

U.S. Grains Council
2015/2016
Sorghum **Early Harvest Quality** Report



U.S. GRAINS
COUNCIL

Developing markets. >> Enabling trade. >> Improving lives.

U.S. Grains Council:

- Building partnerships based on trust
- Bridge to world's largest, most reliable grain supply

Motivation

- Lack of information on quality of U.S. sorghum
- Growth of U.S. sorghum exports
- Success of USGC Corn Quality Reports

Objective

- To provide information proactively on the U.S. sorghum crop to international buyers
 - Harvest
 - Early exports

Early Harvest Quality Report

- Initial look at crop quality from early harvest areas
- Samples collected from southern part of growing area during August and September

Harvest and Export Cargo Quality Report

Harvest

- Evaluation of quality of crop over entire harvest season; includes early and late harvest
- Samples collected from key sorghum - producing states

Export Cargo

- Represents export quality early in the marketing year
- Samples collected during federal inspection at key sorghum - exporting ports

Sampling Methodology

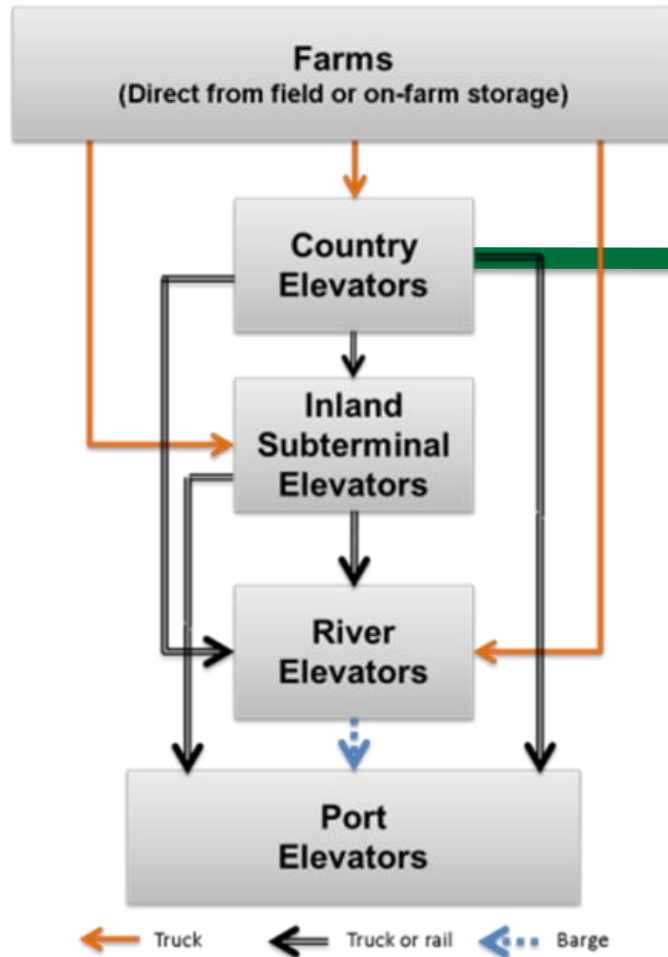
- Same as Corn Harvest and Export Cargo Quality Reports

Quality Factors Tested

- Similar to corn factors with minor changes

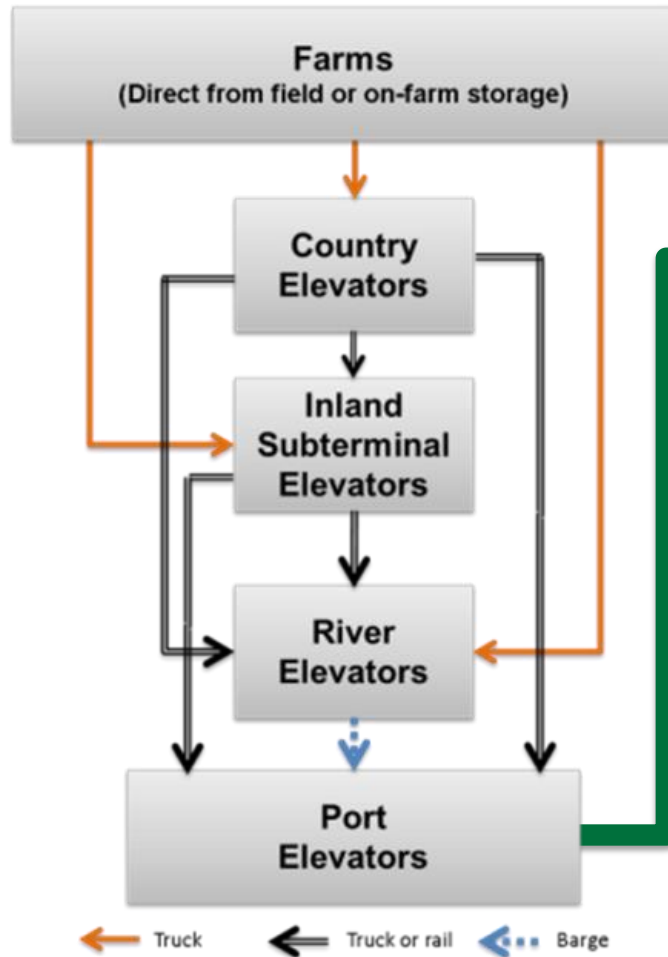
Reporting

- Altered from corn reports due to differences in production, harvest and export patterns



Harvest Sampling

- Initial levels and variability of quality characteristics across the diverse geographic regions
- Inbound, unblended commodity samples from country elevators



Export Sampling

- Initial levels and variability of early export quality at ports
- Commodity sorghum samples collected by USDA in key export areas

Grading Factors

Test weight
Broken kernel/foreign material
Foreign material
Total damage/Heat damage

Physical Factors

Kernel diameter
1000-kernel weight
Kernel volume
True density
Kernel hardness index

Moisture

Chemical Composition

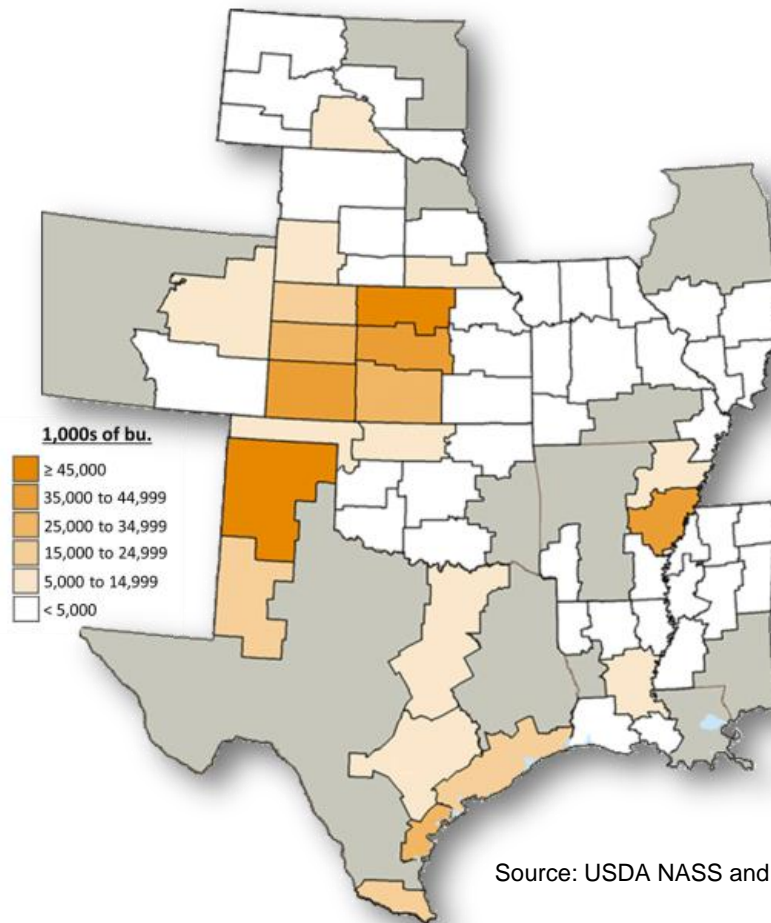
Protein
Starch
Oil
Tannins

Mycotoxins

Aflatoxins
DON

Reported in
Harvest/Export
Report only

The geographic areas included in the Harvest sampling area include the highest sorghum-producing areas in the United States



Source: USDA NASS and Centrec Estimates

Early Harvest Quality Report

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

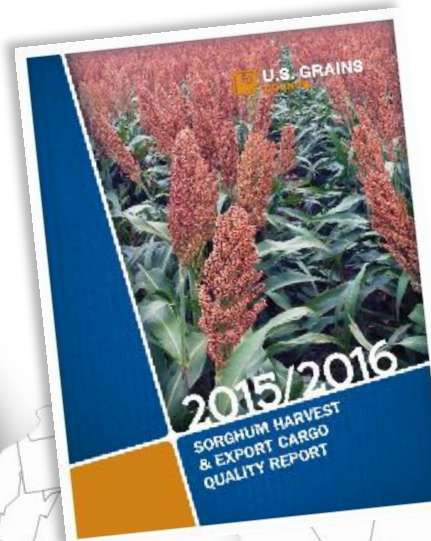


50 samples
from Early
Harvest
area during
August and
September

Harvest and Export Cargo Report

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

Harvest
U.S. Aggregate
Plus
Two Harvest Regions

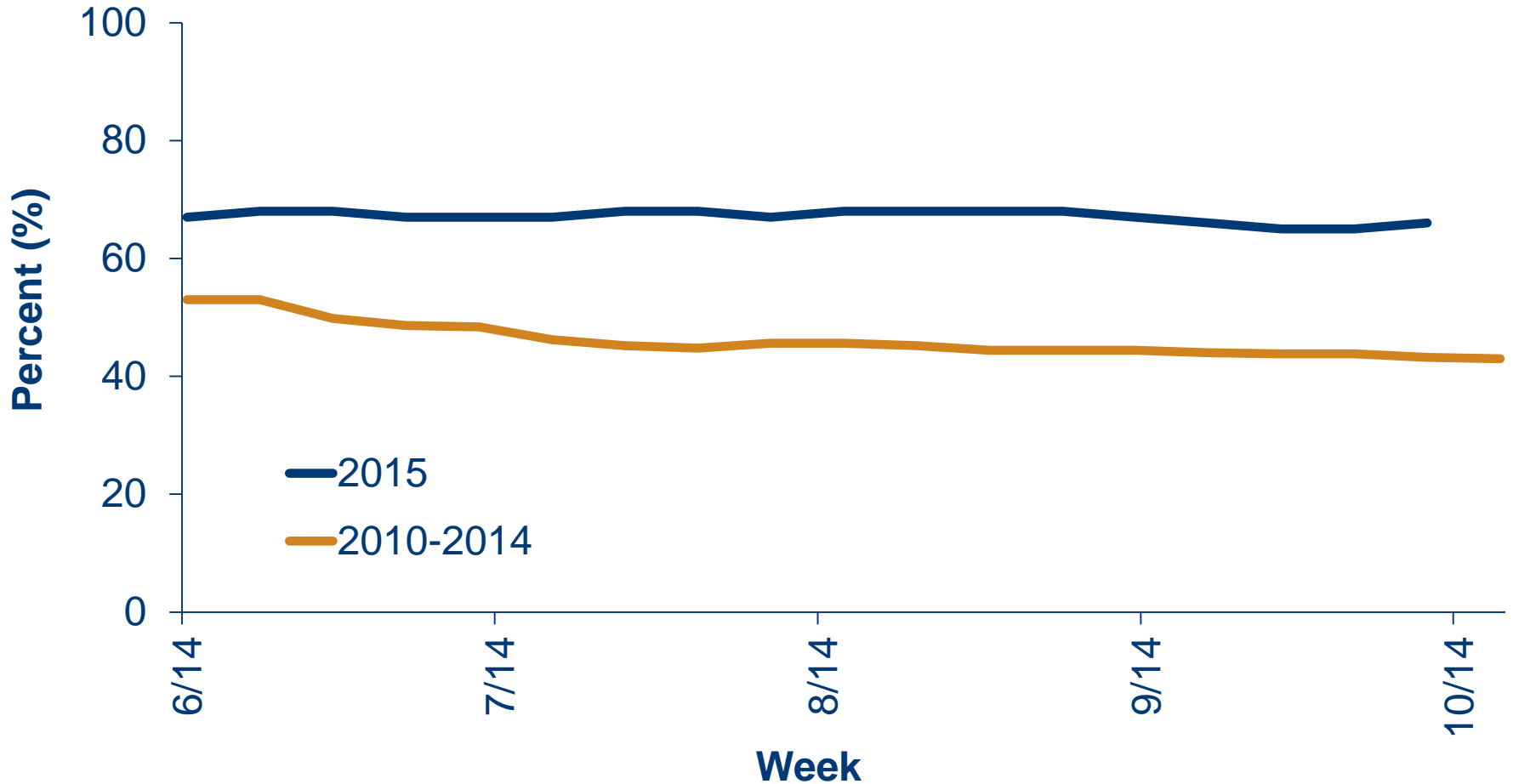


Export Cargo
U.S. Aggregate
Plus
Two Export Regions



Crop Condition (Rated Good or Excellent)

