



How to Guide – HE-50

“Sample Preparation”

STEP 1 Prepare a 9ml sample of grain, ensuring the grain you are measuring is representative for the bin/paddock/lot of grain you are analysing.

How to obtain a representative sample:

Grain samples are typically drawn from a truck or rail carriage or storage shed/bunker using a probe system. The probe is usually in the form of a **truck spear** OR a **vacuum sampling system** and determined according to the type of grain storage. For example, given a 20-30MT truck load of grain, a minimum of 5 probes are required with a total minimum weight of 5 litres. Each sample must be drawn from a different section of the truck load – i.e. to gain a representative sample of the entire load (each probe should be placed randomly and with at least one probe taken from the front, middle and rear of the truck).

Sub samples are then taken using a **“Divider”**, or hand-mixed to gain a truly representative sample of the load. It is important to remember that all representative samples be retained as a future reference should a dispute arise.

NB: 1) The grain sample must be clean and sound. The inclusion of foreign seeds, chaff etc may compromise the results. 2) If there is not enough grain in the sample cup, the instrument will not perform correctly and a reading error will occur.

STEP 2 Pour the grain sample into the supplied sample cup so that it is reasonably level with the top of the cup.

STEP 3 Commence measurement procedure.

