



# Canada's Commitment to Quality

Eric Fedosejevs, PhD

Harrow Research and Development Centre

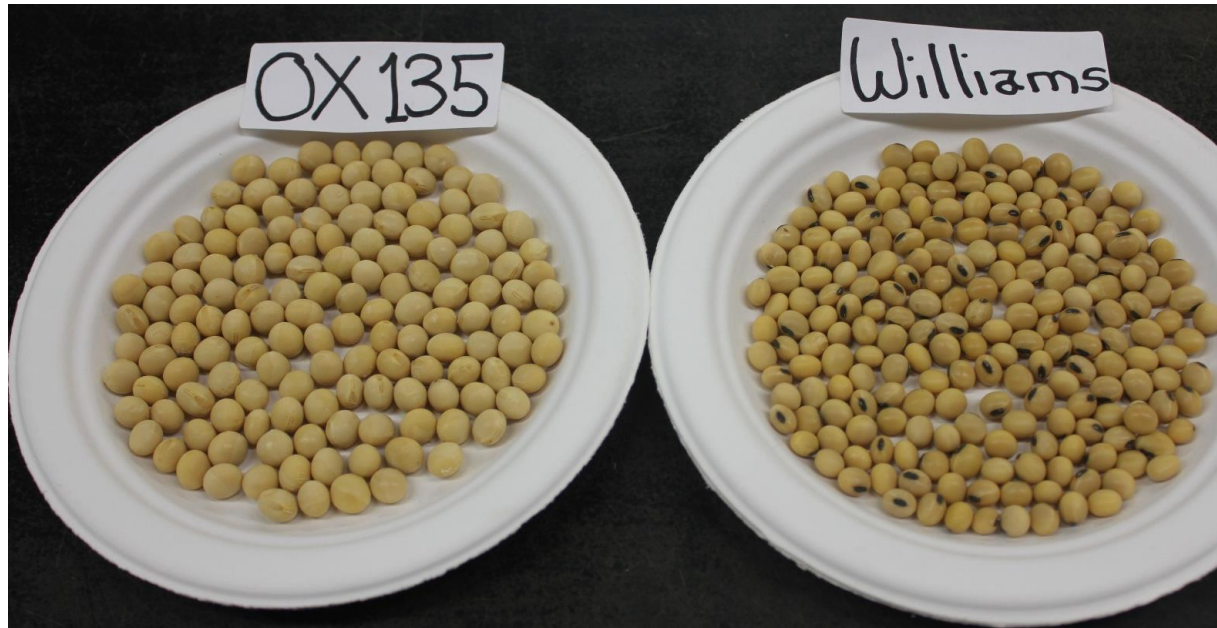


Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et  
Agroalimentaire Canada

Canada

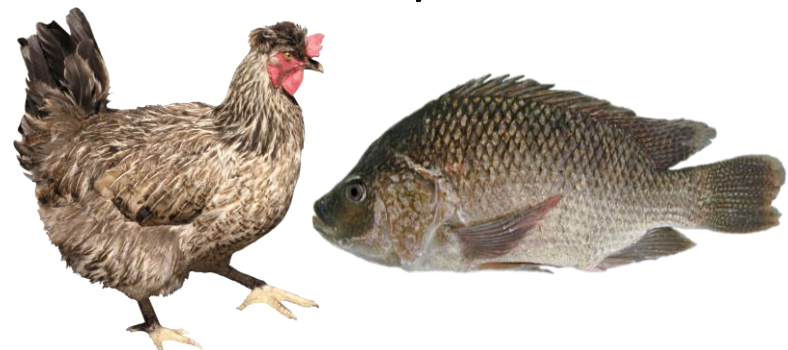
# What are food-grade soybeans?