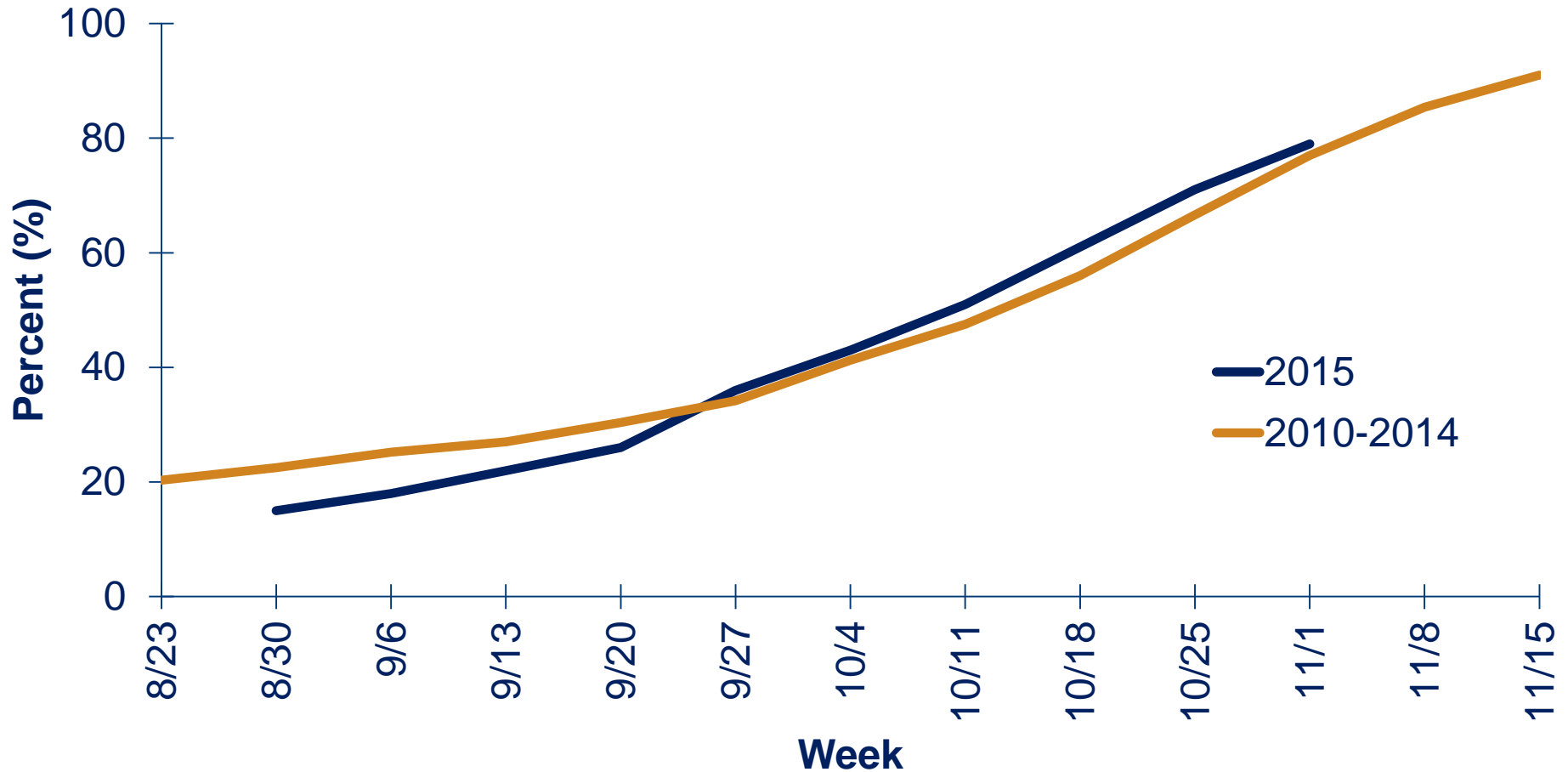
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS

Crop Progress

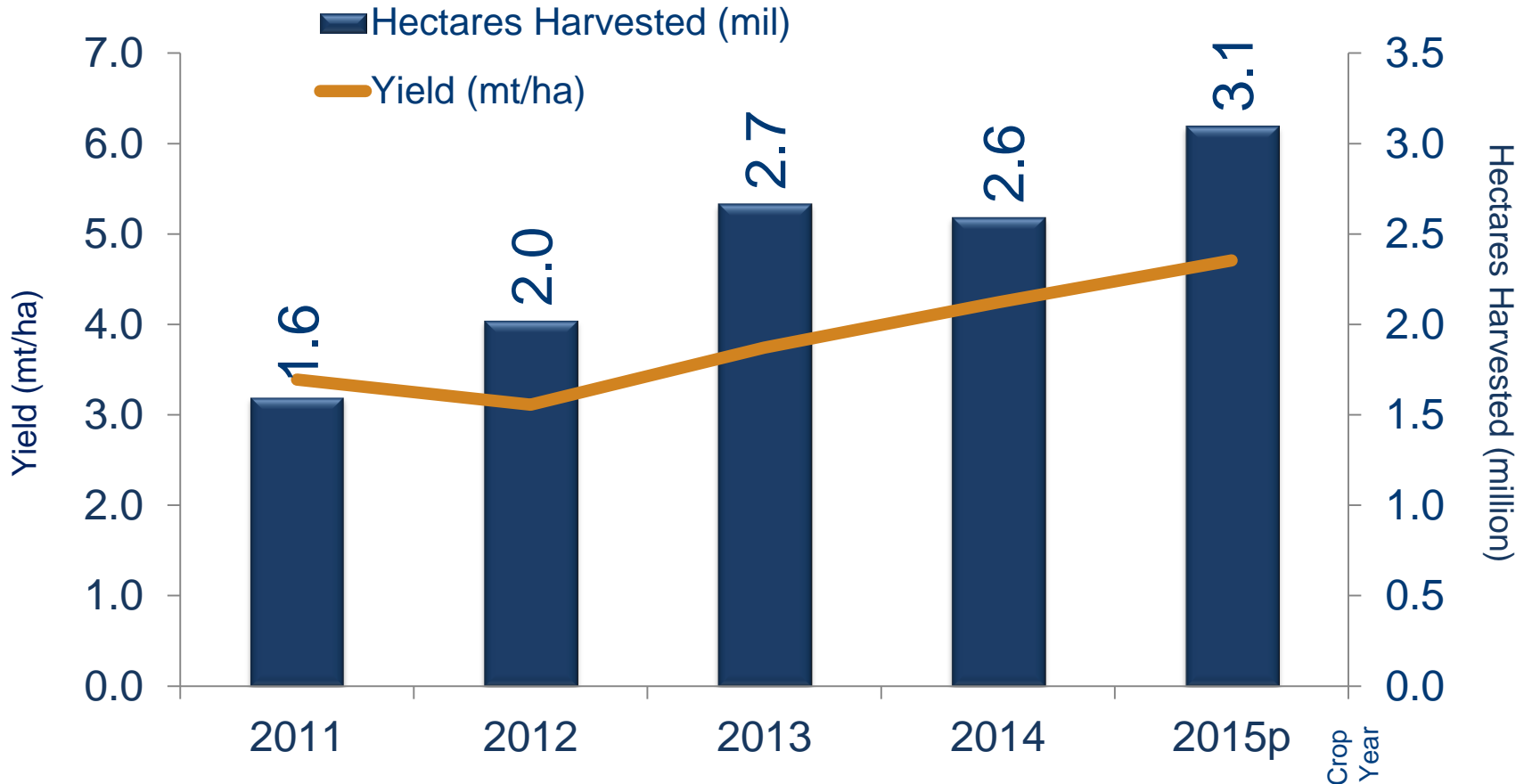
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS

U.S. Production

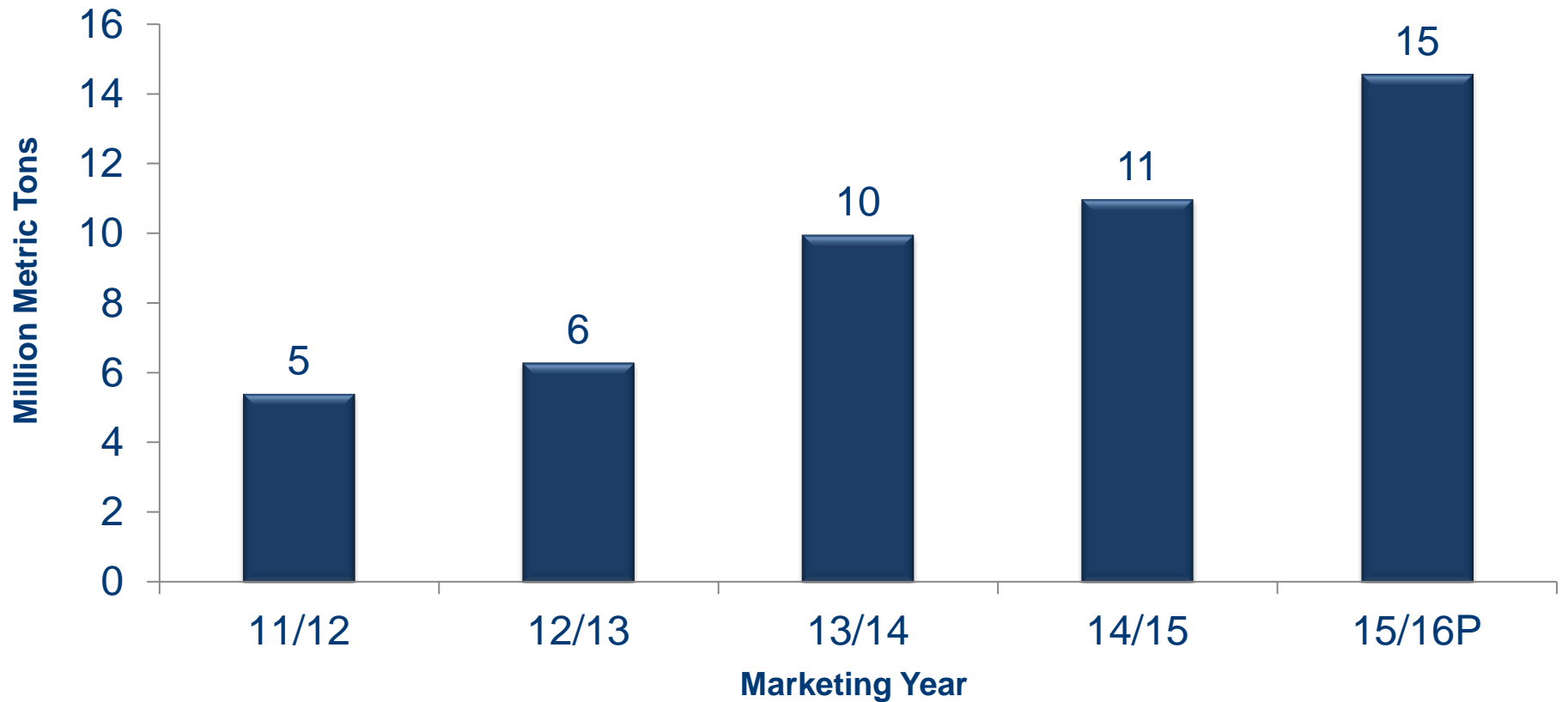
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS P=Projected

