New Official Moisture Technology Implementation Briefing

David B. Funk, Ph.D. Chief Scientist, GIPSA

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What is UGMA?

- GIPSA's Unified Grain Moisture Algorithm
 - Measure dielectric constant at frequency near 149
 MHz
 - Density correction
 - Unifying parameters
 - Single calibration equation
 - Temperature correction
 - Gives accurate moisture results

Why Change to UGMA?

- Better accuracy for all grain types
- Much better accuracy on corn
 Special test weight correction
- Less affected by "green grain" conditions
- Faster
- More stable calibrations
- Wider temperature ranges
- Allow competition for Official moisture meters

UGMA Master System



GIPSA-Certified UGMA-Compatible Moisture Meters

Dickey-john GAC 2500UGMA

Perten AM 5200-A





GIPSA's Basic Definition of Equivalency

- Same technology
- Very close agreement among types as well as units of a type
- Same calibrations and standardization processes

UGMA-Compatibility Criteria (1)

- NTEP Certification
- Documented & stable production processes
- Measurement frequency
- Standardized test cell design
- Standardized loading method
- Standardized measurements
 - Sample dielectric constant
 - Sample mass
 - Sample temperature

UGMA-Compatibility Criteria (2)

- Tight tolerances specified for individual subsystems as well as moisture results
- Must use specified mathematics
- Units' agreement with FGIS Master system must meet tolerances in FGIS Regulations

- +/- 0.05% M for Headquarters Standard units

- +/- 0.15% M for other Official units

– Mean difference on medium-moisture HRWW

UGMA-Compatibility Criteria (3)

- All UGMA-Compatible models must be able to use the same check testing process.
- A simple check testing process must ensure performance on all grains over full moisture ranges.
- Instruments must provide for efficient means of entering calibrations.
- Instruments must provide standardized output datastream for printing or networking.

Improved Accuracy of UGMA



Improved Accuracy of UGMA



Excellent Agreement Between UGMA Models



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Far Better Agreement Than Between Different Technologies



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Summary

- UGMA developed by GIPSA to meet grain industry demands for higher accuracy and consistency and competition among Official moisture meter providers.
- UGMA-Compatible moisture meters have been made equivalent by design and confirmed equivalent by GIPSA's engineering review.
- GIPSA, Official agencies, and grain handlers can confidently use all GIPSA-Certified UGMA-Compatible moisture meter models interchangeably.

For much more information, follow the GIPSA web page on UGMA moisture meter implementation:

http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/equipment.html

