

Facts for farmers

1

Quality I n n o v a t i o n Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and grain sanitation

Test your knowledge



Do you know what pests can do to the quality of grain in storage? Match the name of the pests in the first column to the correct phrase in the second column.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • The saw-toothed grain beetle | • feeds on the germ of the kernels. |
| • The Indian meal moth larva | • attacks the endosperm, often leaving only the husks. |
| • The rice weevil | • removes the germ and mats kernels together with webbing. |

The answer is . . .

The saw-toothed grain beetle feeds on the germ of the kernels.

Indian meal moth larva removes the germ and mats kernels together with webbing.

The rice weevil attacks the endosperm, often leaving only the husks.

Flip for facts on grain sanitation.



Facts

on grain sanitation

There are several kinds of insect pests that can get into your grain—on your farm, at the primary elevator, and at the ports. Wherever they're found, infestations contaminate and damage grain and reduce grain quality.

Because of the cold climate on the Prairies, insect infestations in stored grain are not as serious a problem as in other countries. They do, however, cost you money. According to research done by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in 1995, annual direct and indirect losses—i.e., discarded material, damaged packages, downgraded grain, and time loss at elevators—from insects, mites and moulds are estimated at \$90 million. The further along in the grain handling system insects are found, the more expensive it is to control them. The resulting higher costs are reflected back on you.

Grain sanitation is a matter of both treatment and prevention. It's up to everyone—the CGC, farmers, elevator operators, railway companies, and owners of lakers and ships to control insects and mites in the handling system.

Grain sanitation involves preventing, monitoring for, and treating insect and mite infestations in the handling system. Regulations and procedures covering grain sanitation are part of the Canada Grain Act. The Act prohibits all licensed grain elevators from receiving infested grain. It also states that elevator operators are responsible for notifying the CGC of an infestation, treating infested grain, and cleaning equipment and bins. The CGC is responsible for monitoring and inspecting for infestations at terminal and transfer elevators and ordering companies to treat infested grain.

When grain arrives at the terminal or transfer elevator and when it leaves, the CGC inspects it for infestations. We give all inward carlots a visual inspection for insect infestations, and, as a further measure, sample between 15 and 20 percent of them for analysis at one of our entomology labs. If there is an infestation, we instruct the company to treat it. We also trace the carlot and shipment back to the primary elevator to prevent more infested grain from being shipped.

By law, a licensed primary elevator operator cannot take infested grain. You can help keep infested grain from getting into the handling system by preventing, detecting and treating infestations in grain stored on your farm. The CGC has experts who can identify grain pests and advise you how to treat and prevent them.

Summing up

When a shipment is ready for export, its freedom from insect infestation is one of the reasons why your grain has a reputation second to none for quality. We enforce regulations, work closely with the industry, and provide services that ensure that infestations are treated quickly and efficiently.

The more you know about how to prevent and treat infestations, the better your chances of keeping them out of the grain handling system. Contact us if you need more information.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

**Contact us for other titles
in this series.**

Facts for farmers

2

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and market support

Test your knowledge

Which of the following CGC activities support the marketing of Canadian grains?

1. The annual harvest survey to report the quality of the new crop
2. Certifying Canadian grain shipments to ensure they meet the strictest international standards for safety
3. Providing technical and scientific expertise for before and after-sales service
4. All of the above CGC activities support quality-based marketing.

The answer is . . .

Number 4.

All of the above support the marketing of Canadian grains. Quality has always been Canada's marketing advantage. But, as quality-conscious markets become more competitive, quality assurance has become a major marketing tool.

Flip for facts on market support.



Facts

on market support

Harvest survey

The annual harvest survey of new crop quality is as busy and exciting for CGC staff as the harvest season is for grain farmers. Canadian farmers like you contribute tens of thousands of samples for the survey. In return for your contributions, you can call a toll-free number and get free grading and quality data on your sample.