U.S. Production

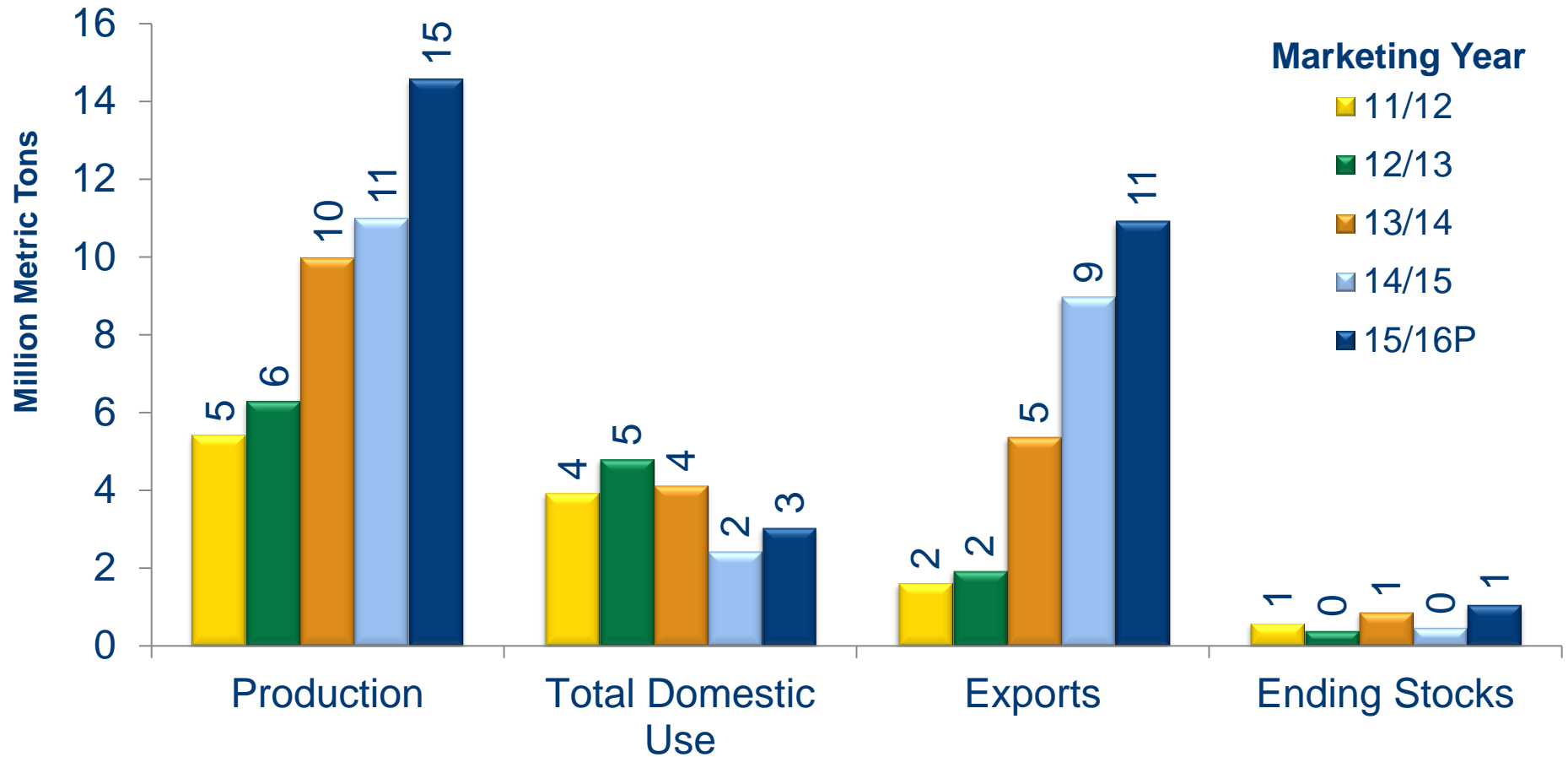
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS P=Projected

U.S. Production and Disappearance

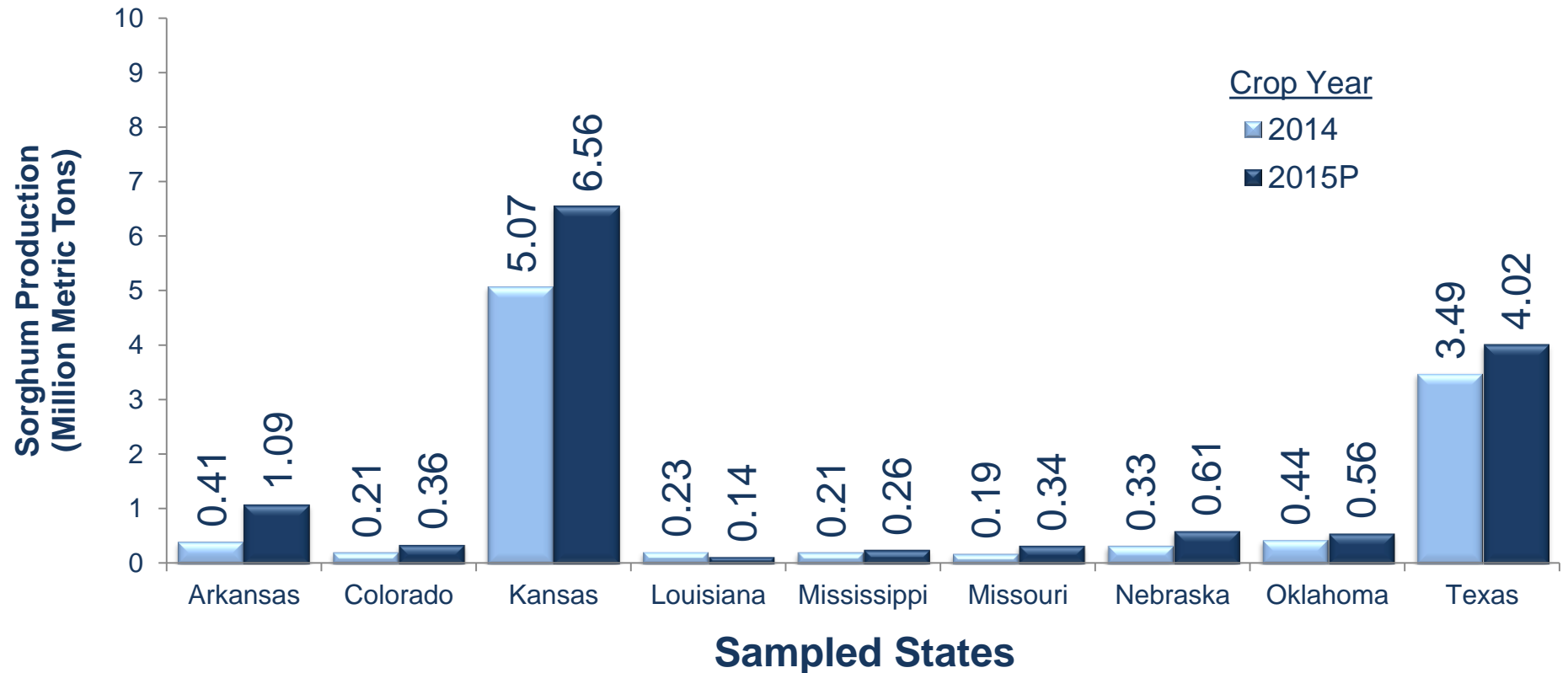
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS P=Projected

U.S. Production by State

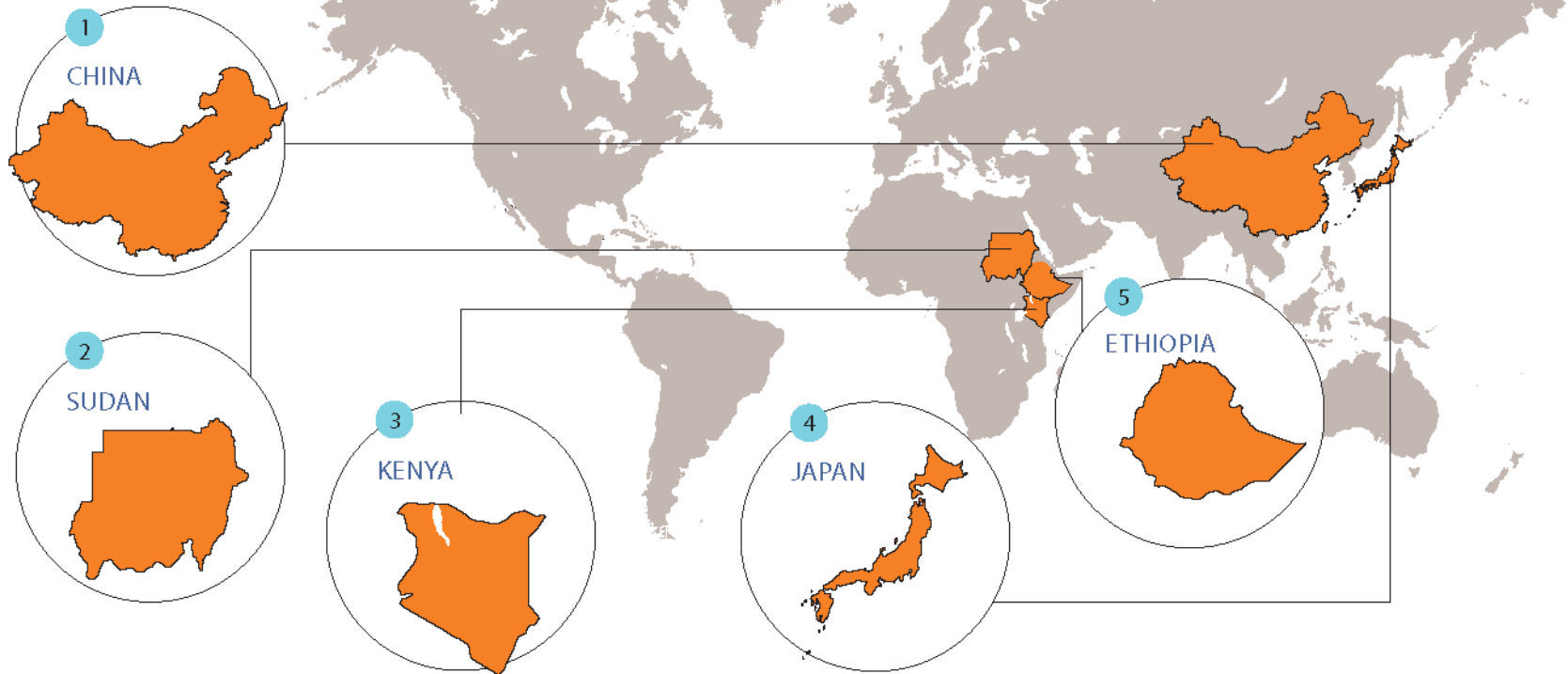
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Source: USDA NASS P=Projected

Where is U.S. Sorghum Going?

