



Durack Oat Variety Further Milling Evaluation Required in 2017

The GIWA Oat Council Milling Evaluation Technical Committee met on 30th March 2017 to consider the milling evaluation results of the new shorter season, eastern wheat belt, oat variety Durack. This pro bono milling trial was conducted on behalf of the GIWA Oat Council by Quaker Oats in Q1 2017.

Under the commercial evaluation, Durack passed physical milling requirements for rolling and flaking, producing product with typical aroma and taste. However, due to 2016 seasonal conditions ie frost, more data was required to assess its nutritional performance, notably beta glucan, as the key component of soluble dietary fibre.

The WA oat industry needs to ensure that processed oat foods manufactured from high quality Western Australian oats continue to meet health claim requirements for finished product of at least 4% β -glucan content, a key health feature of international market acceptance among consumers and manufacturers.

On 6th April 2017 the GIWA Oat Council Milling Evaluation Technical Committee reviewed additional available nutritional performance data of Durack, which added value to understanding its performance but fell short of adding depth to the expression of beta glucan in WA.

On that basis, the Durack variety has not yet met all criteria for industry acceptance for a milling grade variety, and will continue through an evaluation process.

Durack will undergo further nutritional evaluation during 2017 from both existing 2016/2017 research samples, and from commercial new crop samples from 2017/2018.

The GIWA Oat Council expects that the additional nutritional milling evaluation of Durack will be completed by the end of February 2018.

Growers who choose to grow Durack in 2017 to gain experience with the variety, or for seed bulk-up, will by arrangement with CBH be eligible to deliver as Oat 2 if the variety does not pass the next additional milling nutritional evaluation phase.

If Durack meets the nutritional component of the commercial evaluation in the course of 2017 and is endorsed by industry as a milling variety, it would be eligible for delivery as OAT1 or OAT2 from the time of that industry endorsement (ie post February 2018).

The additional nutritional milling evaluation of Durack will not delay any new milling trial for any new variety out of the National Oat Breeding Program at SARDI.

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