At the CGC, harvest survey samples are graded and the moisture content is measured. Depending on the kind of grain, they are tested for protein, chlorophyll or oil content using rapid instrumental technology. Samples of the same class, grade or protein level are combined and examined at each processing step. In the laboratory, technicians use standardized tests, objective techniques and sensitive instruments to gather data on end-use quality. Scientists evaluate the data and prepare reports on processing characteristics.

CGC staff provide the data to marketers and customers. For many customers, and especially the most quality-conscious buyers, the harvest survey provides the assurance that once again the quality of the grain you grow is as good as our reputation.

Grain safety certification

The CGC was one of the first quality assurance agencies to develop the knowledge, analytical expertise and technical capability to monitor Canadian grains for food safety. Today, Canada is a world leader in grain safety assurance. Grain safety assurances are required by most buyers, and increasingly, certificates of analysis are necessary to finalize the sale.

The CGC provides safety certifications for a long list of toxic substances. Our efficiency and credibility have earned contracts in Japan, the United Kingdom, Korea, India and Norway. Although the buyer often pays the cost, without certification the marketer might not make the sale.

Grain quality expertise

The quality-based market is a technical market. The CGC provides marketers with details on grades, physical specifications and processing performance. Marketers need to know what varieties, classes or grades are technically right for the customer. The CGC provides that expertise.

Processors know their product. They know that the difference between profit and loss may be a tenth of a percent less here, a kilowatt of energy less there, a cubic centimeter more in the end product. When shopping for grain, they want to consult an expert who knows their process and their product. They most often talk to an impartial expert from the CGC who knows how to get the best performance from the grain you grow.

Summing up

CGC programs and services underpin Canada's quality assurance system and thus support quality marketing. Information on each new crop, shipments of clean, wholesome grain from a safety-conscious country, and access to an internationally recognized staff of grain quality experts score strong selling points with customers and add value to the grain you grow.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

**Contact us for other titles
in this series.**

Facts for farmers

3

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and quality assurance

Test your knowledge

Which of the following is true?

1. Quality assurance is preventing you from growing high-yielding varieties.
2. Quality assurance is checking the quality of Canadian grain after it's loaded on the boat.
3. Quality assurance is a Canadian system to ensure that the quality is in before the grade goes on and stays in after the grain goes to the customer.

The answer is . . .

Number 3 is true.

Quality assurance is a tried and true system for Canada that starts with discovering the customer's quality requirements and ends with making sure the customer gets the quality as specified. The CGC plays a major role in the Canadian grain quality assurance system.

Flip for facts on quality assurance.



Facts

on quality assurance

False: Quality assurance is preventing you from growing high-yielding varieties

Canada's quality assurance system is a voluntary one. You can grow most kinds of grain or varieties for your own use. Yield may be your only quality consideration. But if you want to grow grain to reap the benefits of Canada's quality reputation, you will choose grain classes and varieties that have been evaluated and approved for Canada's quality assurance system.

In most cases, approved varieties mean registered varieties eligible for Canada's grading system. Breeders work hard to develop varieties that perform well in your fields and in customers' products. The CGC reviews and evaluates breeders' new lines for their fit within the grading system and the handling system, and for end-use quality from the perspective of domestic and international buyers. Customers rely on these features of Canada's quality assurance system. The CGC's involvement in variety registration is just one of many things we do for quality assurance of the grain you grow.

False: Quality assurance is checking the quality of Canadian grain after it's loaded on the boat

Canadian grain shipped from licensed terminal elevators is sampled continuously, and graded and tested at regular intervals by CGC staff during the loading of export shipments. These incremental loading samples are evaluated for cleanliness and grading factors including grain class, condition, foreign material, test weight, moisture and protein content. This process assures not only that an average of samples taken from the cargo meets the grade and customer's specifications, but also that the cargo is uniform throughout, in every hold of the ship, or in every hopper car of the train.

