

SUNFLOWER SEEDS

1. Normal sunflowers have a turpentine odor. Is this considered COFO?

ANSWER. No. The sample is made "okay" unless it has a distinct musty, sour, or COFO odor.

2. If a sunflower seed is green after pearling can it be taken as damage?

ANSWER. Yes. Currently there is not an VRI, but after pearling, the seed is considered damaged if the intensity of the green is equal to or greater than VRI SB-3.0 on both sides of the seed. Under the definition of damaged sunflower seeds, the green kernels would be included in the otherwise materially damaged.

3. What is the criteria for sprout damaged sunflower seeds?

ANSWER. Sprout damage is analyzed before pearling. A seed is sprouted if the sprout extends out of the hull or on dehulled seeds when the sprout is hooking around the seed.

4. Can the varieties of sunflower seeds which are whitish-to-gray in color be considered weathered sunflowers and downgraded on general appearance?

ANSWER. No. The whitish-to-gray hulls of these varieties were bred to differentiate them from normal sunflower seeds. They are high oleic type sunflower seed.

5. When processing a sample for dockage, do you separate sunflower seeds (hull and seed) that have been removed by the air?

ANSWER. No. Leave as dockage because these sunflowers are removed during processing.

6. What is the correct policy for reporting Sunflower seed Foreign Material (FM)?

ANSWER. Refer to FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD, Reference # 217, dated October 6, 2008. The handbook does not provide a specific instruction for reporting FM on the work record. Currently, inspectors are rounding and reporting the results on the work record to the nearest half percent. From a quality control standpoint this can be problematic in determining the significance of comparison differences. As stated in the handbook, certify the FM to the nearest half percent as follows: 0.25 to 0.74 as 0.5 percent, 0.75 to 1.24 as 1.0 percent, etc. Record the percentage of FM on the work record to the nearest hundredth percent.

7. If an applicant requests a review inspection for Heat Damage (HT) only what result is shown for Damaged Kernels (total)(DKT)?

***ANSWER.** Since HT is included in DKT and performed on the same portion a new analysis for HT and DKT would have to be performed. The new analysis for HT and DKT would supersede the previous result.*

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