



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3630
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Washington, DC 20250-3630

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Reference #201

TO: FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

FROM: David Orr, Director /s/ *David Orr*
Field Management Division

SUBJECT: Review Inspections for Mycotoxins

ORIGINATING OFFICE: Policies and Procedures Branch

1. BACKGROUND

This memorandum restates the Federal Grain Inspection Services' policy for performing mycotoxin review inspections for grain and not standardized grain (e.g., cracked corn) on single lot inspections (e.g., barges, individual rail cars) and lots inspected under the cusum loading plan.

2. POLICY

Sections 800.125 and 800.135 of the regulations under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA) permit a review inspection on either official grade/factors or official criteria. When requested, a review inspection for official grade or official factor and official criteria may be handled separately even though both sets of results are reported on the same certificate.

In accordance with section 800.81 of the regulations under the USGSA, a review inspection may be performed on the basis of a new sample or on the basis of an official file sample. However, the provision for a new sample does not apply if obtaining a new sample involves a change in the method of sampling. In most cases, review inspections for mycotoxin analysis are performed on the basis of the file sample.

NOTE: Excess grain sample retained from the original inspection service does not meet the definition of a new sample.

a. Sample Requirements.

In an effort to minimize extremely large file sample portions and to eliminate the time consuming process of grinding additional sample portions, FGIS has defined aflatoxin and fumonisin "file samples" as ground portions of the original sample.

For aflatoxin and fumonisin testing a 500-gram ground portion is used for original testing services and another 500-gram ground portion is maintained as the file sample for review testing purposes. Therefore, if an applicant requests review inspection(s) (reinspection, appeal, Board appeal, as applicable) on a particular lot, the basis of testing is upon a 50-gram portion of the 500-gram ground file sample. Do not grind any excess grain sample to obtain a portion for review testing purposes.

Testing samples for DON (vomitoxin) requires a 200-gram portion (with dockage and stones removed) for original and review testing. The 200-gram sample is divided into two equal portions of 100-grams, one work portion and one file portion. Using an appropriate grinding device, grind the 100-gram work portion for original testing services. The remaining 100-gram (unground) portion is used for any subsequent review inspection testing service.

NOTE: If the 100-gram unground file portion is exhausted due to multiple review inspections, it is permissible to use another portion of the original 100-gram ground test portion or a representative portion of the file sample for grade analysis for additional DON testing.

b. Levels of Review Inspection Service.

Only one field review (reinspection or appeal inspection) and a Board appeal is permitted for shiplot, unit train, or lash barge material portions when testing is performed on a subplot basis under the CuSum loading plan. However, if the applicant requests a review of the entire lot, up to three levels (reinspection, appeal, Board appeal) may be obtained for each subplot included in the lot.

For submitted samples, lots that are certified on an individual carrier basis, and composite samples representing multiple carriers, a maximum of 3 review inspections (reinspection, appeal, and Board appeal) may be performed on the original inspection service.

3. DISTRIBUTION

Please forward this information to the official agencies in your circuit that provide mycotoxin inspection services.

4. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions regarding this policy to the Policies and Procedures Branch at (202) 720-0252.