Uniformity within the cargo and consistency between different shipments are among the top reasons customers buy Canadian grain. But it is a long journey from your bin to their boat. Quality assurance is the major reason the quality in the grain you grow gets there safely and intact.

Summing up

There are many misconceptions about quality assurance. It has become a fashionable business slogan, much advertised but not well understood. At the CGC, quality assurance is not a fashion; it's a tradition. It wasn't called quality assurance back in 1912. But ever since the CGC was established, we have worked to safeguard and strengthen Canada's reputation for quality.

The CGC is the impartial government agency that makes sure the quality of the grain you grow will maintain Canada's reputation. Our involvement in quality assurance makes sure the registered varieties you seed are evaluated for the quality the customer wants. The CGC ensures your grain is fairly and consistently graded. We ensure that customers get the quality they ordered in every tonne of every shipment.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

Contact us for other titles in this series.

Facts for farmers

4

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and quality research

Test your knowledge

Who is credited with the following innovations in Canada's grain quality system?

The technology that made protein segregation and marketing of wheat by protein content possible:

- A. The Canadian Wheat Board
- B. The Cereal Research Centre
- C. The Canadian Grain Commission

The identification of biochemical quality factors of wheat needed by Asian customers for making noodles:

- A. The University of Manitoba
- B. The Canadian International Grains Institute
- C. The Canadian Grain Commission

The answer is . . .

C. and C.

These innovations (and many more) were researched and developed by the Canadian Grain Commission's Grain Research Laboratory.

Flip for facts on quality research.



Facts

on quality research

The technology that made protein segregation and marketing of wheat by protein content possible

The CGC introduced near-infrared spectroscopy technology to Canada to test wheat for protein content. Near-infrared spectroscopy was invented in the United States, but the CGC pioneered the use of the technique for rapid, instrumental, objective testing that the rest of the world has copied.

The identification of biochemical quality factors of wheat needed by Asian customers for making noodles

The CGC has a special section devoted to research and investigation of Asian end-products such as steamed breads, dumplings and many forms and styles of noodles. This research program provides guidance to breeders who develop wheat varieties used in this market and contributes to our technical expertise in market support. Wheat quality information is distributed to export customers. Research data are used to guide grain inspectors in setting grade standards that reflect Asian end-product quality requirements. The investment in Asian end-product research is well spent. Over 50 percent of Canadian wheat exports are sold to Asian markets.

Summing up

The CGC is a world renowned centre for innovation in grain quality research and technology. The research and development activities of the CGC's Grain Research Laboratory have supported and enhanced Canada's quality assurance system, adding value to our reputation, domestic industry and the marketability of the grain you grow.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

Contact us for other titles in this series.

Facts for farmers

5

Quality Innovation Service

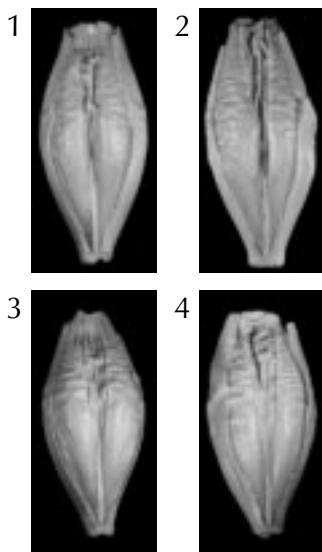
The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and technical innovation

Test your knowledge



Match the pictures of barley kernels with the names of four malting barley varieties.

___ AC Metcalfe ___ B1215 ___ Manley ___ Harrington

The answer is . . .

1. Manley 2. Harrington 3. B1215 4. AC Metcalfe

You didn't identify all four correctly? That's OK. They are all two-row malting type barleys and look similar. Without an objective test, you cannot tell them apart. This is why we need technology.