TOP U.S. EXPORT CUSTOMERS¹



Dollar amount

1	CHINA	\$1.97 BILLION
2	SUDAN	\$51.8 MILLION
3	KENYA	\$27.8 MILLION
4	JAPAN	\$17.7 MILLION
5	ETHIOPIA	\$12.8 MILLION

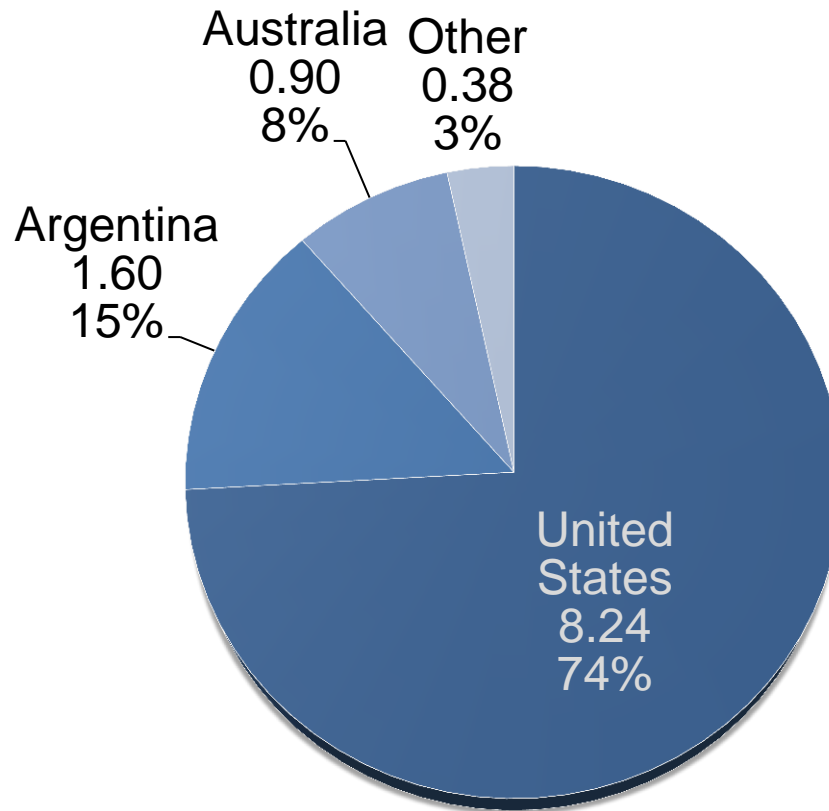
Metric tons

China	8,369,562
Sudan	232,150
Kenya	112,624
Japan	71,362
Ethiopia	55,760

Source:¹USDA Global Agricultural Trade System report for marketing year Sept 1, 2014 to Aug 31, 2015

Key Global Sorghum Exporters

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



2015/2016P
(Million Metric Tons)

Source: USDA FAS P=Projected

Grade Factors

- Average for all factors exceeded criteria for No. 1 grade

Moisture

- Drying may have been needed for part of the Early Harvest crop

Chemical Composition

- Typical starch, high oil and low protein concentrations compared to previous research
- All samples were considered tannin-free

Physical Factors

- Values were generally typical for kernels from any sorghum crop



Grades and Grade Requirements

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

Grade	Min. Test Weight per Bushel (Pounds)	----- Maximum Limits of -----			
		Heat Damaged (%)	Total Damage (%)	Foreign Material (part of total) (%)	Broken Kernel and Foreign Material (%)
U.S. No. 1	57.0	0.2	2.0	1.0	3.0
U.S. No. 2	55.0	0.5	5.0	2.0	6.0
U.S. No. 3	53.0	1.0	10.0	3.0	8.0
U.S. No. 4	51.0	3.0	15.0	4.0	10.0

Source: USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS)

Grade Factors and Moisture

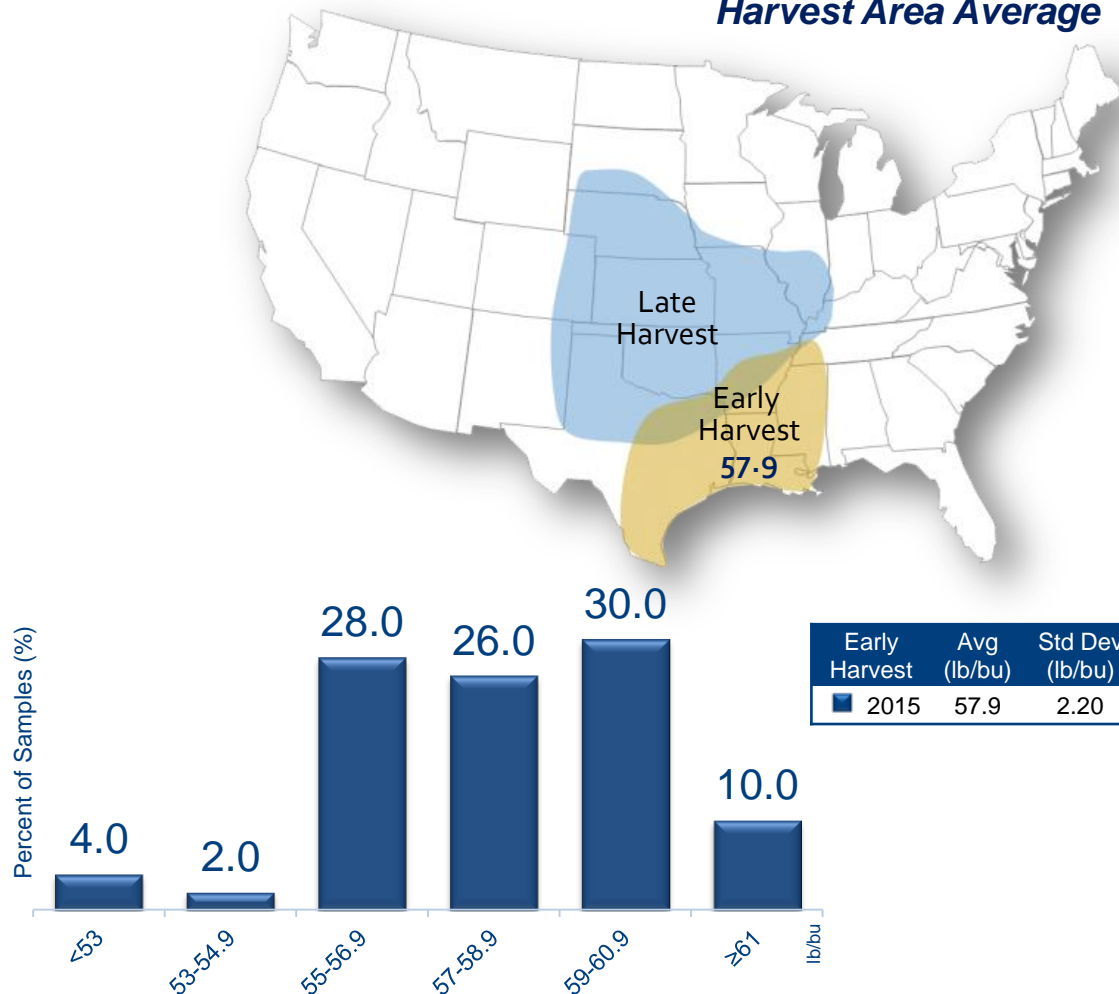
2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

	No. of Samples	Avg.	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Test Weight (lb/bu)	50	57.9	2.20	46.3	62.0
Test Weight (kg/hl)	50	74.5	2.84	59.6	79.8
BNFM (%)	50	1.4	0.62	0.5	4.5
Foreign Material (%)	50	0.5	0.27	0.1	2.1
Total Damage (%)	50	0.2	0.38	0.0	5.7
Heat Damage (%)	50	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.0
Moisture (%)	50	14.5	0.88	11.7	17.3

Early Harvest: 57.9 lb/bu

- Average above the minimum for No. 1 grade
- 94% of the samples at or above the limit for No. 2 grade

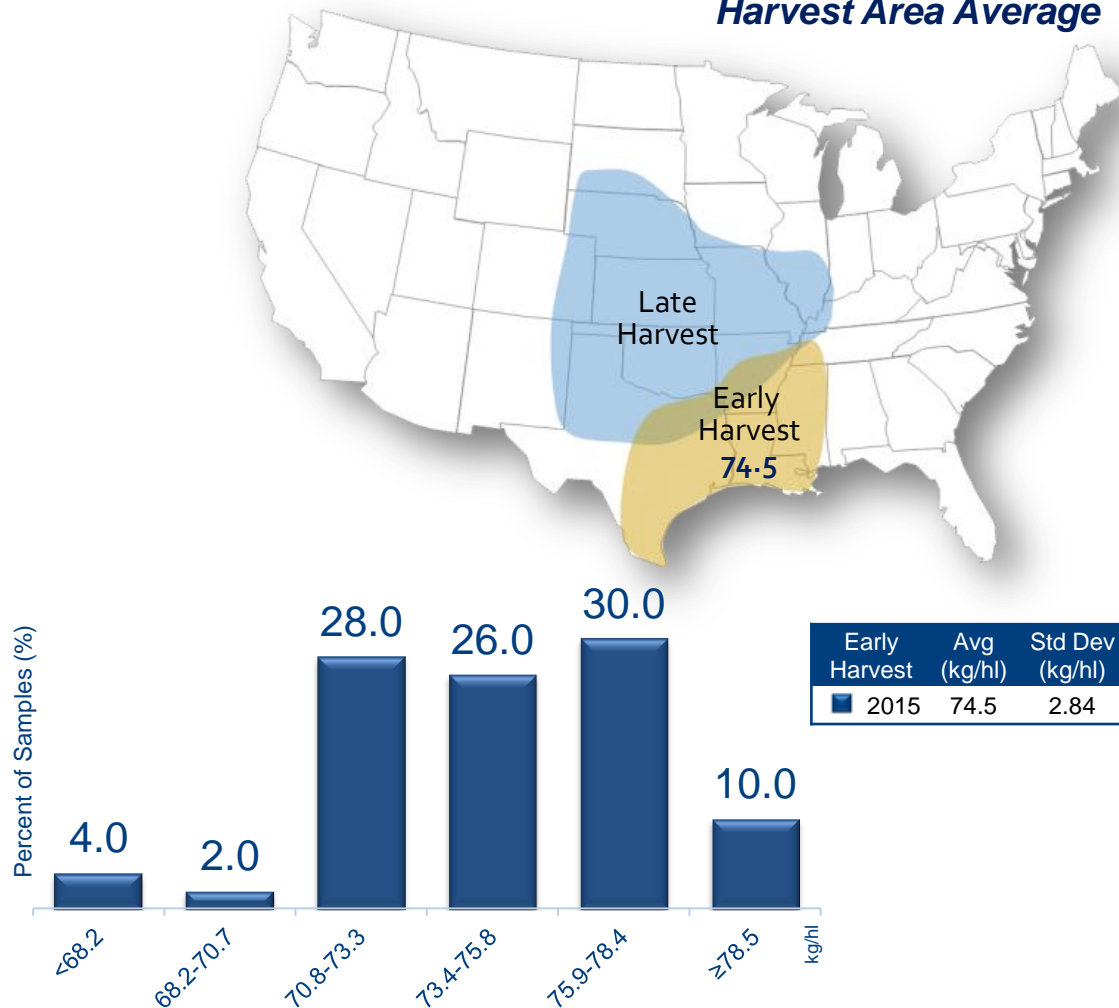
*Test Weight (lb/bu)
Harvest Area Average*



Early Harvest:
74.5 kg/hl

- Average above the minimum for No. 1 grade
- 94% of the samples at or above the limit for No. 2 grade

