



Official Grain Grading Guide

August 1, 2007

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19. Beans

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Determination of dockage

Definitions

Dockage is assessed and recorded to the nearest 0.1%. Dockage is assessed only on unprocessed samples of beans.

Dockage is defined under the Canada Grain Act as “any material intermixed with a parcel of grain, other than kernels of grain of a standard of quality fixed by or under this Act for a grade of that grain, that must and can be separated from the parcel of grain before that grade can be assigned to the grain.” Dockage is removed by following the cleaning procedures described in this chapter.

The sample as it arrives is referred to as the uncleaned or dirty sample. Its weight is the **gross weight** of the sample. Dockage is assessed on the gross weight of the sample.

Dockage not reported

- ▲ **Important:** Dockage is not reported for samples grading
 - *Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Fireburnt*
 - *Beans, Sample Salvage*
 - *Beans, Sample Condemned*

Normal cleaning procedures

- ▲ **Important:** Wear gloves and a mask to handle any samples that you suspect may contain hazardous substances.

Dockage is assessed only on unprocessed samples of beans. All foreign material in processed samples is assessed as grading factors.

1. Using a Boerner-type divider, divide the uncleaned sample to obtain a representative portion.
 - Official samples should be at least 900 grams.
 - Unofficial samples should be at least 750 grams.
2. Choose the appropriate hand sieve for the size of the bean.
 - No. 8 slotted
 - No. 9 slotted
 - No. 11 slotted
3. Sieve the samples over the appropriate slotted sieve, using approximately 250 g at a time, to remove all readily removable material.
4. Handpick the portion remaining on top of the slotted sieve to remove all coarse foreign vegetable matter such as pods, stems, straw, thistle tops.
 - ▲ **Important:** Do not remove mineral matter, ergot, sclerotinia, weed seeds or other grains.
5. Determine dockage. Use the list under *Composition of dockage*.

Composition of dockage

Dockage includes

- All material removed by sieving or handpicking or both, as defined in the previous section
- Soft earth pellets, which are pellets that crumble under light pressure, including earth pellets, fertilizer pellets, or pellets of any non-toxic material of similar consistency
- In unprocessed samples, mudballs handpicked from the cleaned sample

Optional analysis

Where a shipper requests special cleaning of a carlot of grain at a terminal or transfer elevator, and the elevator manager agrees, dockage material will be analyzed for the presence of grain. The percentage and grade of any grain contained in the dockage will be reported and elevator stocks will be adjusted on the basis of the analysis. Agreement of the shipper and unload elevator must be conveyed to the CGC in writing prior to the analysis being performed.

Procedures

1. Analyze the official sample.
2. Record the following on inspection records:
 - The percentage by gross weight to the nearest 0.1% and the grade of beans.
 - The percentage by gross weight to the nearest 0.1% and the grade of grain separable from dockage.
 - The percentage of dockage.

Example

95.0% Beans No. 1 CAN Cranberry

4.0% Domestic Mustard Seed, No. 1 CAN Oriental

1.0% dockage

Grading

Important definitions

Net weight of sample

The sample after cleaning and removal of dockage is referred to as the cleaned sample. Its weight is the net weight of the sample. Percentages by weight for grading refer to percentages of the net weight.

Hazardous substances in samples

Wear gloves and a mask to handle any samples that you suspect may contain hazardous substances. Hazardous substances are defined in the Regulations as “any pesticide, herbicide or desiccant.”

Representative portion for grading

All grading is done on representative portions divided down from the cleaned sample, using a Boerner-type divider.

When the concentration of the grading factor is . . .	Then use . . .
Low	Optimum portion
High	Minimum portion or more (do not use less)

Values in this table represent a range of recommended portions of samples for grading.

Representative portion of beans for grading, grams

Grading factor	Minimum	Optimum	Export
Contrasting classes	100	500	500
Damage	100	500	500
Ergot	500	working sample	working sample
Excreta	working sample	working sample	working sample
Fireburnt	working sample	working sample	working sample
Foreign material	100	500	500
Heated, rotted, mouldy	100	500	500
Insect parts	working sample	working sample	working sample
Odour	working sample	working sample	working sample
Other classes of beans that blend	250	500	500
Sclerotinia sclerotiorum	500	working sample	working sample
Splits	100	500	500
Stones	100	working sample	working sample

Grading factors

Adhered soil

Adhered soil is soil which clings to beans.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Procedures

- Completely covered beans are called mudball beans. See *Mudball beans*.
- Otherwise, assess the amount of adhered soil against the colour standard.

