
Organic wheat remains a niche and lucrative market in Australia as consumers across the globe become more health conscious and their demand for wheat increases, especially in Asian countries which have recently experienced a rapid switch from rice to wheat.

Organic wheat hectares sown is steadily increasing year on year in Australia due to growers having the ability to achieve higher gross margins in comparison to conventional wheat production with the end user of organic products more than willing to pay a premium. There are also other benefits including its environmental sustainability in some circumstances. Currently there are a number of different certification bodies including Australian Certified Organic (ACO), The National Association for Sustainable Agriculture Australia (NASSA) & The National Organic Program (NOP).

In previous years AGA sourced all of their organic wheat from growers on the Balranald Flood Plains who used flood water to irrigate their crop. However, due to a prolonged drought we have needed to concentrate on accumulating organic wheat in other regions across Australia. This focus has mainly been in Queensland due to supply where organic wheat harvest has just been completed from central to southern Queensland with varieties harvested including: Banks, Batavia, Baxter & Cunningham with protein samples being approx 15%. Yields on irrigated country are approx 1.23 – 1.6mt/Ha which is well down due to the dry finish. Organic wheat harvest has commenced across many other regions which should see harvest completed towards the end of next month across Australia.

AGA are buyers of both organic hard and noodle wheat varieties with the preferred noodle varieties being Rosella/ Sunsoft 98/ Lorikeet and Yitpi being the most desirable for organic hard wheat although most hard varieties are acceptable. The certification we require is NOP as it is able to be exported to Japan/ USA.

We have both hectare contracts for growers who wish to contract up their grain before harvest or fixed-tonnage contracts for those confident on their production. Hectare contracts appeal to many growers as they are more flexible in regard to production which is well known to be the grain grower's biggest risk in agriculture. AGA has the ability to arrange freight and thus can bid growers competitive ex farm prices.

For further information please contact Australian Grain Accumulation,
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