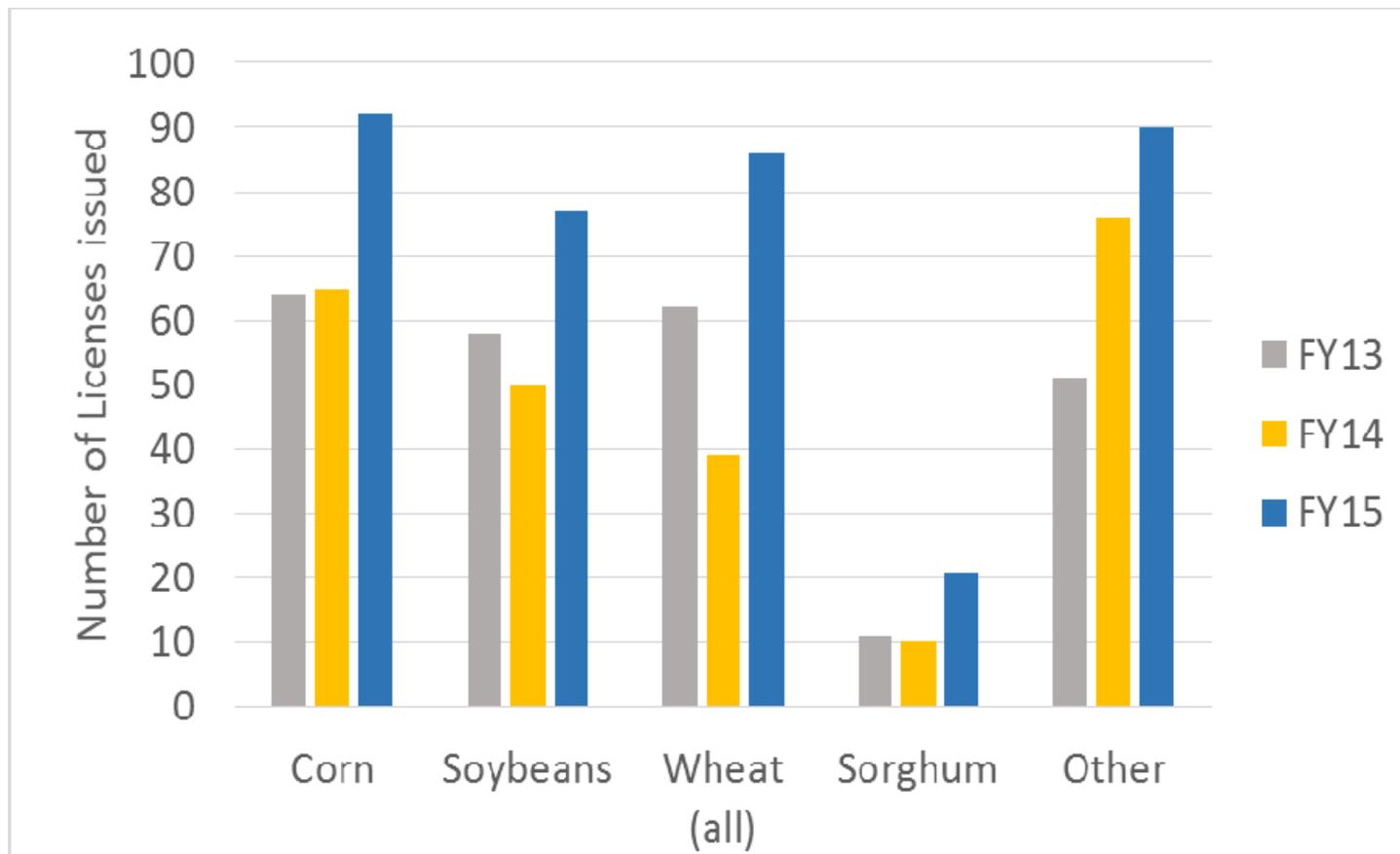
South Texas Rail and Truck Inspections



- April 2016 - FGIS opened new office in Weslaco, TX
- Meeting with Progreso Bridge owners to discuss potential for on-site truck inspection
- Service Agreement with Plainview Grain Inspection to provide service in North Texas



Commodity Licenses Issued, FY13-FY15



Licensing Program



- Tenant of “Gold Standard” system
- Rigorous testing requirements to become licensed or authorized to perform work on behalf of Secretary
- Practical grading and written exams
- Do you know the definition of Corn?
 - *Grain that consists of 50 percent or more of whole kernels of shelled dent corn and/or shelled flint corn (Zea mays L.) and may contain not more than 10.0 percent of other grains for which standards have been established under the United States Grain Standards Act.*



Licensing Program



- **Last changed in 2000**
 - Raised passing score; "Limited" wheat license; Rice license changes; Other minor revisions
- **FMD moving forward with harmonizing the passing score for all inspectors**
 - Official Agency Licensed Inspectors: 80%;
 - FGIS Agricultural Commodity Graders: 80%
 - Modernize licensing program for FGISonline
- **Update/revise Licensing Handbook**
- **Policy Bulletin Board notice under review**



Licensing Program



- **Revising “Passing Score” Requirements**
 - All providers performing official services held to the same standard of proficiency.
 - Effective July 1, 2016, Licensed Inspectors (LI) and FGIS Agricultural Commodity Graders (ACG) will be required to score a minimum test score of 80% on written and practical exams.
- **Grandfathered In**
 - Official personnel already licensed or authorized will not be required to retake examinations.
 - Licensed or authorized personnel approved to grade limited grains and/or commodities but who will take additional examinations after the effective date will be required to achieve a minimum passing score of 80%.