Broken (BKN)

See *Splits*

Classes

There are numerous classes of beans; for example, cranberry beans, blackeye beans, turtle beans. The class of beans forms part of the grade name; for example, *Beans, No. 1 Canada Cranberry*.

Colour (CLR)

Colour is evaluated on the cleaned sample after the removal of splits and damaged beans. There is no numeric tolerance for colour. It is included in the evaluation of the standard of quality of the sample.

Standard of quality	Description (for grading)
Good natural colour	Beans may be slightly dull, slightly immature or have lightly adhered soil.
Reasonably good colour	Beans are moderately immature, with lightly adhered soil, or are lightly stained, or are lightly discoloured from storage.
Fairly good colour	Beans have moderately adhered soil or are stained, or moderately discoloured from storage.
Off colour	Beans cannot be considered of fairly good colour.

Sunburned or oxidized

In assessing colour which does not meet grade standards, you may also use the term *Sunburned or oxidized*, which is a normal discolouration of the seed coat occurring during storage. The colour may vary from light tan to brown or very dark brown, depending on the duration and conditions of storage.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—working
sample

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Procedure

Colour is assessed against the colour standard for the grade.

Contaminated grain

▲ **Important:** Wear gloves and a mask to handle any sample that is suspected of containing contaminated grain.

Contaminated is defined in the “*Canada Grain Act*” as; “Contaminated means, in respect of grain, containing any substance in sufficient quantity that the grain is unfit for consumption by persons or animals or is adulterated within the meaning of the regulations made pursuant to sections B.01.046(1), B.15.001 and B.15.002(1) of the *Food and Drugs Act*.”

Samples deemed to be contaminated by the Grain Research Laboratory in consultation with the Chief Grain Inspector for Canada are graded *Beans, Sample Condemned*.

Contrasting classes (CON CL)

Beans of another class that contrast in colour, size or shape to the predominant beans in a sample are considered to be of a contrasting class.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Damage (DMG)

Damaged beans include

- Whole, split, or broken beans that are sprouted, very immature, perforated, distinctly deteriorated or discoloured by weather or disease.
- Beans that are otherwise damaged in a way that seriously affects appearance or quality. This includes mudball beans in processed beans.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Procedures

Beans showing some indication of possible internal damage are to be cut for confirmation of damage.

▲ **Important:** Damage is the most detrimental grading factor.
Refer to the Order of Precedence.

Earth pellets (EP)

- Hard earth pellets are pellets that do not crumble under light pressure.
See *Stones*.
 - Soft earth pellets are pellets that crumble under light pressure.
See *Soft earth pellets*.
-

Ergot (ERG)

Ergot is a plant disease producing elongated fungus bodies with a purplish-black exterior, a purplish-white to off white interior, and a relatively smooth surface texture.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—500 g

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Excreta (EXCR)

▲ **Important:** Wear gloves and a mask to handle any samples that you suspect may contain excreta.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—working
sample

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Fertilizer pellets (FERT PLTS)

Fertilizer pellets are typically either small, round and white or irregular shaped and pink or red. Fertilizer pellets are not considered a hazardous substance however there is no visible means of assuring that material resembling fertilizer pellets is not some other contaminant.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—working
sample

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Procedures

- Handpick any fertilizer pellets and determine the concentration basis the net working sample.
- Fertilizer pellets are assessed as stones when the concentration does not exceed 1.0% of the net sample weight.
- Samples containing fertilizer pellets in excess of 1.0% of the net sample weight are graded *Beans, Held IP Suspect Contaminated Grain*.

Note: Canadian Grain Commission personnel should refer to ISO national work instruction “*Suspect Contaminated Grain, Handling Procedures*” for procedures to be followed when handling samples containing fertilizer pellets.

Fireburnt (FBNT)

Fireburnt beans are beans charred or scorched by fire. A cross-section of a fireburnt bean resembles charcoal with numerous air holes. The air holes result in a low weight bean which crumbles easily under pressure.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—working
sample

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Procedure

Samples of beans containing any fireburnt seeds are graded *Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Fireburnt*.