Malting barley is marketed by variety name. Each variety has individual traits that affect the malting process, giving customers a range of choices. For farmers, variety marketing means contract production and identity-preserved handling. For marketers, it means certification of varietal purity: the shipment must be tested and proof provided that a percentage—up to 95 percent—is the variety specified in the sales contract. The CGC uses technology to certify shipments and we are working on making it fast, automated and portable.

Flip for facts on technical innovation at the CGC.



Canadian Grain Commission
Commission canadienne
des grains

Canada

Facts

on technical innovation at the CGC

The CGC has led the industry in developing innovative technologies for testing grain. We use rapid instrumental methods such as near-infrared spectroscopy—to measure moisture, protein and chlorophyll content—and digital image analysis—to measure hard vitreous kernels in durum wheat. To identify malting barley varieties, we use electrophoresis and high performance liquid chromatography. The method is reliable, but samples must be sent to the laboratory in Winnipeg. Certification requires large, expensive instruments and takes many hours to perform.

The CGC is now developing DNA fingerprinting technology. The technology is familiar to almost everyone from its use in highly publicized trials. It is a powerful tool used in many fields of research. The CGC is now adapting it for varietal identification.

DNA fingerprinting has the potential to recognize an infinite number of varieties of any kind of grain, down to the last kernel. It will support identity-preserved systems and the certification of varietal purity for international grain marketing. Eventually, it has the potential for certifying genetic identity any time, any where, in the field, at domestic and international shipping points, and in the customer's bin.

It promises more rapid and more portable technology. An instrumental system the size of a briefcase has already been developed for food analysis. The CGC has committed resources for research and is seeking more funding to ensure that innovative technology like DNA fingerprinting is incorporated into Canada's grain quality assurance system.

Summing up

Today's grading standards and grading procedures are based on factors a grain inspector can see. But quality markets are insisting that the grain they purchase meet composition or performance specifications. Buyers want certificates that confirm their purchases meet contract specifications. Varietal purity is already required for malting barley and, in the future, for perhaps most of the grain you grow. Technical innovations such as DNA fingerprinting will help us meet the challenge.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

**Contact us for other titles
in this series.**

Facts for farmers

6

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The Canada Grain Act

Test your knowledge

Which of these activities is regulated under the Canada Grain Act?

1. Adding and eliminating grain grades
2. Licensing primary elevators
3. The kind of weighing equipment used at terminal elevators
4. Shipping producers cars
5. All of the above are regulated under the Canada Grain Act.

The answer is . . .

Number 5.

The Canada Grain Act regulates all these aspects of Canada's grain industry. It is the law that governs Canada's grading system and the setting of grain standards. It also governs grain handling and elevator licensing. The Act empowers the CGC to set standards for grain quality and regulate grain handling in Canada.

Its importance to farmers is most evident at the primary elevator. But the Act governs many other aspects of the grain industry, as well, for example, elevator operations and daily transactions that take place as grain moves to port.

Flip for facts on the Canada Grain Act.



Facts

on the Canada Grain Act

The grading system

Canada's grading system exists by law. Under the authority of the Canada Grain Act the system separates grain into groups, each defined by standards of quality. Regulations to the Act establish statutory grades for most grain sold domestically and for export. The CGC recommends and sets grain grades and standards and operates a fair and impartial grading and inspection system for Canadian grain. The Canada Grain Act states how grades can be changed or eliminated, how new ones are added, and who is responsible for investigating, reviewing and approving grade changes.

By law, Canada's grading system is designed to reflect the quality of grain and to meet the need for efficient marketing to domestic and international markets. Grain grades predict the end-use quality of grain, helping customers make purchasing decisions. The grading system relates price to quality. Grains are bought and sold according to statutory grade names and numbers. The grading system keeps grain with similar qualities together, making transportation and bulk handling efficient and cost-effective. Because of grain grades, the quality of each shipment of Canadian grain is consistent throughout.

Elevator licensing

The CGC licenses grain dealers and elevator companies. The purpose of licensing is to ensure that companies meet the requirements of the handling system and their financial obligations to farmers and owners of grain. The Act gives the terms and conditions companies must follow to be licensed and provides a way for farmers to make claims when a licensee fails to pay.