Video Proctoring of Licensing Exams

- Reduced travel costs for FGIS and OSPs
- Reduced labor costs – one QAS or ACG could proctor multiple exams

The screenshot displays a web-based exam interface for a 'Corn Scenario'. The interface includes a 'Give Control' button at the top left and a 'stop sharing' button at the top right. The main content area is titled 'Corn Scenario' and contains a table of test results and a list of questions.

Property	Value	Property	Value
Class:	Yellow	Damaged Kernels (total) (%):	10.9
Temperature:	Cool	Heat Damaged Kernels (%):	0.0
Odor:	OK	Corn of Other Colors (%):	0.0
Test Weight (%):	56.0	Other Factors:	4 particles of unknown foreign substance
Moisture (%):	15.9		
BCFM (%):	4.5		

1. Select the correct grade as it would appear on an official certificate

- U. S. No. 2 Yellow Corn
- U. S. No. 5 Yellow Corn
- U. S. Sample Grade Yellow Corn
- U. S. No. 3 Yellow Corn

2. Select all grade-defining factors.

- Damaged Kernels Total (DKT)
- Foreign Material
- Heat Damage (HT)
- Moisture

Scenario: Corn Grade Assignment Scenario 2

At the bottom right, there is a video feed of a proctor, identified as 'LHeureux, Jeffrey'. The interface also shows a taskbar with icons for Word, Outlook, and other applications, and a system tray with a clock showing 10:09 and a date of 9/1.



Video Proctoring of Licensing Exams



2016:

- **DIOO installed a monitor in lab to proctor tests**
 - Numerous DIOO-QAS's available to perform task
- **Looking for OA's to volunteer for pilot test**
- **FMD preparing a Policy Bulletin Board notice outlining procedures and requirements**
 - Computer requirements
 - Procedural information
 - Instructions for written, practical, and odor exams



Video Proctoring of Licensing Exams



United States Department of Agriculture
Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting, May 2016

GIPSA's Signature Process Improvement



- **Strategic Objective:** Improve the process for communicating/updating current program policy and guidance for Official inspection programs to stakeholders so timely and accurate information is available.
- **Performance Goals:** Reduce clearance time; improve accountability; reduce staff resources devoted to the process; increase stakeholder satisfaction.



Signature Process Improvement



United States Department of Agriculture
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration
Federal Grain Inspection Service

Directive

3010.2

February 18, 2016

Policies, Procedures, and Guidance Issuance

Contents

1. PURPOSE	2
2. BACKGROUND	2
3. DEFINITIONS	2
4. FORMAL ISSUANCES	3
5. INFORMAL ISSUANCES	3
6. POLICY	4
7. RESPONSIBILITIES	4
8. INQUIRIES	6
Attachment 1: Process Flowchart	7
Attachment 2: Document Kickoff Checklist	8
Attachment 3: Document Format Template for Drafting Issuances	9
Attachment 4: Style Sheet	10
Attachment 5: Directive Clearance Sheet	12



Signature Process Improvement



SharePoint Newsfeed OneDrive Sites Disch, Alan - GIPSA

BROWSE PAGE SHARE FOLLOW SYNC EDIT

USDA Document Pipeline Document Projects Project Status Reports EDIT LINKS

Search this site

Home
Notebook
Recent
Discussion Board
Handbooks
Promoted Links
Document Timeline
Program Notices
Program Directives
Status Updates
Project Status Reports
Site Contents
EDIT LINKS



Document Pipeline Test Site

Calendar



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- 2-year hiring and training program for new ACGs to replace retiring graders and supervisors
- Each trainee has a mentor and is given developmental assignments at different locations.
- The program covers the following areas:
 - GSA, AMA, and Regulations
 - Stowage Examinations
 - Sampling
 - Grading various commodities
 - Weighing
 - Fumigation



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- Job announcements are placed on USAJobs.gov and go out to over 100 colleges and universities:
 - 1890 Schools
 - American Indian Schools
 - Spanish Language Schools
 - Major Agricultural Universities



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- The first class was selected in 2011.
- It had 18 trainees, stationed in Toledo, New Orleans, and League City.
- Most have now moved into supervisory ranks.



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- The second class was selected in 2014.
- This class utilized President Obama's PATHWAYS program for recent college graduates seeking Federal jobs.
- This was the first class to be sent to different field offices to get experience not available at their permanent duty station.



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- The third class, selected in 2015, had four trainees selected under the PATHWAYS program.
- Mobility clause – new in FGIS
- They will be transferred to a second duty station after 6 months of intensive training at their initial duty station.



Staffing Initiatives - Building Beyond Program



- The fourth class started in January 2016.
- The class has 9 trainees; 5 stationed at Toledo and 4 at DIOO in KC.
- 6 months of intense inspection training before being reassigned. Goal is to have destinations identified in June, and placed in Fall 2016.





Thank you!



United States Department of Agriculture