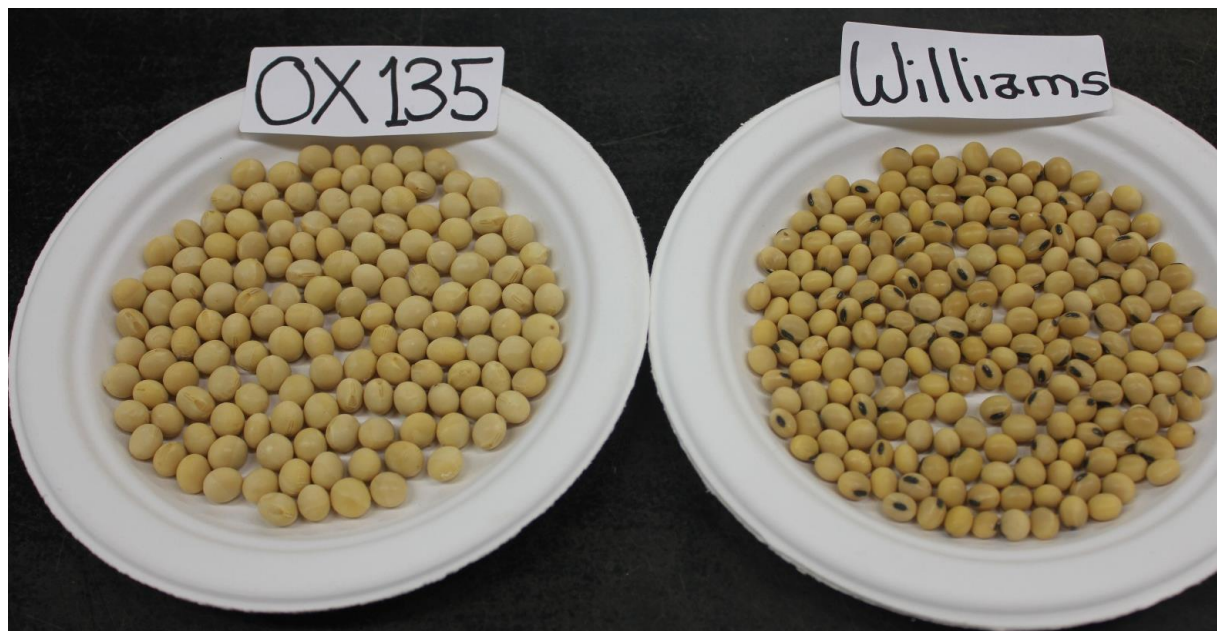
Food-grade  
= Human food



Commodity  
= Animal feed/crush



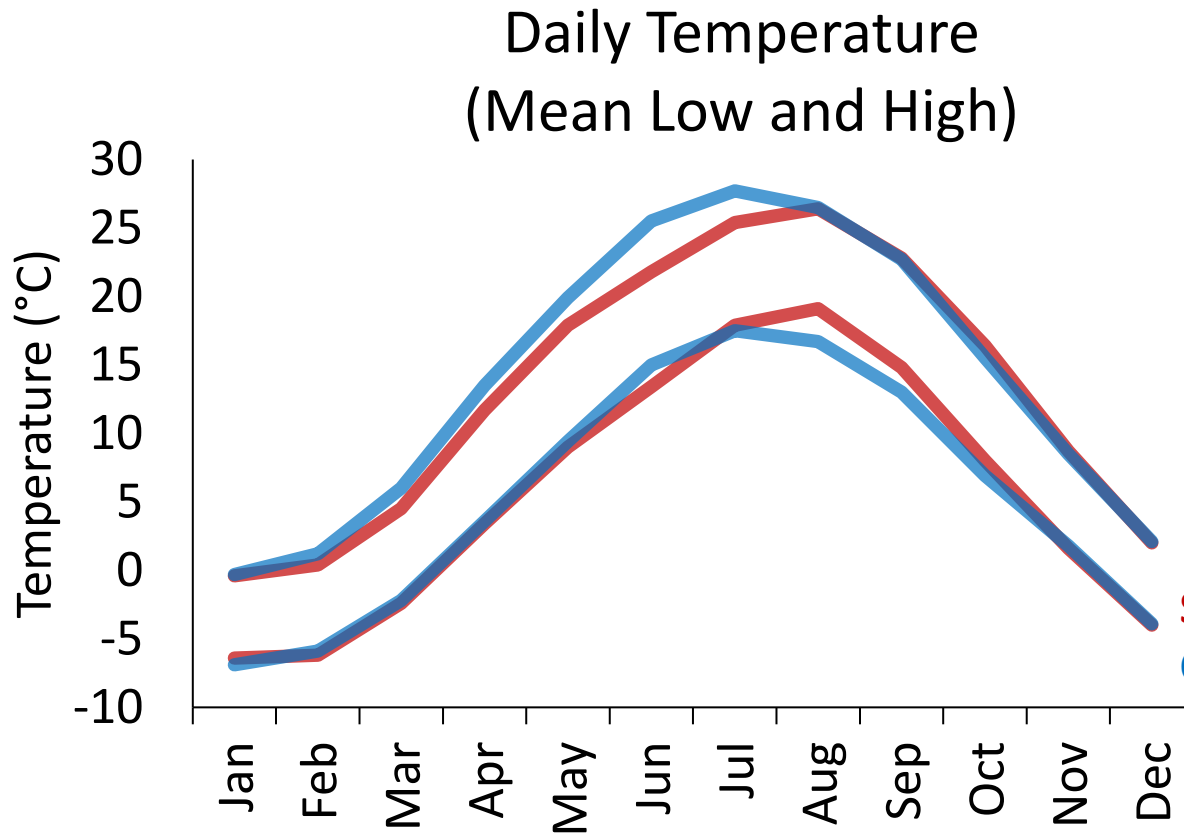
# What are food-grade soybeans?