Grain handling

The Canada Grain Act protects grain quality by regulating the conditions under which grain is treated and handled. It stipulates the equipment licensees use for weighing, sampling, inspection and grading, and how it should be maintained. Licensees are responsible for preventing grain from deteriorating in the elevator, and the CGC can direct them to treat grain for pest infestations. At the primary elevator, the law prohibits receiving grain under certain conditions.

The law regulates grain inspection and weighing at terminal elevators. By law, the CGC registers and cancels grain elevator receipts as grain moves into and out of terminal elevators.

Grain transactions at the primary elevator

The law regulates transactions at the primary elevator. It defines the rights and responsibilities grain farmers have when they deliver their crop, negotiate the grade, sell their grain, have it shipped by producer car, or make a claim when a licensee fails to pay.

Summing up

The Canada Grain Act governs many aspects of the grain industry in Canada. Because of the Act, the quality and quantity assurance system is fair and impartial to farmers and to all parties in the grain industry. In international markets, the Act contributes to Canada's ability to compete. It protects grain quality and provides for an efficient and dependable system of grain grading. The result? A reputation for quality that helps sell the grain you grow.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705

Fax: 1-204-983-2751

Email: contact@cgc.ca

Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

**Contact us for other titles
in this series.**

Facts

for farmers

7

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

Your rights and responsibilities under the Canada Grain Act

Test your knowledge

True or false?

It's up to you to know if you are dealing with a CGC licensee when you sell your grain.

The answer is . . .

True.

According to the Canada Grain Act, you are responsible for making sure that you're dealing with a licensed company. The Act defines both your rights and responsibilities.

The CGC's job is to inform you about your rights and responsibilities. We work with you when you need unbiased inspection services or when you have a problem with a grain transaction.

Flip for facts on your rights and responsibilities and dealing with licensed grain companies.



Facts on your rights and responsibilities and dealing with licensed grain companies

Licensees and licensing

Licensing protects you. The law requires elevators and grain dealers to have a CGC license and post security to cover their liabilities—what they owe—to farmers. Grain dealers and operators of primary, terminal, process and transfer elevators are licensed by the CGC. Seed cleaning plants which do not purchase grain, and feed mills don't have to be licensed. A licence does not guarantee, however, that a company will never run into financial problems. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that you are covered 100 percent for what you are owed.

You can find out if a company is licensed by contacting the CGC. Licensed elevators must display their licence on site.

Your legal rights

The law explains how your rights apply when you deliver your crop, negotiate the grade, sell your grain, or have it shipped by producer car.

You are financially protected when you deliver grain to a CGC-licensed grain elevator or dealer. But this protection is limited, and you must follow certain rules to eligible for compensation.

If you want to know about the quality of your grain, by law, you can get an unbiased, accurate assessment of grade, dockage and moisture content from the CGC. This includes getting a binding decision from the CGC if you disagree with the elevator operator's assessment.

If you want to preserve the identity of your grain, you can ask for special bin storage and for a representative sample to be kept in a locked box. If you believe, after the grain is shipped, that its identity has not been preserved, you are entitled to ask the CGC to investigate and settle the dispute.

You have the right to apply to the CGC for a railway car for sending your grain to a destination you choose. Producer cars are allocated by the CGC. If you ship a producer car or consigned car to a terminal elevator and are dissatisfied with the CGC's official grade at unload, you have the right to request a reinspection by the CGC. Furthermore, you can appeal the CGC's reinspection and request one by the Grain Appeal Tribunal, whose decision is final and binding.

Your legal responsibilities

You can make a claim against a licensed company if it fails to pay you. You are responsible for

- Determining if you are dealing with CGC licensees
- When making a claim, presenting CGC-authorized documents issued by the elevator operator
- Meeting the deadline for claims when a company fails to pay you.