Test Weight (kg/hl)
Harvest Area Average



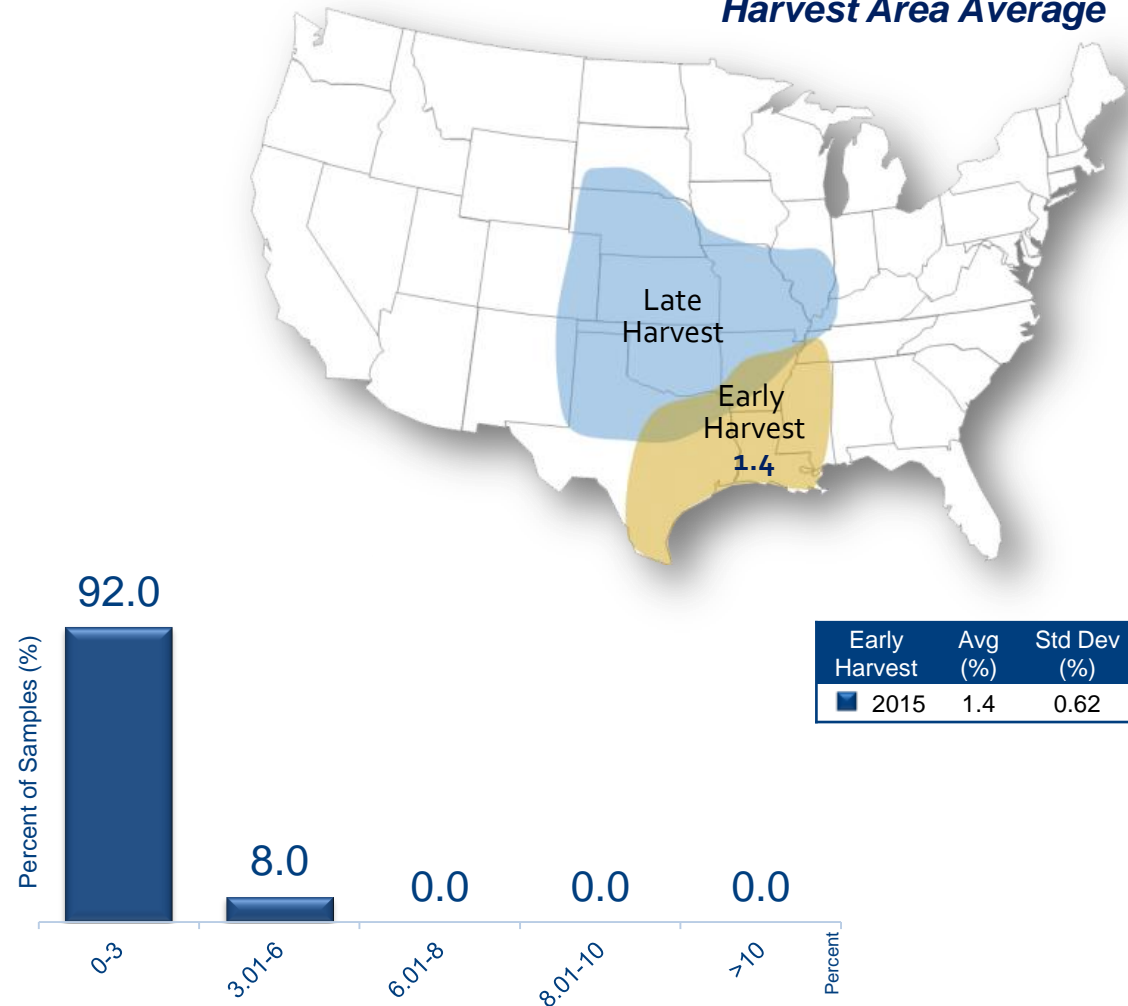
Broken Kernels & Foreign Material (BNFM) (%)

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

Early Harvest: 1.4%

- Average well below the maximum for No. 1 grade
- All samples were below the maximum for No. 2 grade

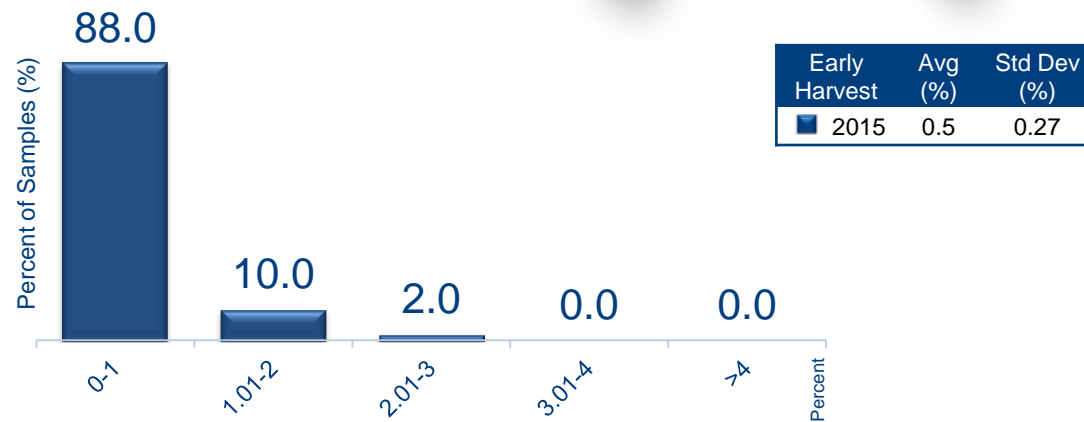
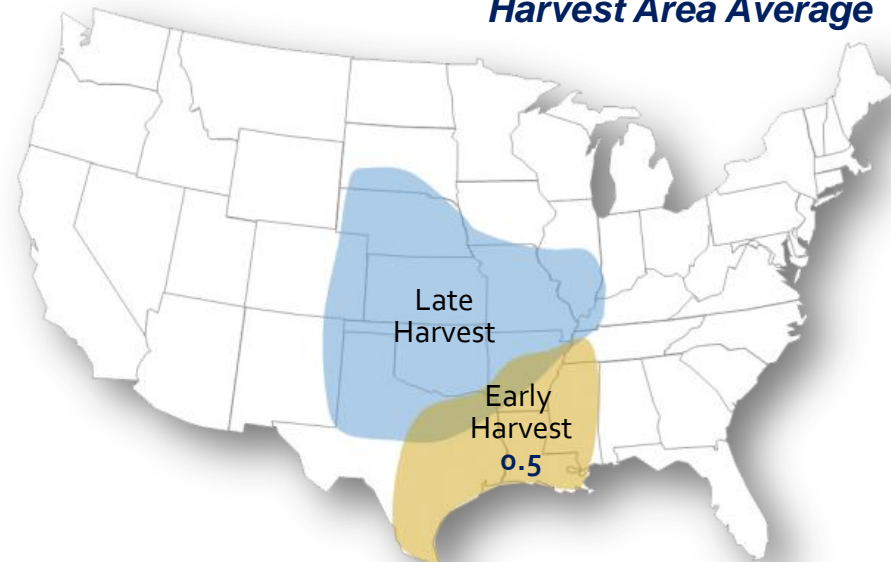
BNFM (%)
Harvest Area Average



Early Harvest: 0.5%

- Average below the maximum for No. 1 grade
- 98% of the samples contained less than the maximum FM allowable for No. 2 grade

**Foreign Material (%)
Harvest Area Average**



Total Damage and Heat Damage (%)

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

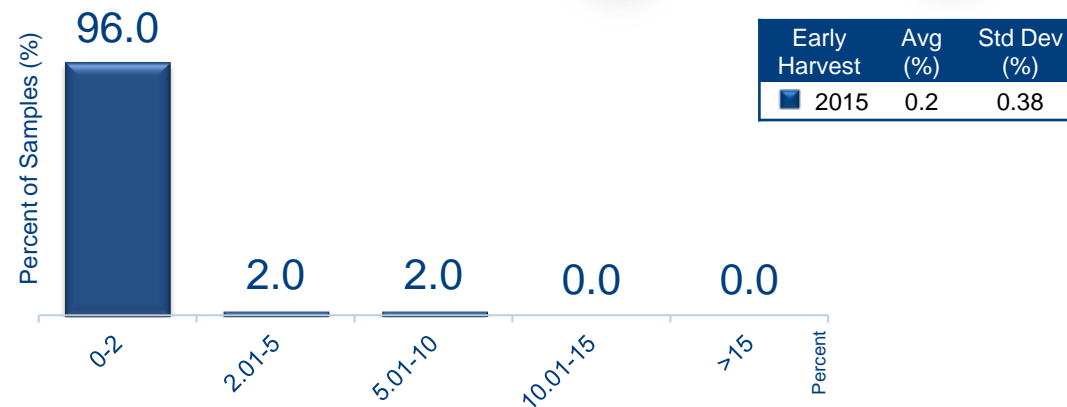
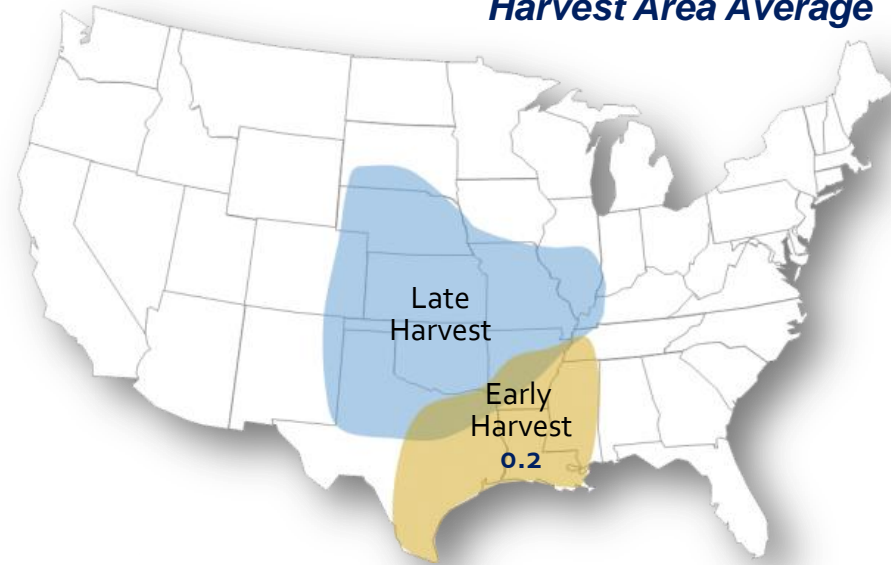
Total Damage Early Harvest: 0.2%

- Average well below the maximum for No. 1 grade
- 98% had less than the maximum allowable for No. 2 grade

Heat Damage: Zero

- Not expected at harvest

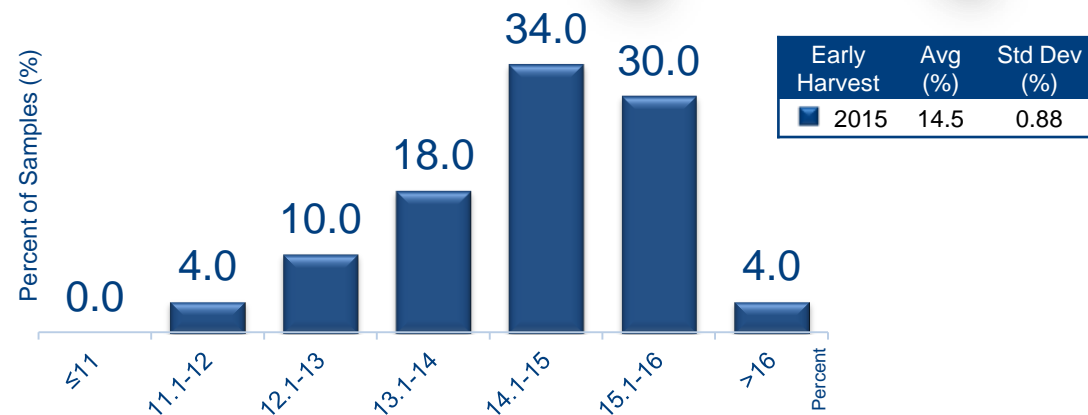
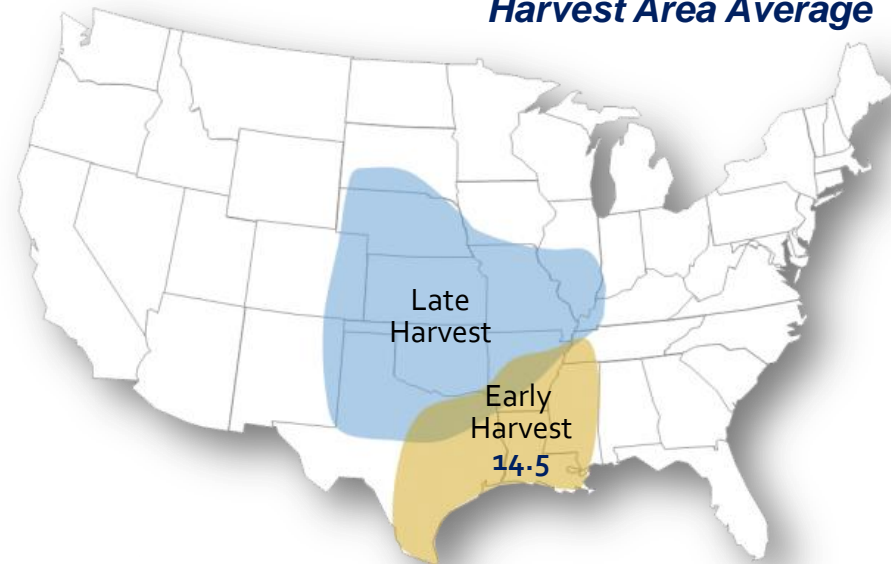
**Total Damage (%)
Harvest Area Average**