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Light hilum</li><li>• Large seeds (&gt;200 mg)</li><li>• High protein (41-49%)</li><li>• High sugar</li><li>• Mostly non-GMO</li><li>• Mostly identity-preserved</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dark hilum</li><li>• Small seeds (160-190 mg)</li><li>• Low protein (36-40%)</li><li>• Variable sugar</li><li>• Mostly GMO</li><li>• Mostly commodity</li></ul> |
|--|---|

# Canada's food-grade soybean reputation

- Ideal climate for high protein and quality



**Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan**  
**Chatham, Ontario, Canada**



# Canada's food-grade soybean reputation

- Canadian Identity Preserved Recognition System (CIPRS)
- Decades of investment in research, particularly at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC's) Harrow Research and Development Centre (Harrow RDC)



Canadian  
Identity Preserved  
Recognition System

Système canadien  
de reconnaissance  
de ségrégation

# Harrow RDC is at the heart of Canadian food-grade soybean production



Harrow Research  
and Development  
Centre (RDC)

Graphic: Soy Canada

# History of food-grade soybean research at Harrow

*Analyses of Soybeans - Protein and Oil  
Average for 5 years - 1928-1932*

VARIETY	WEIGHT OF 100 BEANS Grams	WATER-FREE BASIS	
		PROTEIN Percentage	FAT %
St. Louis 92	19.76	44.90	18.15
Early Broom	24.11	43.68	17.95
Madison	19.27	45.35	18.60
Yellow 210	23.57	44.98	18.49
Yellow 17	18.91	41.88	20.21
Clinton Echo	14.09	42.94	19.08
Station	18.90	42.25	18.40
O.A.C. 211	21.05	44.44	18.11
O.A.C. 81	19.51	42.94	18.15
Summit	16.36	45.10	17.19
Black (China)	17.72	43.45	17.13
Early Krum	24.37	42.47	18.87
Green	28.95	44.09	19.05
Monarch	17.47	41.97	19.54
Black Eyed	19.03	43.18	18.25
St. Sam	16.56	44.08	17.38
Baldwin	18.15	42.47	19.19
A.K.	15.33	41.50	19.62

**1951** – Harosoy released with light hilum, yellow seed coat

**1971** – First container of Special Quality White Hilum exported to Hong Kong and Japan

**1972** – Harwood exported for tofu and miso use

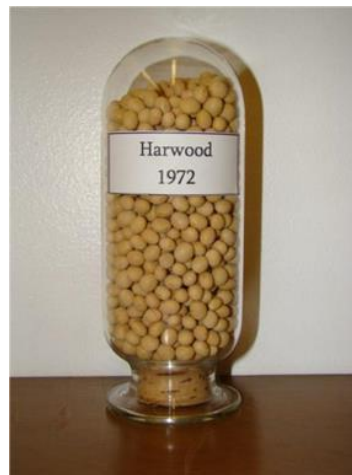
**1982** – first Export Mission to Japan

**1984** – first Canadian Workshop on Export Markets, breeding for food use begins in earnest

**1989** – Harovinton released as first intentional tofu variety with high protein and large seed size

**1923** – Dr. F. Dimmock launches soybean breeding program

**1933** – A.K. (All Kinds) Harrow commodity bean released



Soybean team (2018)

# History of food-grade soybean research at Harrow

## **Harovinton Soybean**

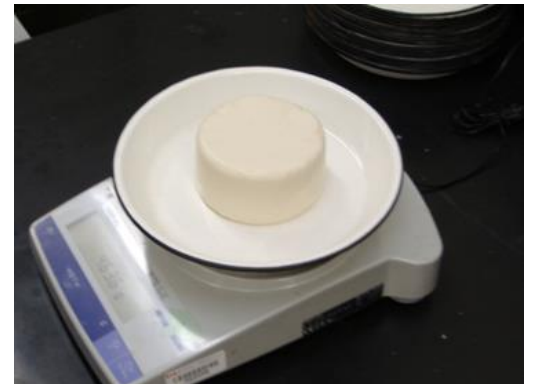
This soybean, developed by Dr. Richard Buzzell was named Seed of the Year in November 2006 at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto. This high protein cultivar makes high-quality tofu and is valued by Japanese tofu producers who call it “Asian Pearl” and have made it the nation’s soybean industry standard.





