

## Sampling trucks to bin storage

To take a representative sample from trucks as they fill a bin, you will need:

- Four identical pails that hold a minimum of 20 litres. Two of these pails should be labelled A and 2 pails labelled B.
- A grain scoop or sampling ladle
- Sealable containers for the final samples

### Procedure

1. As trucks unload to a selected bin, take grain samples at consistent and regular intervals to ensure the sample is representative. The length of the interval should be determined at the beginning of the process and should take into account:
  - Amount of grain that is being moved
  - Type of equipment you are using
  - How much sample you need

For example, the larger the auger or the smaller the load of grain, the shorter the interval. It's also very important to keep the sampling interval time consistent throughout the entire process to ensure your sample is representative.

When taking grain samples, alternate between the sides and centre of the grain stream. Place all the samples for each truck in pail A, ensuring that you have at least enough sample to fill the pail to three-quarters full.

2. Once the truck is finished unloading, mix the contents of pail A thoroughly by hand. Place the 2 empty pails labelled B, side by side and touching on a level surface. Pour the contents of pail A at the point where the pails touch, ensuring that each pail receives about half the sample. Return 1 pail of sample to pail A. The contents of the other pail can be poured back into the bin.

Repeat this process with the remaining sample until you have approximately 2 kilograms of sample left. Place the final sample into the remaining pail labelled A.

3. Repeat the procedure for each truckload of grain that is going into the same bin.
4. When the bin is full, thoroughly mix the contents of pail A by hand and reduce the sample as outlined in Step 2. Keep in mind that for most purposes, you will need enough grain to make 1-kilogram samples.
5. Place the final sample or samples in sealed containers and label each container to show the bin it represents.

## Sampling a grain bin

To take a representative sample at the farm from a grain bin, you will need:

- Four identical pails that hold a minimum of 20 litres. Two of these pails should be labelled A and 2 pails labelled B.
- A grain scoop or sampling ladle
- Sealable containers for the final sample or samples

A representative bin sample requires the sampling of the entire bin.

### Procedure

1. As the grain streams out of the bin, take grain samples at consistent and regular intervals to ensure the sample is representative. The length of the interval should be determined at the beginning of the process and should take into account
  - Amount of grain that is being moved
  - Type of equipment you are using
  - How much sample you need

For example, the larger the auger or the smaller the load of grain, the shorter the interval. It's also very important to keep the sampling interval time consistent throughout the entire process to ensure your sample is representative.

When taking grain samples, alternate between the sides and centre of the grain stream. Place all the samples for each bin in pail A, ensuring that you have at least enough sample to fill the pail to three-quarters full.

2. Mix the contents of pail A thoroughly by hand. Place the 2 empty pails labelled B, side by side and touching on a level surface. Pour the contents of pail A at the point where the pails touch, ensuring that each pail receives about half the sample. Return 1 pail of sample to pail A. The contents of the other pail can be poured back into the bin.

Repeat this process with the remaining sample until you have approximately 2 kilograms of sample left. Place the final sample into the remaining pail labelled A.

3. Place the final sample or samples in sealed containers and label each container to show the bin it represents. Keep in mind that for most purposes, you will need 1-kilogram samples.

## **REFERENCES**

The above information was found on The Canadian Grain Commission Website (<http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca/guides-guides/rs-er/trs-per-eng.htm>)  
You can find the complete sampling systems handbook and approval guide at <http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca/guides-guides/ssh-mse/sshm-mmse-eng.htm>