Early Harvest: 14.5%

- Considered normal variability
- 68% exceeded 14% moisture
- Drying may have been needed for part of the Early Harvest crop

*Moisture (%)
Harvest Area Average*





Sorghum Chemical Composition

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report



Protein

- Important for poultry and livestock feeding
- Supplies essential amino acids

Starch

- Important source of metabolizable energy and substrates

Oil

- Supplies energy and fatty acids
- Important co-product of value-added processing

Influenced by genetics, crop yields, weather and available nitrogen during the growing season

Influenced by genetics, weather and crop yields

Chemical Composition Factors

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

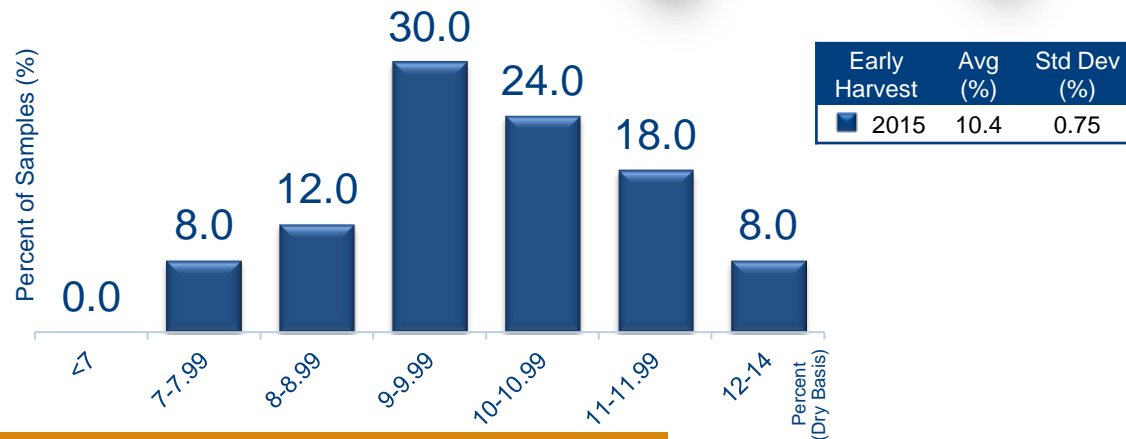
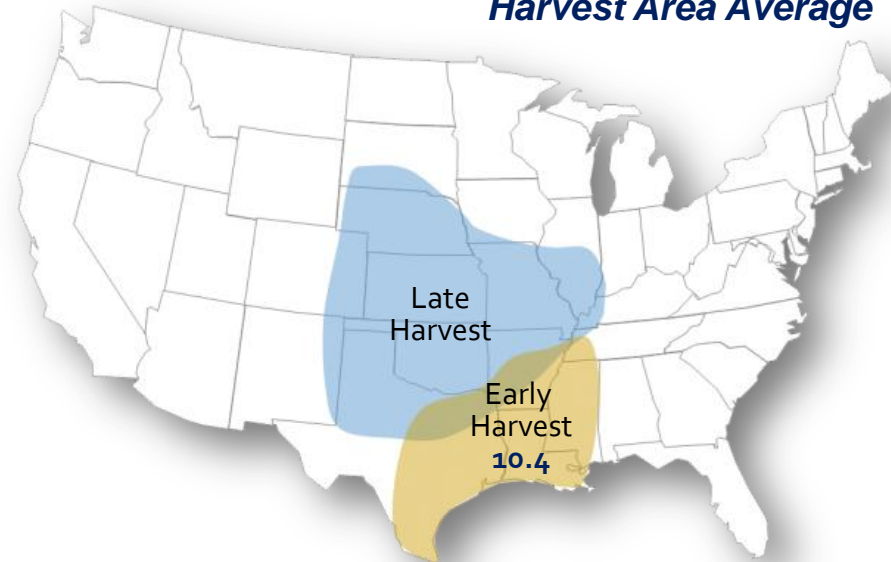
	No. of Samples	Avg.	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Protein (Dry Basis %)	50	10.4	0.75	7.1	12.7
Starch (Dry Basis %)	50	73.3	0.69	71.1	75.0
Oil (Dry Basis %)	50	4.3	0.31	3.0	5.0
Tannins (mg CE/g)	50	0.577	0.339	0.050	1.560



Early Harvest:
10.4%

- On the lower end of typical protein concentration values in literature for U.S. sorghum

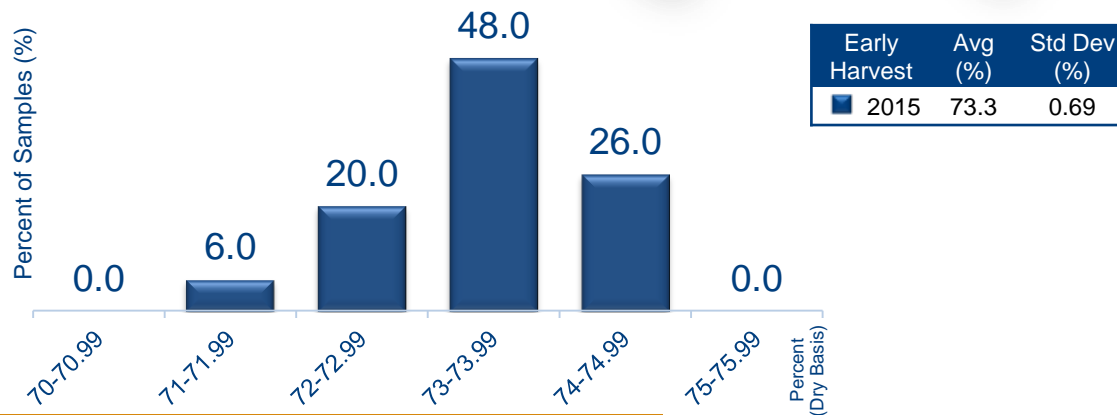
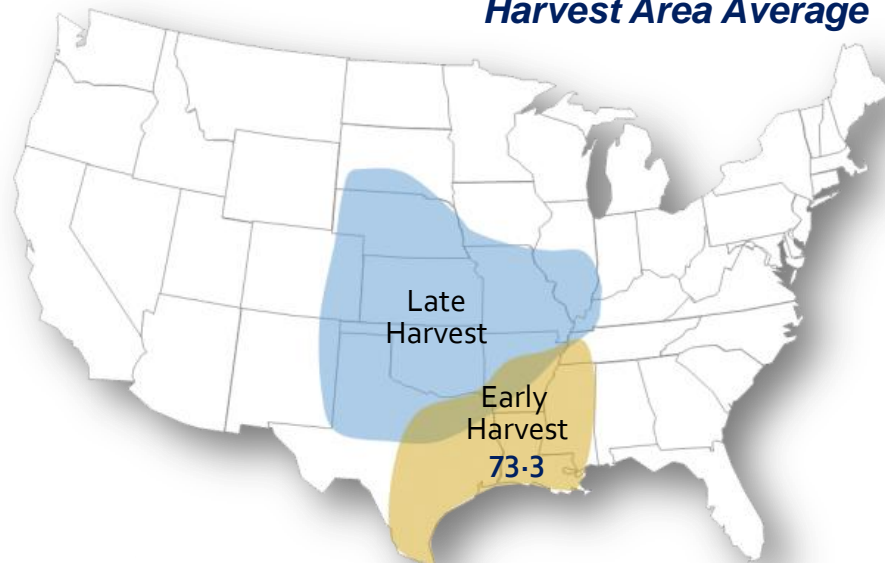
Protein (%)
Harvest Area Average



Early Harvest:
73.3%

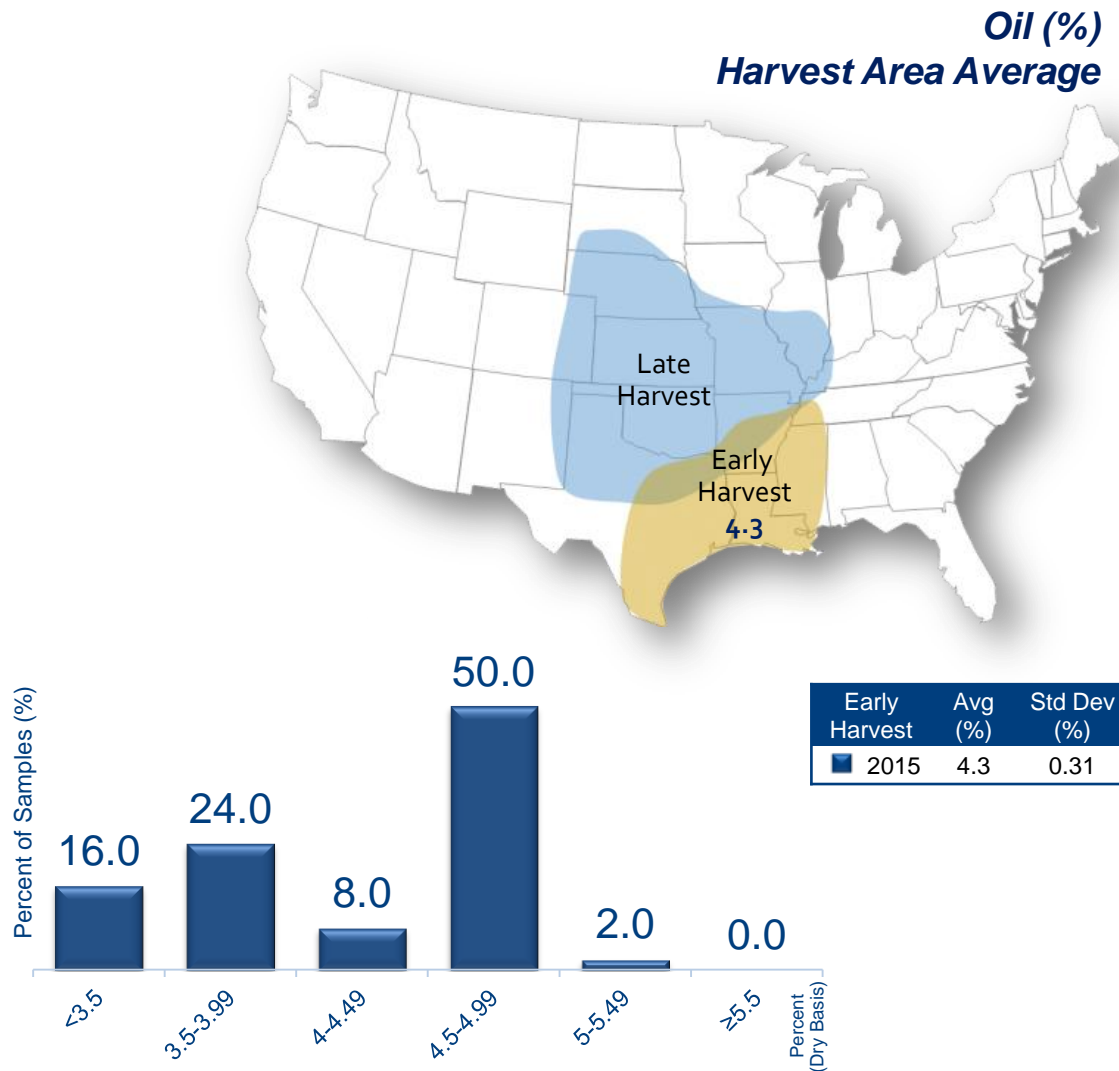
- Typical level for any sorghum crop

Starch (%)
Harvest Area Average



Early Harvest: 4.3%

- On the higher end of typical oil concentration values in literature for U.S. sorghum