Summing up

By being aware of your rights and responsibilities, you reduce the risk of running into financial problems and maximize your chances of getting a fair deal for the grain you grow. If you're in doubt about a transaction with a grain company or you want the assurance of an unbiased grade, the CGC can help. It's within your rights and responsibilities to ask.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

Contact us for other titles in this series.

Facts for farmers

8

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

Reduce risks when selling your grain

Test your knowledge

True or false?

1. All grain companies provide security to protect farmers in case of financial failure.
2. Farmers are protected for one year from the date of delivering grain to a licensed grain company.
3. Scale tickets can not be used to make a claim against security.
4. Deferred payments are covered by security.

The answer is . . .

Numbers 1, 2 and 4 are false.

Only grain companies licensed by the CGC post security to cover what they owe you in case of financial failure. You are protected for 90 calendar days—not a year—from the date of delivering grain to a licensee. If you defer receiving payment more than 90 days after you deliver grain, you are not protected by security.

Number 3 is true.

Because scale tickets are not approved by the CGC, they do not support claims.

If you grow cereal grains, oilseeds or special crops and want to protect yourself, here's how.

Flip for facts on reducing risks when selling your grain.



Facts on reducing risks when selling your grain

Licensees and the Canada Grain Act

According to the Canada Grain Act, elevators and grain dealers must be licensed and post security to cover their liabilities—what they owe—to grain farmers. The Canadian Grain Commission licenses elevator companies and grain dealers. A licence does not guarantee, however, that a company will not run into financial problems. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that you are covered 100 percent for what you are owed.

Your rights

If a licensee refuses or fails to pay, you can make a claim against security.

Your responsibilities

Some unlicensed companies buy and sell grain using Canada Grain Act grade names. The onus is on you to know which companies are licensed and what your rights and responsibilities are under the Canada Grain Act. To protect yourself, follow these steps.

Deal only with licensed grain companies.

Claims against licensed companies only are eligible.

Get the proper documents.

Only documents approved by the CGC can be used to make a claim against security. When you deliver grain, make sure you get one of these:

- Cash purchase ticket
- Primary elevator receipt
- Grain receipt
- Special bin primary elevator receipt
- Interim primary elevator receipt
- Drying receipt
- Cleaning receipt

Scale tickets do not support claims against security.

Meet the deadline for claims if a company fails to pay you.

To make the deadline, remember these two time periods.

You are protected for 90 calendar days from the date of delivering grain to a licensee. If a company refuses or fails to pay you in that time period, you have the right to make a claim against security.

When a company refuses or fails to pay you, you must notify the CGC in writing within 30 calendar days. The 90-day time period is no longer in effect at this point. Failure to notify us about payment problems within 30 days of the licensee's refusal or failure to pay will invalidate your claim.

The 30-day time period

Here are two common examples of when it comes into effect.

Example 1: A farmer delivers grain to an elevator and receives an elevator receipt, but the elevator operator will not issue a cheque or cash purchase ticket when the receipt is surrendered for payment. The CGC considers this a failure to pay. The farmer must make a claim to us within 30 days of the failure to pay.

Example 2: A farmer is given a cheque and goes to the bank to cash it, but the cheque bounces. Failure to pay occurs when the farmer is given the cheque, not when it is discovered there are insufficient funds. Therefore, the 30-day time period comes into effect on the day the cheque is given. If the farmer attempts to cash the cheque more than 30 days after that date and the cheque bounces, the claim is not valid.

Insist on early payment—immediate payment is best.

Why delay payment? Getting paid early is your best safeguard.

Summing up

You can reduce financial risk by being informed about your legal rights and responsibilities.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: fhodgkinson@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

Contact us for other titles in this series.

Facts for farmers

9

Quality Innovation Service

The grain you grow has one of the best reputations for quality.

