



Harvest Sampling

Maximize the value of your crop with proper harvest samples

These steps will help to ensure a true representative harvest sample is collected for each of your bins. Before you begin, you will need the following items: a scoop or cup, 4 large sample pails and grain sample bags (2kg/5lb capacity). Sampling begins when you unload your first truckload of grain into an empty bin, bag or pile.

IMPORTANT: Ensure pails and bags are empty and clean so that you do not contaminate your sample.

STEP 1:

Take 2 large pails. Mark one pail A (truck sample) and one pail B (bin sample). As the grain unloads, use a cup or scoop to take samples from the grain stream through the entire unload. Collect this sample into pail A. When grabbing the sample from the grain stream, alternate sampling from the left, middle and the right side of the stream. Try to catch one scoop for every 1 to 2 tonnes from the truck.



STEP 2:

When the truck box is empty, place the 2 unmarked pails side by side on the ground, or on a tarp. Pour the contents of pail A onto the edge of the 2 pails on the ground to get half into each pail (see photo below). This is a basic method to "split" the sample.



STEP 3:

Take one of the pails from the split and mix the grain in it thoroughly by hand. Take a portion of this sample and save it in pail B. The amount placed into pail B depends on the size of the bin the grain is loading into, 1 - 3 scoops. The remaining sample from the split pails can be emptied into the bin.



STEP 4:

Repeat steps 1 through 3 for each truckload going into the bin until the bin is full. At this point, pail B should be nearly full and it will be a representative sample of the bin.

STEP 5:

Once your bin is full, mix the grain in pail B thoroughly by hand, turning it 15 to 20 times.



STEP 6:

Take 2 or more 2 kilogram samples of grain from pail B and place them in clean, airtight containers or plastic sample bags. Label the container or bags to identify which bin they represent.



You now have representative samples. Keep one or more for each bin for your reference. Take one sample of each bin to your local Viterra grain facility where our qualified staff will test and grade your product.

Monitoring your grain after harvest is another way to protect your investment. It's important to understand bin moisture and temperature and to turn bins when necessary to prevent spoilage.