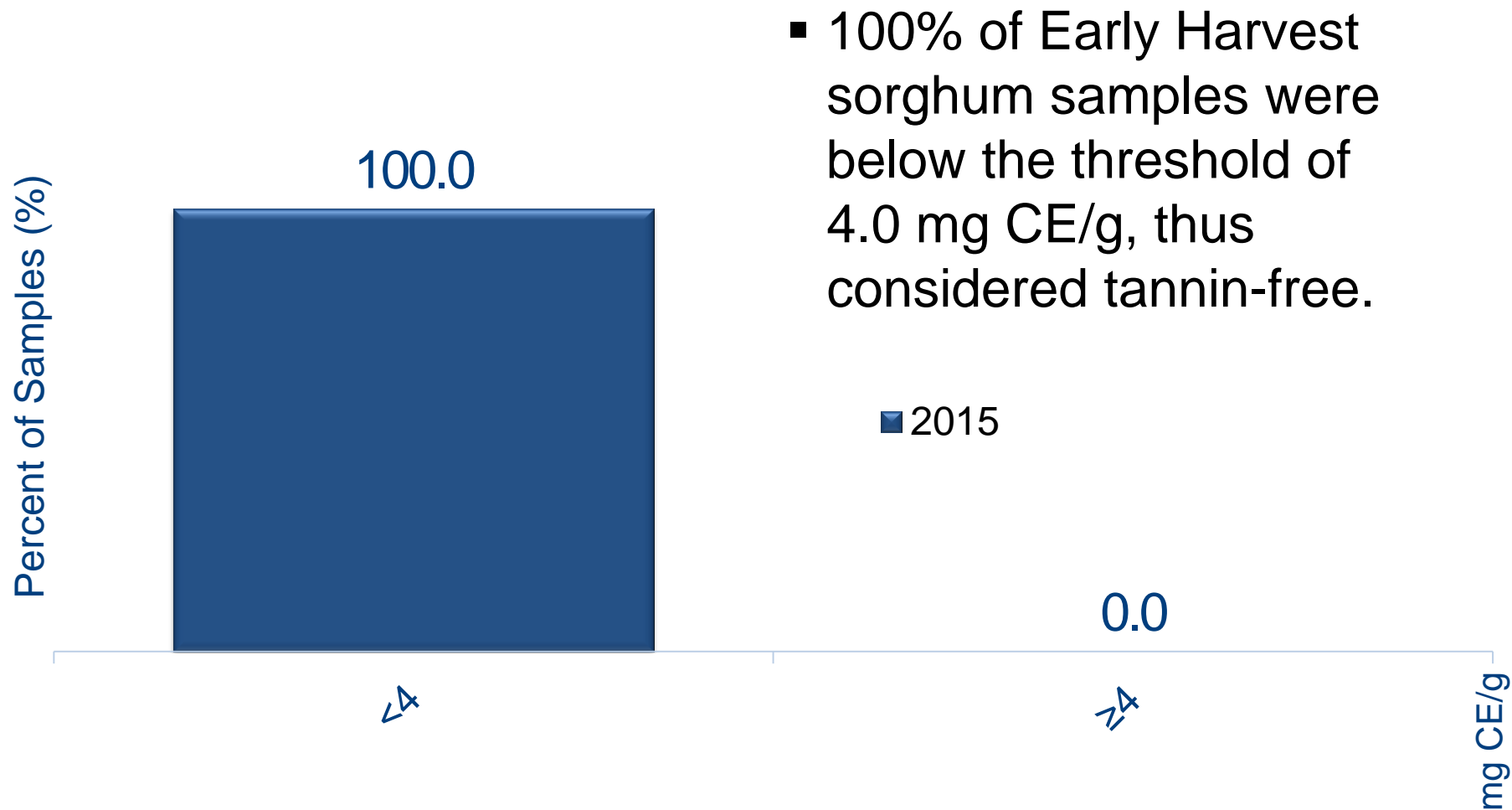
- Quantitative test (levels to indicate presence of tannins) was used instead of qualitative test (Yes or No) for more accurate results.



- Values near or below 4.0 mg catechin equivalents (CE) per one g sample by this method generally imply absence of condensed tannins.^{1,2}
- Type III tannin sorghums usually have values greater than 8.0 mg CE/g.

¹ Awika, J.M., L.W. Rooney, 2004. Sorghum phytochemicals and their potential impact on human health. *Phytochemistry* 65, 1199-1221.

² Price, Martin L., Van Scoyoc, S., Butler, L.G., 1978. A critical evaluation of vanillin reaction as an assay for tannin sorghum. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* 26, 1214-1218.



- 100% of Early Harvest sorghum samples were below the threshold of 4.0 mg CE/g, thus considered tannin-free.



Physical Factors

Related to processing characteristics, storability and potential for breakage

- Kernel weight, volume and density
- Kernel diameter
- Kernel hardness index

	No. of Samples	Avg.	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Kernel Diameter (mm)	50	2.54	0.10	2.20	2.90
1000-Kernel Weight (g)	50	25.97	2.32	19.5	32.10
Kernel Volume (mm ³)	50	19.22	1.61	14.56	23.46
True Density (g/cm ³)	50	1.350	0.015	1.295	1.382
Kernel Hardness Index	50	68.5	6.9	37.1	84.0

- Measure the size and composition of sorghum kernels
- Kernel volume is indicative of growing conditions and genetics

$$\frac{\text{1000-Kernel Weight (mass) (g)}}{\text{Kernel Volume (mm}^3\text{)} \times \frac{1 \text{ cm}^3}{1000 \text{ mm}^3}} = \text{True Density (g/cm}^3\text{)}$$

- True density reflects kernel hardness
- Higher density – harder kernels; less susceptible to breakage
- Lower density – softer kernels; process well in size reduction; good for feed use

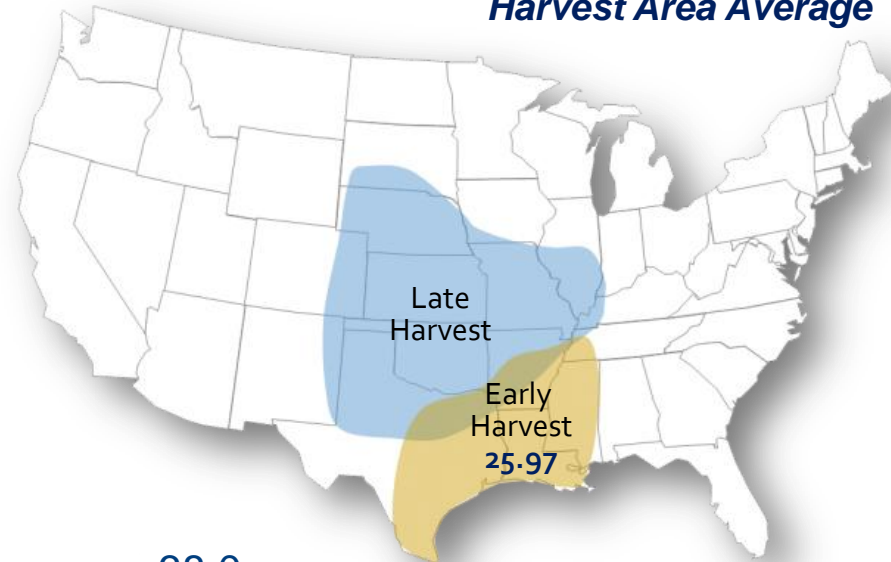
1000-kernel (1000-k) Weight (g)

2015/2016 Sorghum
Early Harvest Quality Report

Early Harvest:
25.97 g

- On the lower end of typical levels in literature for U.S. sorghum

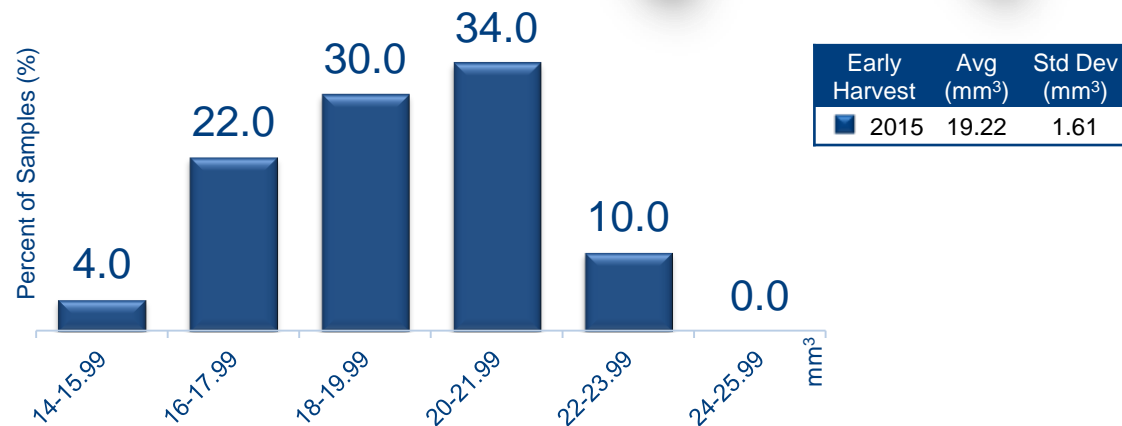
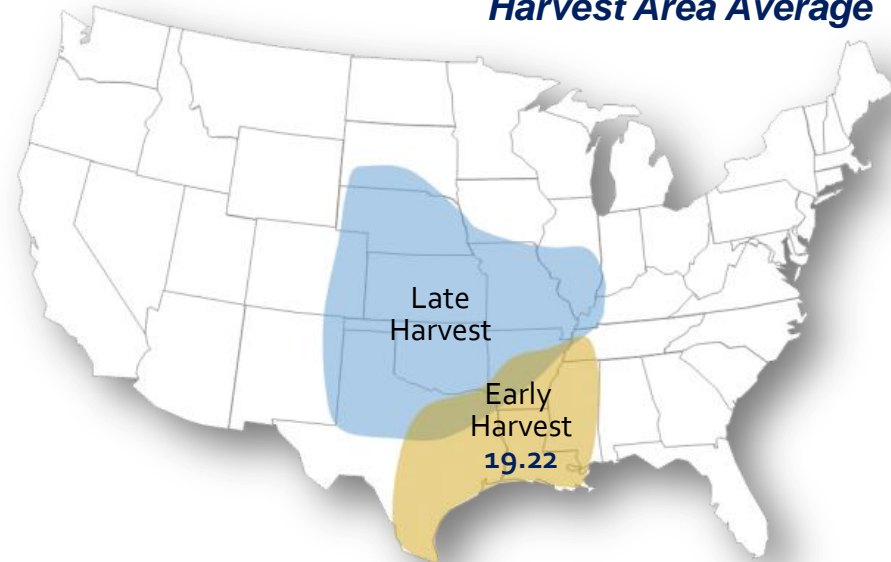
1000-Kernel Weight (g)
Harvest Area Average