# AAFC Harrow seed quality program

- Monitoring food-grade soybean quality for over 25 years
- Dr. Eric Fedosejevs took over gradually from Dr. Lorna Woodrow in 2021



# Seed quality program objectives

- Identification of soybean characteristics relevant to soy food quality
- Development of new technologies; characterization of commercial cultivars; monitoring seasonal variation
- Application of technologies in breeding programs and studies



Harrow RDC

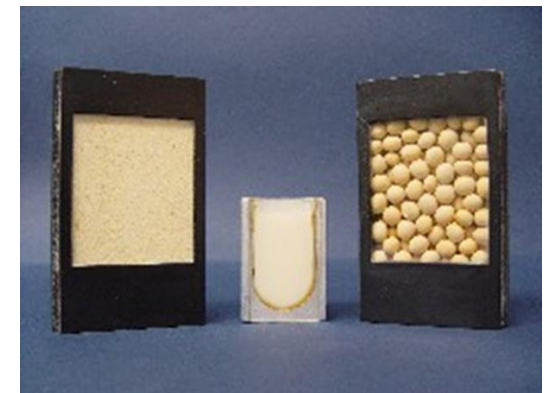
Quality  
monitoring  
pipeline

# Evaluating soybean quality

- 1. Seed composition** – rapid & accurate testing with NIRS
- 2. Processing performance** – evaluation via manufacturing and testing of soy foods

# 1. Measuring seed composition via NIRS

- Near Infrared Spectroscopy (**NIRS**)
- Small sample size
- Non-destructive
- Very rapid
- Many components analyzed simultaneously
- Models tailored over decades to Canadian food-grade soybean varieties and germplasm

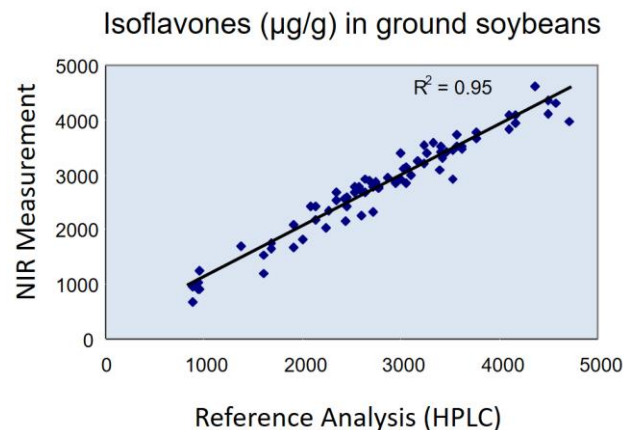
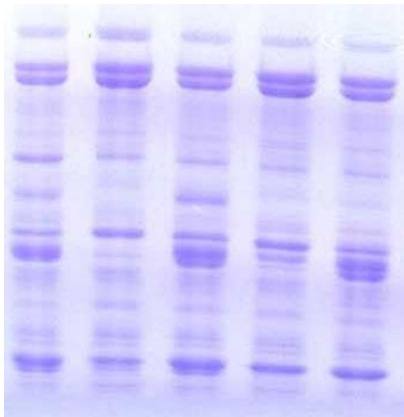
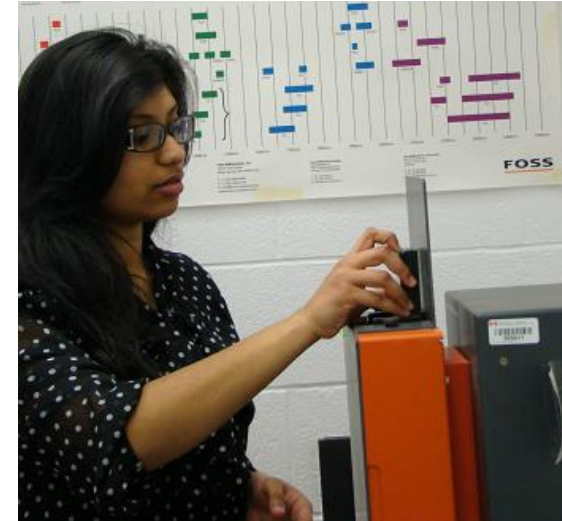