The Canadian Grain Commission provides, by the authority of the Canada Grain Act, unbiased regulation of the grain industry. We ensure fair and consistent quality assessment and services for Canadian farmers. With our technical and scientific expertise, we safeguard Canada's reputation for grain quality, innovation and research.

We don't process, transport, sell or buy your grain. But where the quality of your grain counts, we're involved.

The CGC and grain safety

Test your knowledge

Put a check mark beside the name of the substances that the CGC routinely monitors in Canadian grain.

- Phenoxy acid herbicides
- Strychnine
- Organochlorine compounds
- Zearalenone
- Ergot alkaloids
- Trichothecene mycotoxins
- Glyphosate
- Mad cow disease
- Arsenic
- Botulin

The answer is . . .

The CGC routinely tests for most of these substances and many, many more, but not strychnine, botulin or mad cow disease. These three problems are not associated with crops or grains.

- Strychnine is a poisonous compound derived from a plant species, sometimes used to control animal pests.
- Botulin is a potent toxin produced by bacteria in improperly preserved food.
- Mad cow disease is the popular term for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) that affects cattle.

The CGC routinely monitors selected export shipments of cereal grains, oilseeds and pulse crops for pesticide residues, mycotoxins and toxic elements. Pesticide residues include herbicides, fungicides and insecticides used on crops, stored grain or storage places. Glyphosate, organochlorine compounds and phenoxy acid herbicides are just a few of the pesticides analysed by the CGC. Mycotoxins are poisonous compounds produced by some fungi. Many trichothecenes and zearalenone are produced by *Fusarium species*, and a number of alkaloids are present in ergot bodies. Arsenic is a trace element known to be poisonous at toxic levels.

Flip for facts on grain safety at the CGC.



Facts

on grain safety at the CGC

Food safety is news. The safety of food for human consumption and feed for animals has become a major domestic and international issue for primary producers, processors, retailers and consumers. The safety of food products tops the list of issues on international trade and among governments and regulatory agencies. Grain safety is a priority issue with grain buyers and an essential specification in grain marketing. The percentage of protein is negotiable, but compliance with safety specifications is not.

At the CGC, assuring the safety of Canadian grain is a top priority. The CGC grain safety program takes a number of approaches.

- **Prevention**—The CGC investigates routes of entry of toxic substances into grain and reviews pest control products proposed for use in the Canadian grain industry.
- **Control**—Grain moving through the licensed elevator system is inspected to identify parcels that may contain unacceptable levels of toxic substances, and to remove them from food, feed and export channels.
- **Monitoring**—Cargoes are monitored for toxic substances to check that Canadian grain exports can meet a bewildering array of international tolerances. The CGC maintains state-of-the-art detection capabilities for parts per billion levels. It coordinates an extensive cargo monitoring program.
- **Research**—The CGC develops analytical methods, researches retention of toxic substances during processing, and investigates relationships between visual features of grain and the presence of toxic substances. The CGC sets grade tolerances to ensure Canadian grain meets the strictest international standards.
- **Market support**—The CGC provides a variety of grain safety services to grain processors, marketers and buyers by
 - Providing advice and assistance on grain safety specifications in sales tenders and contracts
 - Providing chemical analysis for cargo certification and safety assurance purposes
 - Issuing official statements of assurance and other documentation on grain safety required by marketers and buyers

Summing up

Grain safety is a quality assurance priority at the CGC. The CGC's grain safety program spans five phases from prevention and control to monitoring, research and market support. This ensures that the marketability of the grain you grow is not jeopardized by a rapidly expanding number of food safety issues. CGC grain safety services provide marketers and buyers with the means to assure and certify that Canadian grain shipments meet the strictest requirements of both domestic and foreign customers. More than ever, grain safety is an important part of Canada's competitive edge in the global market.

Want to know more?

Call: 1-800-853-6705
Fax: 1-204-983-2751
Email: contact@cgc.ca
Visit: <http://www.cgc.ca>

**Contact us for other titles
in this series.**