



United States Department of Agriculture

# Agricultural Marketing Service

Creating Opportunities for American Farmers and Businesses

## Resolution Update

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&

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Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting

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## Program Guidance

The Advisory Committee recommends FGIS take steps to reconcile and consolidate instructions to ensure clear, easy to access guidance. This would help the official system provide more accurate, consistent and timely service.

## Budget

The Advisory Committee recommends that OMB eliminate the limitation on inspection and weighing services expenses. If this is not possible, the Committee recommends that the \$55 million limitation only apply to grain export activities under the provisions of the USGSA.

## Systems Approach

FGIS execution support to the “USDA Soybean Systems Approach” should not compel a change in U.S. grading standards, nor require FGIS financial resources.

## Lengthen Terms of Service for GIAC Members

The GIAC recommends that the 2020 reauthorization of the U.S. Grain Standards Act establishes a 5-year term of service for GIAC members with the utilization of shorter terms to stagger appointments. This process of appointing members serves to strengthen commitments of service, establish continuity, foster collaboration and encourage cohesiveness of the committee. Members are eligible to serve multiple but not successive terms. If the reauthorization of the 2020 USGSA extends the terms of service for GIAC members, the committee recommends that the Secretary extend current GIAC member terms according to this policy.

## Review of Geographic Boundaries

The GIAC committee recommends a comprehensive survey of the market and scope of service needs in each boundary for official grain inspection services and the number of the official agencies. Since FGIS was created in 1976, there have been significant changes in the number and operations of both grain handling facilities and officially designated inspection agencies; the amount of grain and oilseeds handled and processed within each geographic boundary; and the number of quality attributes and other quality tests conducted by these agencies. The Advisory Committee believes these changes in the domestic marketplace, necessitate that FGIS comprehensively update information and data upon which the geographic boundaries are based.

## Vessel Stowage Exams

The Advisory Committee commends FGIS on its efforts to incorporate innovative technology by delivering services to its shareholders, while protecting the safety of personnel. The Committee strongly encourages the approval and implementation of the “pilot program” for Barge Stowage Examinations via camera system.

The Committee also recommends FGIS continue studying its technological innovative programs for cost savings, efficiency, and operational safety concerns, as it relates to Vessel Stowage Examinations. (i.e. UAV with NIR technology and/or camera when applicable).

## HVAC

The Advisory Committee commends FGIS for researching an improved method for HVAC classification in Durum wheat. The committee recommends FGIS continue to research and develop a bleaching method to quantify and separate HVAC kernels from soft kernels in durum wheat to facilitate subclass determinations. The committee encourages FGIS to further investigate whether the same or similar methods can be used to determine DHV kernels versus non-vitreous kernels in the Hard Red Spring Wheat class.



## Mycotoxin Test Kits

The Advisory Committee urges FGIS to continue to identify causes of variation in mycotoxin testing and to develop a comprehensive plan to address these causes. The Committee requests FGIS to investigate certifying and reporting at lower levels than the current limit of quantitation, and report back to the Committee.

## New Devices

The Advisory Committee appreciates FGIS' recognition of the importance of encouraging competition in the official device system. The Committee urges FGIS to develop a comprehensive and proactive approach to identifying new technology priorities that may bring improved test results, greater efficiency and/or lower cost. The Committee recognizes that any new devices must add value to the testing system in compliance with current guidelines.

## LED Lighting

The Advisory Committee recommends FGIS continue research on the most appropriate LED lighting solution that may include overhead or task lights.