

F I N A L R E P O R T
OF THE
GRAIN GRADING SUBCOMMITTEE
OF
STANDING COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE

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January, 1976

Senate Concurrent Resolution 47 requested that an interim study be conducted relating to grain grading procedures.

At the meeting on July 16, 1975, the Iowa Legislative Council approved the study for the 1975 interim to be undertaken by the Subcommittee of the Standing Committees on Agriculture.

The members of the Subcommittee appointed by the respective chairpersons of the House and Senate Agriculture Committees were as follows:

Senator Berl E. Priebe
Senator Kenneth D. Scott
Senator Ray Taylor
Representative Rollin K. Howell
Representative Opal Miller
Representative Wendell C. Pellett

The first meeting of the Subcommittee was held on November 10, 1975 at 9:00 a.m. At that meeting Senator Priebe was elected chairperson and Representative Howell was elected vice-chairperson.

During that meeting the Subcommittee heard testimony concerning the present grain standards and standards which are being considered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture from representatives of the following government agencies and organizations:

Agriculture Stabilization & Conservation Service - U.S.
Iowa Development Commission
Iowa Department of Agriculture
Iowa Commerce Commission
Iowa State University
Iowa Grain and Feed Association
Farmers Grain Dealers Association of Iowa
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Iowa Soybean Association

The representative from the U. S. Department of Agriculture advised of the procedures that the department follows in promulgating rules. The representative also informed the members of rules which are being considered by the department.

Discussion relating to the presentation of the U.S. Department of Agriculture centered around kernel and bean damage due to handling, accuracy devices used to test grain, especially moisture meters. The discussion also centered around the power of state legislators to legislate grain grading standards, the effect of those standards on foreign marketing, and the possibility of A.S.C.S. being the federal agency responsible for the licensing of grain inspection points.

The second meeting of the Subcommittee was held on November 25, 1975. All members of the Subcommittee were present. The following government agencies and organizations were represented:

Iowa State University
Iowa Soybean Association
Representative of N.F.O.
Iowa Grain and Feed Association
National Corn Growers Association
Farmer & Owner of Grain Elevator at Odebolt

The issues discussed at that meeting were:

1. Whether elevators should be required to preserve samples.
2. Whether uniform grading procedures should be required.
3. The possibility of destination grading of U.S. grain being shipped to foreign markets.
4. Codification of a standard shrinkage factor.
5. The reason for premium being paid for grain of certain foreign countries.

The third and last meeting of the Subcommittee was held on December 5, 1975. All of the members of the Subcommittee were present.

At that meeting the Subcommittee recommended that legislation be drafted to accomplish the following:

1. That if, upon testing by the state agriculture department, a moisture meter has more than 5% variance from standard, then all persons who had grain tested within 30 days preceding the test be required to be notified of such variance.

2. That all samples be 500 grams.
3. Attach statement of results of moisture test in sample.
4. Allow elevators to apply maximum 1.3% shrinkage factor to corn.
5. Require elevators to post in a conspicuous place notice of the remedies available to a seller dissatisfied with the test results.
6. Alternatively require elevators to preserve -(1) the last 30 samples of each type of grain sampled for an indefinite period, or -(2) all samples for at least 48 hours.