# 1. Measuring seed composition via NIRS



- Models updated annually based on laboratory reference methods (HPLC, electrophoresis, and colorimetric assays)
- Separate models for whole beans, ground beans, and soymilk



# NIRS models developed at Harrow

- Whole/ground seeds:
  - Protein, oil (refined from FOSS model)
  - Total free sugars, sucrose and oligosaccharides (stachyose and raffinose)
  - Total fermentable carbohydrates (miso)
  - Total isoflavones; daidzein; genistein
  - 11S:7S protein ratio
- Soymilk
  - Protein, oil, sugars, dry matter

# Models under development:

- Phytate (affects tofu texture, nutrition)
- Saponins (bitter, soapy)
- Vitamin E (tocopherol)

## 2. Evaluating soy food processing performance

- Performance data is generated following standard operating procedures
- Benchmark varieties *e.g.* Harovinton and Kent are used for comparison
- Challenge is to replicate commercial processing methods as closely as possible in a laboratory setting





# Lab-scale soymilk and tofu manufacturing



**1. Soybeans are soaked for standard temperature and duration**



**2. Soaked soybeans are homogenized to produce a slurry**



**3. Slurry is separated into soymilk and okara**

# Lab-scale soymilk and tofu manufacturing



**4. Soymilk is heated and cooled through a standard profile**



**5. Coagulant is added to the soymilk to produce silken tofu**

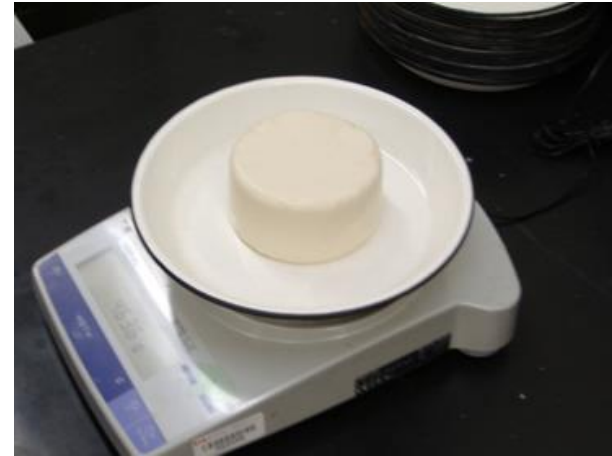
## Coagulants

- $\text{MgCl}_2$  (Nigari)
- $\text{CaSO}_4$
- GDL (glucono- $\delta$ -lactone)

# Lab-scale soymilk and tofu manufacturing



**6. Tofu is cooled in a water bath until the internal temperature reaches 20°C**



**7. Tofu yield is determined prior to analysis of colour, pH, solids and texture**

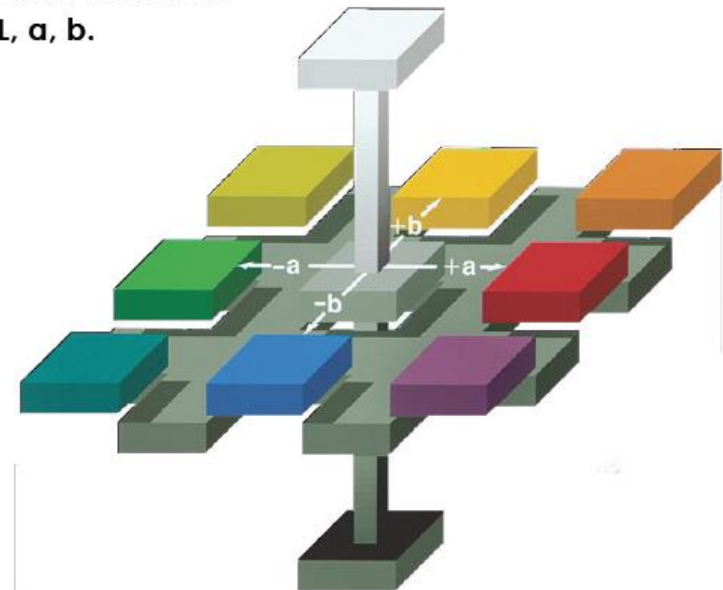
# Assessing soymilk performance

- NIRS (protein, oil, sugars, dry matter)
- Colour (using the L, a, b system to mimic human colour perception)
- Viscosity
- pH
- Yield
- Protein and sugar recovery
- Specific gravity
- Total dissolved solids

## Hunter L, a, b colour chart

Source: [www.hunterlab.com](http://www.hunterlab.com)

Figure 1. Opponent Color Scales of L, a, b.





