

# Program Notice

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## DETERMINING OTHER DAMAGED KERNELS IN OATS

### 1. PURPOSE

This program notice revises the portion size for the determination of other damaged kernels in oats.

### 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

The present procedure (Grain Inspection Handbook, Book II, Section 7.22.b and Section 7.25) requires a 30-gram analytical portion to determine the percentage of other damaged kernels in oats. When significant mold and other internal damages are present, this analysis is excessively long.

The impact of reducing the portion size from 30 to 15 grams was assessed. Based on this assessment, it was determined that reducing the portion size will have minimal impact on the accuracy or precision of the certificated percent sound oats. Additionally, when significant mold and other internal damages are present, reducing the portion size to 15 grams will reduce the time required to perform the test.

### 3. PROCEDURE

Determine the percent "other damaged kernels" using a 15-gram portion. All other inspection procedures for oats remain unchanged.

### 4. HANDBOOK UPDATE

The Grain Inspection Handbook, Book II will be updated at a later date to reflect this change.

### 5. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions regarding this program notice to the Standards and Procedures Branch at (202) 720-0252.

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