

The State of Kansas has established laboratories at different places, including Kansas City, where the handler of wheat can secure a protein test on samples submitted for which a fee is charged. This is done for the convenience of the trade without being a part of the required inspection and has been so established because the trading in this country is very largely based on values established on the protein content.

The work of making these tests, however, is very largely by commercial laboratories. The actual work of securing a proper protein test, which requires exceptionally accurate work, takes at least two hours.

The delay on cars on which samples for protein have been submitted runs anywhere from two hours to twenty-four hours, according to the volume of movement and is a serious factor in the expeditious movement of grain, as retests and rechecks of protein unless accurately secured in the first place may delay the movement of cars several days.

The protein runs from 10 to 15 per cent on the different samples and in this market the colour or quality of the grain is no indication of the protein content.

A letter from the Tenney Company, Grain Commission, Minneapolis, Minnesota:—

Buyers of wheat containing a high protein content will pay a premium for the same proportionate to the amount of the protein. They then special bin the wheat, keeping the average proteins as far as possible, separate from other wheat, and when the wheat is sold, this high protein wheat brings a considerable premium over the ordinary wheat. As an illustration,—On the basis of the market here to-day, 1 Dark Northern wheat of 13 points is worth 30 cents over Minneapolis May, whereas 1 Dark Northern wheat without any protein guarantee is selling at 3 cents over.

An extract from the *National Grain Journal*:—

Congressman O. B. Burtness of North Dakota has introduced a measure in the present Congress, designated as H.R. 106. This Bill would amend the United States Grain Standards Act by inserting a new section, providing for licensing and establishing laboratories for making determinations of protein in wheat and oil in flax. The Bill has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

A letter signed by "Micros" appearing in a Liverpool paper called *Milling*, on February 20, 1926:—

Our American brethren, to use their own expression, tell the world, and unfortunately as a result one is apt to think that they are the only people actively engaged in research and the trying out of new ideas and methods. Many mills to-day in these isles are, however, supplementing their previous 'rule of thumb' methods by utilizing the protein test. One big stumbling block to British millers appears to be the fact that they are still hoping for the perfect test which will wipe out all others and stand alone in its glory. I am afraid they are doomed to certain disappointment; the wheat berry is far too complicated for that. If, then, the protein test can be considered as a valuable supplementary test, it will be found of proved value, as all who use it regularly know. It is, however, no good expecting an Australian wheat and a Manitoba wheat to replace each other because they both happen to test 12 per cent protein; there are other factors that must be taken into account in comparing two wheats of such a different type. But since there are, although many do not realize it, great variations in different wheats belonging to the same type, the test can be of great use in selecting the most profitable from a 'gluten quantity' point of view.

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