Early Harvest:
19.22 mm³

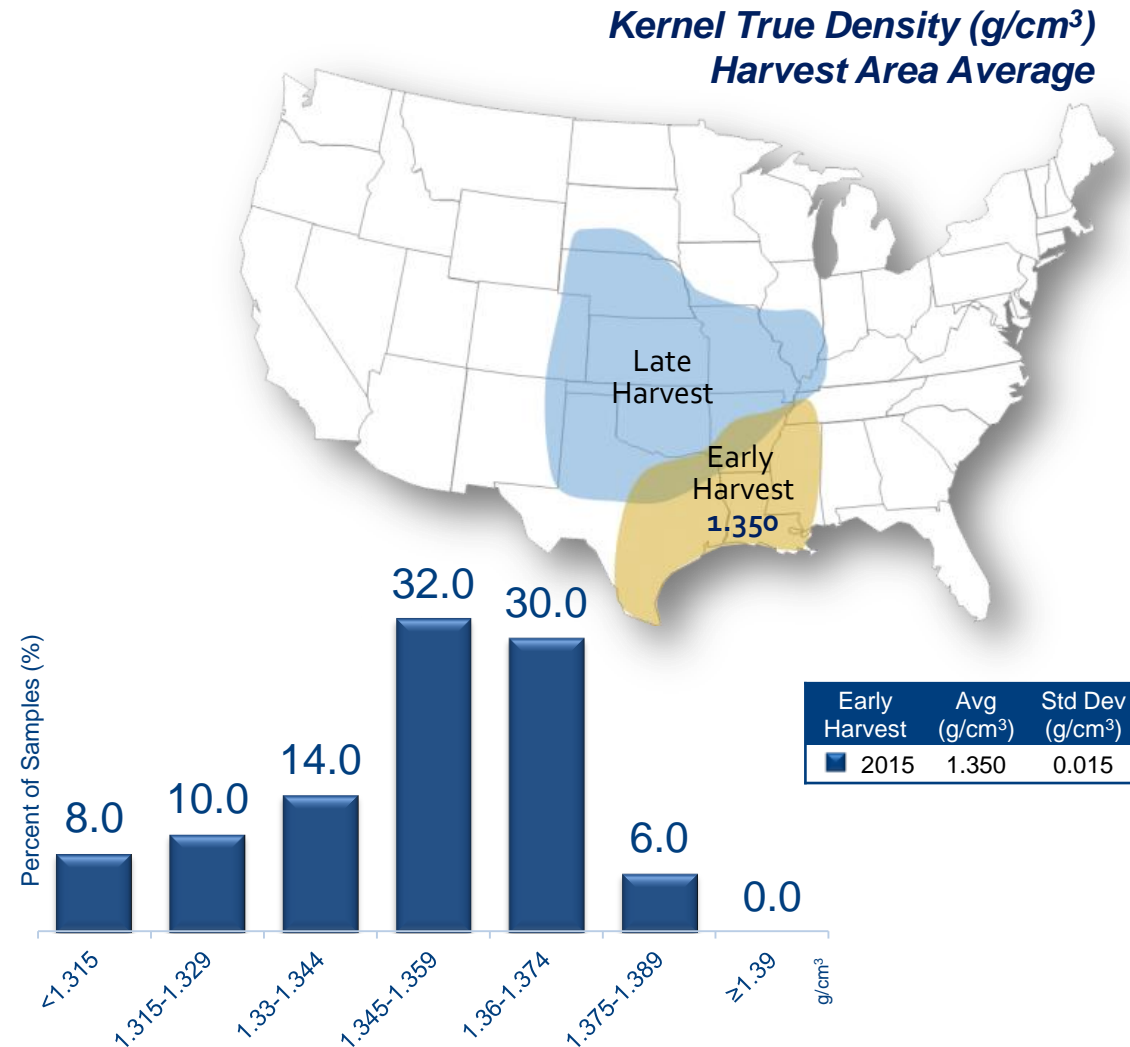
- Typical values for kernels from any sorghum crop

**Kernel Volume (mm³)
Harvest Area Average**



Early Harvest: 1.350 g/cm³

- Typical values for kernels from any sorghum crop
- Average within range of feed sorghum



Kernel Diameter

- Directly correlated with kernel volume
- Impacts size reduction behavior and material handling practices
- May indicate maturity of kernel

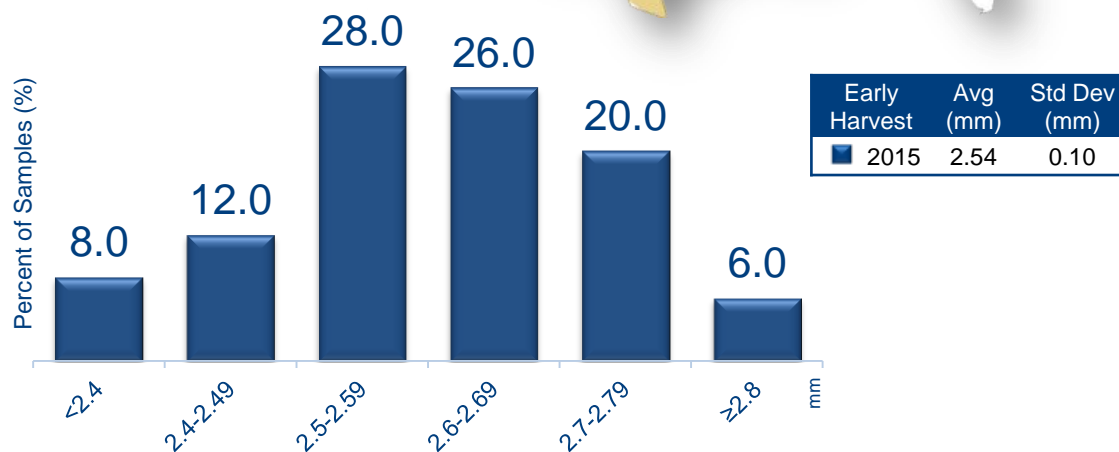
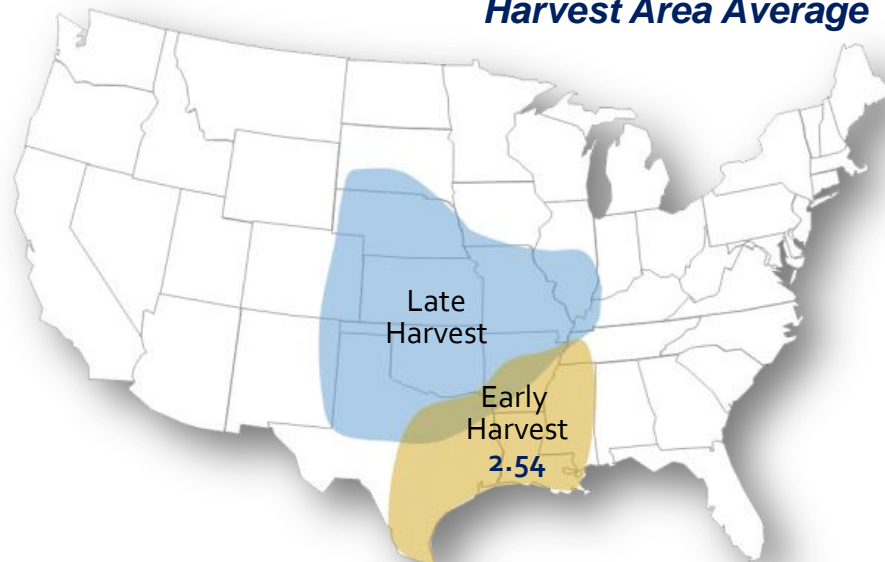
Kernel Hardness Index

- The higher the value, the harder the kernel
- Impacts end-use of sorghum

Early Harvest:
2.54 mm

- Typical values for kernels from any sorghum crop

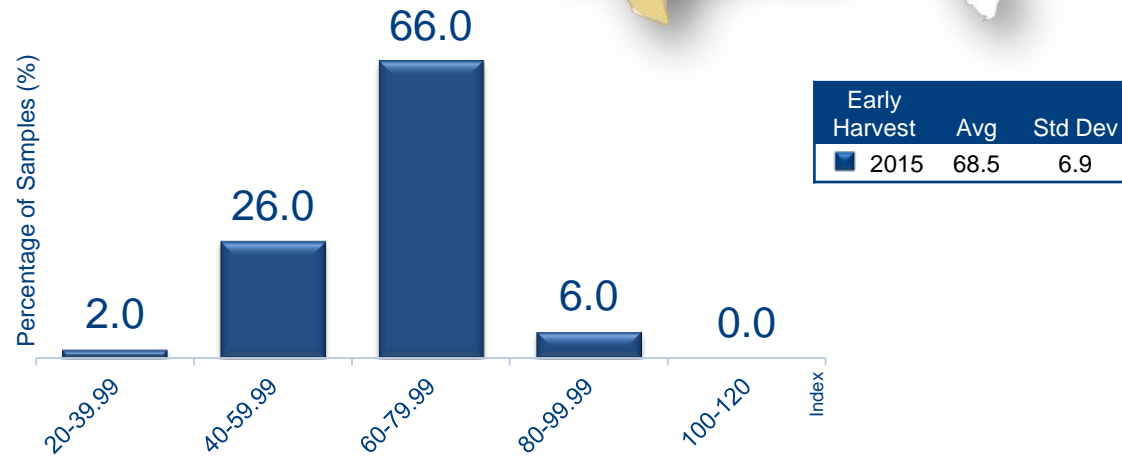
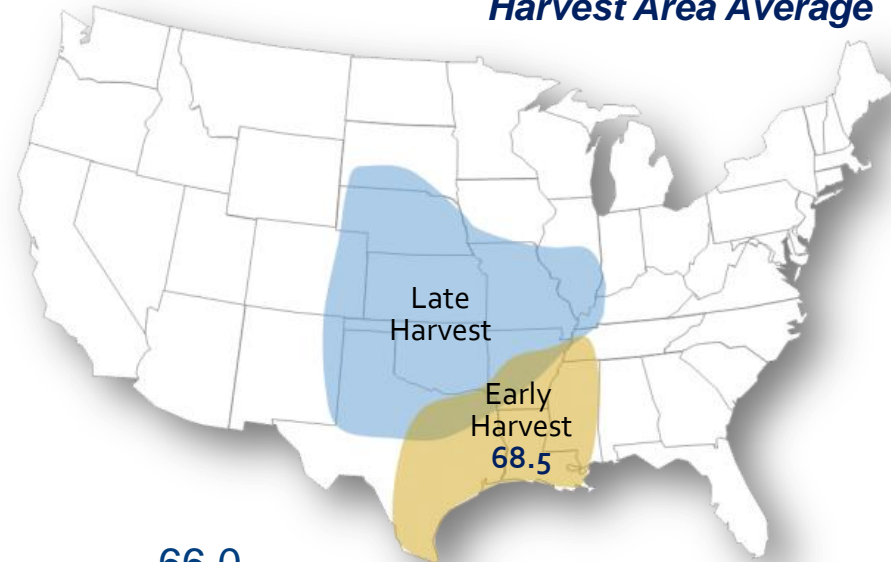
*Kernel Diameter (mm)
Harvest Area Average*



Early Harvest:
68.5

- Average is a typical value for any sorghum crop

*Kernel Hardness Index(KHI)
Harvest Area Average*



Sorghum Quality

Harvest – impacted by several factors including geography, genetics and weather

Export – affected by many factors in the U.S. grain marketing system, in addition to building on the quality established at harvest

Annual Series

Provides information for evaluating patterns in quality across geographies, how weather affects quality, and changes in quality between harvest and export

2015/ 2016

2015/2016 Sorghum Harvest and Export Cargo Quality Report in December 2015 or early January 2016 will report U.S. sorghum quality from entire harvest area and samples at export points early in the marketing year

Building a Tradition: Thank You!



U.S. GRAINS
COUNCIL

Developing markets. >> Enabling trade. >> Improving lives.