Foreign material (FM)

This includes any material other than beans or split beans not removed in cleaning.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Mouldy (MLDY)

Mouldy beans are characterized by the presence of dark blue exterior moulds that develop in machine-damaged crevices. Light and dark red kidney beans may develop yellow to black interior moulds in the concave centre area. Heated, rotted, and mouldy are included in the same tolerance.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Mudball beans

Mudball beans are beans that are completely covered with caked-on mud.

- In processed samples, mudball beans are considered *Damage*.
 - In unprocessed samples, mudball beans are considered dockage.
-

Odour (ODOR)

There is no numeric tolerance for odour. Consider

- The basic quality of the sample
- The type and degree of the odour
- The presence of visible residue causing the odour

Representative portion for analysisMinimum—working
sampleOptimum—working
sampleExport—working
sample

If odour is the grade determinant and there is . . .	Then the grade is . . .
An objectionable odour, not heated or fireburnt	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Account Odour</i>
A heated odour	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Account Heated</i>
A fireburnt odour	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Account Fireburnt</i>

Other classes of beans that blend (OCLBB)

Classes of beans that blend are sound beans of other classes which are similar in colour, size and shape to the predominant beans in a sample.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—250 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Rotted (ROT)

Rotted beans are whole beans or pieces of beans that are visibly in advanced stages of decomposition and that feel spongy under pressure. Heated, rotted, and mouldy are included in the same tolerance.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Sclerotinia sclerotiorum (SCL)

Sclerotinia sclerotiorum is a fungus producing hard masses of fungal tissue, called *sclerotia*. The sclerotia vary in size and shape, have a coarse surface texture, vary in exterior color from dark black to gray to white and have a pure white interior.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—500 g

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Soft earth pellets (SEP)

Soft earth pellets are pellets that crumble under light pressure—if they do not crumble, they are considered *Stones*. These pellets can be

- Earth and fertilizer pellets
- Any non-toxic material of similar consistency

Earth pellets are classed as foreign material.

Splits (SPLTS)

Splits include split beans, broken pieces of beans that are less than three-quarters of whole kernels, and halves of beans that are loosely held together by cracked seed coats.

▲ **Important:** Splits do not include beans that are otherwise damaged. In other words, if a split is damaged, it is graded as *Damage*, not as splits.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—100 g

Optimum—500 g

Export—500 g

Procedures

Use a slotted sieve to help separate splits. Return to the sample any whole beans which pass through the sieve.

Stones (STNS)

Stones are hard shale, coal, hard earth pellets, and any other non toxic materials of similar consistency. Fertilizer pellets are assessed as stones when constituting 1.0% or less of the net sample weight. (See *Fertilizer pellets* for specific procedures to be followed when samples contain fertilizer pellets.)

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—250 g

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

Procedures

1. Handpick stones from a representative portion of the cleaned sample.
2. Determine stone concentration in the net sample.
 - In western Canada samples of grain containing stones in excess of “basic grade” tolerances, up to 2.5% are graded *Beans, Rejected “basic grade” Account Stones*. The “basic grade” refers to a grade established in the Canada Grain Regulations (grades listed in the first column in grade determinant tables) that would have been assigned to the sample if it contained no stones.
 - In eastern Canada samples of grain containing stones in excess of grade tolerances are degraded to lower grades. Samples containing stones in excess of the tolerance of the lowest grade established by regulation up to 2.5% are graded *Beans, Sample Canada Account Stones*.
 - In western and eastern Canada grain containing more than 2.5% stones is graded *Beans, Sample Salvage*.

