

COST OF BAD PRACTICES



WHY STANDARDS MATTER

Following the maize grain standards reduces risks and improves the returns of all those in the market chain:

- **Farmers** get better prices and reduce post-harvest losses. They can participate in the warehouse receipt system where they can store the maize until the price improves, and take a bank loan using their maize grain as surety.
- **Traders** get a reliable supply of high quality maize that they can sell to their clients. When the maize conforms to the standards and is available in large quantities it is easier to sell to high value markets with less risk of the grain being rejected by the buyer.
- **Processors** want a continuous and reliable supply of quality raw materials. Complying with standards, reduces waste and ensures that the final product will be of high quality and earn a higher price.
- **Consumers** get food that is safe and nutritious to eat.

BENEFIT OF GOOD PRACTICES



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Eastern Africa Grain Council
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- National Agricultural Advisory Services
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- The Grain Council of Uganda
- Uganda National Commodity Exchange
- Uganda National Bureau of Standards
- Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Uganda National Farmers Federation
- USAID Feed the Future Uganda Commodity Production and Marketing Activity
- USAID Feed the Future Uganda Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity
- World Food Programme

For further information contact:

Uganda National Bureau of Standards
Standards House, Bweyogerere

Plot 2-12 By Pass Link Bweyogerere Industrial and Business Park, P.O. Box 6329 Kampala

Tel: 0417 333 250, Toll Free Helpline: 0800133133
info@unbs.go.ug; www.unbs.go.ug



MAIZE IS MONEY: HANDLE WITH CARE

East African Community Maize Grain Standard



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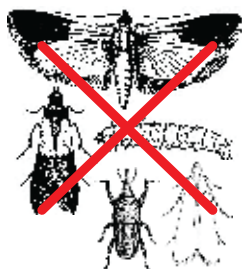
GOOD PRACTICES



Use
proper
shelling



Sort, sieve or
winnow maize
to get rid of
foreign matter



Use
recommended
practices to
control
insects



Clean
granary/store
well before
storing grain

STANDARD IMPACTED

BROKEN GRAINS:

Pieces of maize which pass through a 4.5 mm diameter round hole metal sieve.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Broken grains, % m/m	2.0	4.0	6.0



Broken Grains

STAINED GRAIN:

Stained grain is grain/kernel whose natural colour has been altered by external factors, such as ground, soil or weather. This may include grain which has dark stains or discolouration with a rough external appearance.



Stained grain

ROTTEN AND DISEASED GRAIN:

Grain made unsafe for human consumption due to decay, moulding or bacterial decomposition or other causes that may be noticed without having to cut the grain to examine them.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Rotten and diseased, % m/m	1.0	2.0	3.0

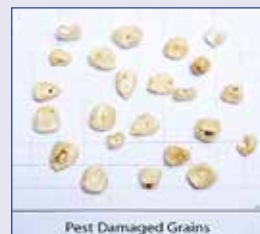


Rotten & Diseased Grains

PEST DAMAGED GRAIN:

Maize grain with obvious weevil-bored holes or which have evidence of boring or tunneling, indicating the presence of insects, insect webbing or insect refuse; or degermed grain, grain chewed in one or more than one part of the grain which exhibit evident traces of an attack by vermin.

Characteristic	Maximum Limit		
	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Pest damaged, % m/m	1.0	3.0	5.0



Pest Damaged Grains

BAD PRACTICES



Do not
beat
maize
cobs



Do not
sell maize
which is not
cleaned or
sorted



Do not let
insects eat
maize



Do not store
grain in dirty
conditions