

Crops and Marketing

CANADIAN GRAINS COMMISSION

APAS supports a Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) mandate that works in the interests of grain producers. The CGC must be provided with adequate resources to deliver producer protection in areas of grain grading, weights and measures, payment protection, dispute resolution and access to transportation. APAS believes that CGC services provided in the public good, such as market development, grains research, statistics, and monitoring of food safety, should be funded by government.

GRADE ASSESSMENT & QUALITY

APAS supports the development and introduction of new grading techniques that reduce industry's reliance on the use of subjective methods of assessing quality. APAS believes the grading system must evolve with the introduction of new techniques (like the Hapsburg falling number) to enhance the accuracy and reliability of quality assessment.

APAS believes that all elevator agents who grade grain at primary elevators should be required to complete a mandatory certification/training program.

APAS believes changes to Canada's grain classification system must maintain or enhance Canada's reputation as a supplier of high quality grain. Canada's classification system for grain must also be flexible to accommodate evolving customer and producer preferences.

VARIETAL REGISTRATION

APAS supports a registration system for new varieties that subjects candidate varieties to high agronomic, disease, and quality standards, while providing sufficient flexibility to accommodate evolving market demand and producer preferences. APAS believes that any reductions in supervised trial requirements, merit, or quality assessment must be directly approved by a recommending body that is accountable to producers

MARKETING CONTRACTS

APAS supports the development of standardized grain contracts to improve commercial accountability between producers and grain buyers. APAS believes these contracts should follow a standardized format to clarify the obligations and responsibilities agreed between the two parties. A standardized contract should also include reciprocal penalties for nonperformance

MARKETING TRANSPARENCY

APAS believes that Canada should impose reporting requirements on grain exports similar to those that exist in the United States. Information such as forward export sales, vessel lineups and port unloading are necessary to enable producers and other market participants to make informed marketing decisions and to assess overall system performance.