Examples: Western Canada

Excerpt from grade determinant tables for
Beans, Canada Cranberry, Blackeye or Yelloweye Canada

Grade name	Stones %
Extra No. 1 Canada	Nil
No. 1 Canada	0.05
No. 1 Canada Select	0.05
No. 2 Canada	0.1
No. 3 Canada	0.2
No. 4 Canada	0.5

Basic grade:..... *Beans, No. 2 Canada Cranberry*

Reason for basic grade: 0.2% Heated

If the above sample contained	Grade in western Canada
0.2% stones	<i>Beans, Rejected No. 2 Canada Cranberry Account Stones</i>
1.0% stones	<i>Beans, Rejected No. 2 Canada Cranberry Account Stones</i>
3.0% stones	<i>Beans, Sample Salvage</i>

Examples: Eastern Canada

Excerpt from grade determinant tables for
Beans, Canada Cranberry, Blackeye or Yelloweye Canada

Grade name	Stones %
Extra No. 1 Canada	Nil
No. 1 Canada	0.05
No. 1 Canada Select	0.05
No. 2 Canada	0.1
No. 3 Canada	0.2
No. 4 Canada	0.5

Basic grade:..... *Beans, No. 2 Canada Cranberry*

Reason for basic grade: 0.2% Heated

If the above sample contained	Grade in eastern Canada
0.2% stones	<i>Beans, No. 3 Canada Cranberry</i>
1.0% stones	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Cranberry Account Stones</i>
3.0% stones	<i>Beans, Sample Salvage</i>

Treated seed and other chemical chemical substances

Treated seed

Treated seed is grain that has been coated with an agricultural chemical for agronomic purposes. These seed dressings contain a dye to render the treated seed visually conspicuous. The colour of the dye varies depending upon the type of treatment and the type of grain. The current Canadian colour standards for pesticide seed treatments are: cereals—pink or red, canola—baby blue or green. Seed treated with an inoculant may have a green stain. The coatings or stains may appear greasy or powdery and surface area distribution ranges from tiny flecks to complete coverage.

Other chemical substances

Other chemical substances refers to any chemical residues either adhering to the kernel or remaining in the sample and to samples having a chemical odour of any kind.

▲ **Important:** Wear gloves and a mask to handle any samples that you suspect may contain contaminated grain.

Representative portion for analysis

Minimum—working
sample

Optimum—working
sample

Export—working
sample

If a sample is suspected of being coated with a pesticide, desiccant, inoculant or if the sample contains evidence of any foreign chemical substance other than fertilizer pellets, the sample shall be graded *Beans, Held IP Suspect Contaminated Grain*.

Note: Canadian Grain Commission personnel should refer to ISO national work instruction “*Suspect Contaminated Grain, Handling Procedures*” for specific procedures to be followed when handling samples suspected of containing treated seed or other chemical substances.

Variety

Beans are graded without reference to variety.

Special analyses

Upon request, samples may be analyzed for other factors. The shipper of the beans indicates which factors are to be analyzed and which sieves to use.

Split beans

Use a slotted sieve to help in separating splits from whole beans.

Record all percentages to two decimal places.

Factor	Minimum representative portion to analyse g
Foreign material	500
Sound whole or sound splits	100
Damaged whole or damaged splits	100

Cracked seed coats (CSDC)

Cracked seed coats include

- Beans with any cracked seed coats
 - Beans with a piece of seed coat missing
- Beans with a seed coat punctured by insect or other means

Primary and export grade determinants tables

Pea Beans, Canada (CAN)

Grade name	Standard of quality	Other classes that blend %
Extra No. 1 Canada	Uniform size, good natural colour	1
Canada No. 1 Select	Fairly good colour	1
No. 1 Canada	Reasonably good colour	1
No. 2 Canada	Fairly good colour	5
No. 3 Canada	Fairly good colour	5
No. 4 Canada	Off-colour	5
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met		<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Other Classes That Blend</i>

Grade name	Foreign material					Contrasting classes %	Heated, rotted, mouldy %	Total damage, foreign material, and contrasting classes %	Total damage, including splits, foreign material and contrasting classes %
	Ergot %	Insect parts %	Sclerotinia %	Stones, shale or similar material %	Total %				
Extra No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.1	Nil	1.0	1.0
Canada No. 1 Select	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.1	0.20	1.5	2.0
No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.1	0.10	1.5	2.0
No. 2 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.20	1	0.20	3	4
No. 3 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.20	0.5	1	0.3	5	6
No. 4 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.20	0.5	1	1.0	<u>8.5</u>	10
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Ergot</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Admixture</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Admixture</i>	<i>2.5% or less—Pea Beans, Rejected (grade) Account Stones, or Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Stones Over 2.5%—Pea Beans, Sample Salvage</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Admixture</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Contrasting Classes</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account Heated or Account Mouldy Kernels</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada Account (reason)</i>	<i>Pea Beans, Sample Canada, Account (reason)</i>

