



HARVEST GUIDELINES

Azuki Beans

In order for Hensall Co-op Producers to have access to the very competitive Azuki bean market, our Producers and Hensall Co-op as a processor, must focus on meeting our end-users' needs. This value-added business adds more profit to the bottom line of your operation and to that of your farmer-owned co-operative. Please review the following notes, and make sure every effort is made to meet contract specifications.

The contract grading criteria must be met to qualify as food grade product (review your contract for more details.)

AZUKI BEAN CONTRACT GRADING SPECIFICATIONS

Grading Criteria	Standard Bean	Consignment
Colour	Good (RGC)	Fair (FGC)
Minimum Moisture	11.5%	Under 11.5%
Maximum Moisture *	14.5%	Over 16%
Maximum Pick	5%	Over 5%
Mud Over Screen	1%	Over 1%
Other Types in Sample**	None	1 grain/5 lb. and over
Grower Discount/cwt	Base Price	To Be Determined
Bottom Slotted Screen	10/64	

- * Deliveries over 20.0% moisture are subject to rejection.
- Standard moisture for Azuki Beans is 14%.
- No drying charges will be assessed up to 14.5%.
- ** Berries, corn, soybeans or other edible beans etc. are not allowed. Product grading above 1 grain/5lb. will be placed on consignment and a discount will be applied.

A major grading factor for azuki beans is colour and contamination. Discounts may apply for product that is outside of the standard grades listed above.

Cleaning contaminants (soybeans, corn, berries, mud balls, stones, glass, other beans, etc.) out of beans is difficult and costly. Deliveries with excessive contamination of soybeans, corn or other dry bean classes will be discounted as follows:

Count (grains) per 5 lb. sample	Discount
3 to10	\$2.00/cwt
11 to 15	\$3.00/cwt
16 to 25	\$4.00.cwt
25 plus	\$10.00/cwt

Note: These criteria need to be met in order to fulfill the requirements in the contract. Beans graded outside the indicated criteria will be taken in on a consignment basis and producer will be paid once the Buyer establishes a value for this product. Seed discolouration, mechanical damage, immature beans, insect bites, contrasting classes,

adhering soil and weed stained beans will be assessed as “pick”. Contract specifications are subject to change as markets require. See the contract for pricing options.

Our end-users are demanding that high quality product be delivered to them on a consistent basis. Genetically modified corn and /or soybeans continue to be major concerns for our end-users.

Pesticides:

Producers must use only Hensall Co-op approved pesticides as noted in the Hensall Co-op production guideline, as per label instructions. The guideline can be reviewed after logging in to FieldTrace or contacting your Field Marketer. Review the FieldTrace resources on our website at <https://hensallco-op.ca/FieldTrace.htm/>

Note: Please review the document entitled “Food Safety Notice” at <https://hensallco-op.ca/Contract-delivery-resources.htm>

Pre-Harvest:

If weeds are a problem, a preharvest treatment should be applied at labels rates to burn down weeds. Application choices are:

1. Glyphosate (0.67 L/ac of 540 g/l concentration) + Aim (48mL/ac) *PHI=7 days

OR

2. Glyphosate (0.67 L/ac of 540 g/l concentration) + Eragon LQ (30 ml/ac) + Merge (0.4L/ac) *PHI=7 days

OR

3. Eragon LQ (59 ml/ac) + Merge (0.4L/ac) *PHI=2 days

Do not apply a pre-harvest treatment to the crop until it has reached the proper stage of maturity. Always follow label rates and directions. If you have any questions regarding application timing, contact your Hensall Coop rep.

***Pre-harvest Interval (PHI):** Pre-harvest application must be made at the correct stage of crop maturity. Harvest should not occur prior to the PHI days noted on the label.

Harvesting:

Please review the combine manufacturer’s clean out procedures. Ensure that your combine, trucks and wagons and other handling equipment have been completely flushed of any previously harvested products. The Producer must also take steps necessary to prevent contamination from glass, treated seed, fuels, livestock feed and other harmful contaminants.

Preventing contamination is a far better option than trying to remove contamination from harvested beans. Although we have the best equipment and operators to process your beans, we cannot remove everything. Please make a reasonable attempt to prevent contamination where possible.

Harvesting at moistures between 12 – 15% will greatly reduce mechanical damage such as broken seeds. Check bean samples regularly as harvesting conditions change

during the day. Fine tuning your combine by slowing the cylinder and/or opening the concaves will reduce this potential problem.

Staining of seeds can be avoided by not harvesting azukis until the plants are completely dry and staying out of the field once the dew falls. Dampness from dew or from plant juices will coat the seeds and allow dust and soil particles to adhere to the seed.

Transportation:

Inspect vehicles and handling equipment to ensure that all residual products from previous loads are not present in the truck/wagon to be used for azuki beans. All corners, tarps, airlocks and unloading spouts should be free of residual products.

The Cost of Low-Quality Product:

Azuki Producers should look at the cost of low-quality product and should do everything they can to ensure quality specifications are met.

This loss to the producer is substantial at any time but let's take it a step further yet. Hensall Co-op must have a steady supply of high quality azukis to meet the needs of existing and potential customers. If azukis are of reduced quality, Hensall Co-op incurs increased processing costs which reduces returns to Hensall Co-op and their member producers. Hensall Co-op may also incur quality discounts from buyers or pay penalties for non-delivery of unfilled contracts. Together we both stand to benefit from the extra care you take in harvesting top quality azukis, so we ask our Producers to use care warranted to maximize quality.

Above all else, please remember, we're here to help. If you have any questions about your Azuki programs, call your Field Marketer and we'll do what we can to help!

Best of luck harvesting,
Your Hensall Co-op Team