

Program Notice

FGIS-PN-18-05

March 29, 2018

Soybean Systems Approach: Sampling and Testing Working Group
Weed Seed Survey Protocol

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1. PURPOSE

This notice outlines procedures for collecting composite samples from all shiplots and containerlots of soybeans exported to China.

2. BACKGROUND

The United States and China agreed to implement a systems approach for U.S. soybeans exported to China. The systems approach includes all participants in the supply chain from farms to export terminals in the United States and ports of entry in China.

The systems approach includes best agricultural practices, such as weed control and cleaning at the farm; USDA soybean sampling and analysis for foreign material; and phytosanitary inspection and certification at the export terminal. This sample collection program is a collaboration between FGIS and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

3. SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURE

- All shiplots exported to China with a certificate date of service of January 1, 2018, or after, and all containerlots with a certificate date of service of January 1, 2018, or after or an inspection date of January 1, 2018, or after on the 921-2, are included in the survey.
- The FGIS Field Office or Official Agency will obtain an approximately 1,000 - 1,050 gram representative composite sample of the ship or containerlot (one sample per 921-2). Use official procedures. – See Appendix A for shiplot procedures.
- Place the composite sample in a secured (e.g. heat sealed, zip tie, rubber band, etc.) polyethylene bag. No official seal is required.
- Identify the samples by attaching either a copy of the 921-2, or a copy of the certificate (provided the certificate lists all carrier identification numbers) to the plastic bag. Additionally, provide the specified service point (SSP) number on the copy of the 921-2 or the copy of the certificate.
- Send all composites to the FGIS Toledo Field Office. The Toledo Field Office will determine Fine Foreign Material, Course Foreign Material, and Total Foreign Material using procedures, outlined in FGIS Grain Inspection Handbook II Chapter 10. The FGIS Toledo Field Office will forward foreign material to the AMS Seed Laboratory in Gastonia, NC.

4. SAMPLE SHIPPING INFORMATION

All samples will be shipped using, UPS 2nd day air to the FGIS Toledo Field Office. Use UPS Third Party Code: 22AV49

Address:

USDA/AMS/FGIS

1910 Indian Wood Circle, Suite 401

Maumee, Ohio 43537

5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This program notice is effective April 1, 2018. The sample collection program will continue until FGIS is advised of the termination of the program by APHIS.

6. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions concerning this Program Notice to the Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch at (202) 720-0228.

Appendix A

Obtaining a Composite Sample of a Shiplot.

When a composite sample is requested, official inspection personnel shall:

- (1) Obtain a sufficient portion of grain from each subplot using official procedures so that the composite sample and the quantity requested can be obtained.
- (2) Identify each composite sample by name of vessel and date loaded.
- (3) When loading is finished, break the composite sample down to approximately 1,000 - 1,050 grams using an approved divider and official procedures. Place the composite sample in a polyethylene bag for shipping and seal securely (e.g. heat seal, zip tie, rubber band, etc.).