
The 2009/10 Soft Wheat harvest for Queensland and New South Wales is well underway with good quality being received from the northern production regions. In the southern growing regions of New South Wales the early crops being harvested are, as expected, high in protein due to a lack of irrigation. The majority of the crop in the south is yet to be harvested and quality is likely to improve. Lower protein levels should be seen when the harvest of fully irrigated crops commences in December.

In the northern production regions around Moree and the Darling Downs yields have averaged over 4mt/ha with most of the crop now harvested and stored. The majority of grain delivered to date has been making the top two grades of SFE1 and SFE2.

In the soft wheat production region around Griffith in Southern NSW early samples have seen very high protein levels and low yields. However, with a large part of the production still to come in growers who have fully irrigated crops using ground-water are expecting yields to average more than 6mt/ha with quality to be low protein and meet SFE1 specifications.

The Hectare Premium released by Allied Mills in March enabled growers to lock-in a Premium spread over APW1 for the grades SFE1, SFE2, SGP1 and SGP2 at planting; then also through the year when they were comfortable with their production and the APW1 base price and convert the tonnes to a Fixed Price contract. Current bids at harvest are for SFE1 only, with some buyers bidding for SGP2. Unless there is significant quality concerns out of the Victorian and South Australian harvests this is not expected to change.

AGA and Allied Mills will be releasing prices and contract options for season 2010/11 early in the new-year. If you would like more information on the varieties preferred by Allied Mills for soft wheat in your region or to discuss available delivery points and prices please contact your local AGA merchant.

For further information please contact Australian Grain Accumulation,
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