Beans, Canada Cranberry, Blackeye or Yelloweye (CAN)

Grade name	Standard of quality	Other classes that blend %
Extra No. 1 Canada	Uniform size, good natural colour	1
No. 1 Canada	Reasonably good colour	3
No. 1 Canada Select	Fairly good colour	3
No. 2 Canada	Fairly good colour	5
No. 3 Canada	Fairly good colour	10
No. 4 Canada	Off-colour	15
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met		<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Other Classes That Blend</i>

Grade name	Foreign material					Contrasting classes %	Heated, rotted, mouldy %	Total damage, foreign material, and contrasting classes %	Total damage, including splits, foreign material and contrasting classes %
	Ergot %	Insect parts %	Sclerotinia %	Stones, shale or similar material %	Total %				
Extra No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	Nil	0.05	1.0	Nil	1.0	1.0
No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.10	1.5	0.10	1.5	3.5
No. 1 Canada Select	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.10	1.5	0.10	1.5	3.5
No. 2 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.20	3	0.20	3	<u>5.5</u>
No. 3 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.20	0.5	5	0.3	5	<u>7.5</u>
No. 4 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.50	1.0	<u>8.5</u>	1.0	<u>8.5</u>	10
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Ergot</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Admixture</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Admixture</i>	<i>2.5% or less—Beans, Rejected (grade) (class) Account Stones, or Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Stones Over 2.5%—Beans, Sample Salvage</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Account Admixture</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Contrasting Classes</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Heated or Account Mouldy Kernels</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account (reason)</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account (reason)</i>

Note: The class name is added to the grade name.

Beans, Canada, other than Cranberry, Blackeye, Yelloweye or Pea Beans (CAN)

Grade name	Standard of quality	Other classes that blend %
Extra No. 1 Canada	Uniform size, good natural colour	1
No. 1 Canada	Reasonably good colour	3
No. 1 Canada Select	Fairly good colour	3
No. 2 Canada	Fairly good colour	5
No. 3 Canada	Fairly good colour	10
No. 4 Canada	Off-colour	15
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met		<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Other Classes That Blend</i>

Grade name	Foreign material					Contrasting classes %	Heated, rotted, mouldy %	Total damage, foreign material, and contrasting classes %	Total damage, including splits, foreign material and contrasting classes %
	Ergot %	Insect parts %	Sclerotinia %	Stones, shale or similar material %	Total %				
Extra No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	Nil	0.05	1.0	Nil	1.0	1.0
No. 1 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.10	1.5	0.10	1.5	2.0
No. 1 Canada Select	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.10	1.5	0.10	1.5	2.0
No. 2 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.20	3	0.20	3	4
No. 3 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.20	0.5	5	0.3	5	6
No. 4 Canada	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.50	1.0	8.5	1.0	8.5	10
Grade, if No. 4 specs not met	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Ergot</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Admixture</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Admixture</i>	<i>2.5% or less—Beans, Rejected (grade) (class) Account Stones, or Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Stones Over 2.5%—Beans, Sample Salvage</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada Account Admixture</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Contrasting Classes</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account Heated or Account Mouldy Kernels</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account (reason)</i>	<i>Beans, Sample Canada (class) Account (reason)</i>

Note: The class name is added to the grade name.

Export shipments

Shipments can be commercially clean or not commercially clean.

Commercially clean (CC)

Shipments are considered commercially clean when they contain no dockage material.

Not commercially clean (NCC)

Shipments that do not meet the standards for commercial cleanliness are referred to as not commercially clean. Such shipments are permitted only with the permission of the CGC.

For samples representing not commercially clean shipments approved by the CGC for shipment from terminal and transfer elevators, dockage is reported to the nearest

- 0.1% for samples representing commercially clean shipments loaded from a single terminal or transfer elevator
- 0.01% for composite samples representing shipments loaded from more than one terminal or transfer elevator

less a deduction of up to 0.2% to take into account the buildup of attritional material..

Grading

Beans on export are graded in accordance with primary standards and specifications.