

Grain Inspection Advisory Committee
October 19-20, 2016
Resolutions

1. The Advisory Committee recommends that FGIS continue expanding its testing capability of pesticides in U.S. grain crops. The committee requests the information be posted on its website, and include information on Limit of Detectability (LOD) and a link to Maximum Residue Limits (MRL).
2. FGIS should be commended for providing consistent and unbiased grain inspection results. However, excellent inspection results assume a representative sample was available for inspection. In some countries non-representative sampling methods may create non-valid comparisons to U. S. grain if non-representative samples were obtained. The Advisory Committee encourages FGIS to develop information regarding the diverter samplers and other sampling devices currently in use at port elevators in the major exporting and importing countries for corn, wheat, and soybeans. This information may prove useful for explaining possible complaints concerning U.S. grains and encourage port elevators to install diverter samplers when possible in the future.
3. The Advisory Committee recommends that new equipment must be equal to or better than the old equipment in precision and repeatability in order to be approved as official. Performance of equivalent instruments should match or exceed that of the existing approved instrument in the same field environment. The Advisory Committee recommends GIPSA continue work with NIR Equivalence by continuing focus on improving performance in test instrument field studies. GIPSA should also consider including all NTEP approved instruments in the field studies to determine equivalency.
4. The Advisory Committee recommends that FGIS continue to research ways to reduce the variance of the Falling Number Test. The Advisory Committee encourages FGIS to continue its efforts to narrow the variance of the test; provide greater oversight and training for official service providers; and to actively support the development of new testing methods. Specific areas of research and possible procedural changes may include adjustments for altitude, the use of mechanical shakers and increased operator training on how the test tubes should be cleaned. The Advisory Committee also recommends that FGIS continue to monitor new testing methodologies to identify improved methods.
5. The Advisory Committee commends FGIS on its work on the FGIS Online system to improve service delivery efficiency. The Advisory Committee recommends the Agency continue its work on the system, and continue to engage stakeholders, most notably industry, to provide input on what services and options are needed to deliver relevant information, in a user-friendly way. The Advisory Committee further recommends that the Agency continues to ensure that the data is kept secure.

6. The Advisory Committee recommends GIPSA continue evaluation of Test Weight Determinations using UGMA moisture instruments. The Advisory Committee supports the efforts of FGIS to automate data collection functions in the grain grading process.
7. The Advisory Committee recommends GIPSA/ FGIS consider posting, with the exception of privately funded work, technical summaries of research it conducts. This would be a way for GIPSA/ FGIS staff to be recognized for the technical studies they conduct while also benefiting the industry by being able to review this information to assist in technical decision making and provide technical documents for support of instrument validation.
8. The Advisory Committee commends the quick response by FGIS to arrange international training in Southeast Asian milling customers in cooperation with US Wheat Associates and other cooperators. The Advisory Committee encourages FGIS to expand this outreach to cover additional countries and regions, including Latin America. The Advisory Committee also encourages FGIS to provide similar information and training available to elevator operators and mills in the domestic market.
9. The Advisory Committee would like to commend FGIS on monitoring official mycotoxin testing results. The Advisory Committee recommends looking into and addressing what could be the root cause of variances in testing results i.e., particle size, test kit performance, sample splitting, etc.