# Assessing soymilk performance

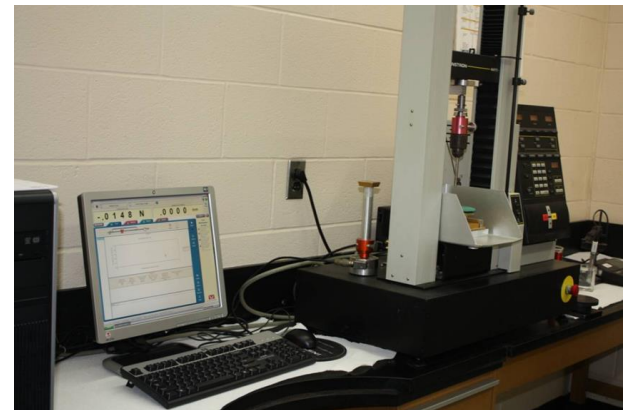
- NIRS (protein, oil, sugars, dry matter)
- Colour (using the L, a, b system to mimic human colour perception)
- Viscosity
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- Yield
- Protein and sugar recovery
- Specific gravity
- Total dissolved solids

## ***Did you know?***

- The best measurement of food-grade soybean protein solubility for processors is **soymilk protein recovery**
- Reflects real processing conditions and is more reproducible than PDI or NSI

# Assessing tofu performance

- Dry matter and protein yield
- Whey volume
- Tofu gel strength (hardness, firmness, and springiness)




# Assessing miso potential

- Raw and steamed bean water uptake factors
- Steamed mash colour




# Quality testing data availability

- Testing reports provided to Soy Canada members


Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program


Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program

**MISO Primary Analysis**  
January 27, 2021


Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program

Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program

**SOYBEAN PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS**  
July 28, 2021


Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program

Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada  
Harrow Research & Development Centre, Harrow, Ontario  
Soybean Quality Program

**SOY MILK & TOFU ANALYSIS**  
January 27, 2021

Variety: **Harrow RDC**  
Company: **Standard (2020 Crop)**  
Lab ID: **C200094**

Sample Contains 125 g Dry Matter Protein  
Water : Protein Ratio 18:1  
Seeds were soaked for 22 hours at 13° C

**Raw Bean**

**Physical Characteristics**

Moisture	9.5 %
Sample Weight	306.7 g
Dry Matter (DM)	277.5 g
Seed Size (DM basis)	19.89 g/100 Seed
Water Uptake Factor (as-is)	2.26 g/g bean
Water Uptake Factor (DM basis)	2.49 g/g bean

**HunterLab Colour**

L	54.96	a	7.23	b	19.71
Whiteness Index	-156.05				

**Composition on dry matter (DM) basis \***

Protein	45.0 %
Oil	19.4 %
Total Free Sugars	10.9 %
Sucrose	6.0 %
Stachyose	4.9 %
Total Carbohydrates	17.5 %
Total Isoflavones	2130 µg/g
Daidzein	830 µg/g
Genistein	1170 µg/g
11S:7S Protein Ratio	1.5

\* To convert to 13% moisture basis, multiply by 0.87 (except 11S:7S).

**Soymilk**

Yield (Protein basis)	16.44 L/kg
Yield (DM basis)	7.41 L/kg
pH	6.58
Viscosity	4.35 cP

**HunterLab Colour**

L	85.18	a	0.57	b	14.28
Whiteness Index	-7.16				

**Composition (w/v)**

Protein	5.06 %
Oil	2.12 %
Total Free Sugars	1.30 %
Solids	10.23 %

Refractive Index 9.75 \* Brx  
Specific Gravity 1.02  
Protein Recovery 83.20 %



**Tofu**

Coagulant	Whey Vol. (ml)	Yield (kg tofu/kg)		Texture / Compression		
		Protein basis	DM Bean basis	Hardness, break, (N)	Firmness (N/mm)	Springiness
GDL	6.3	16.41	7.39	1.58	0.29	0.82
CaSO <sub>4</sub>	2.3	16.54	7.45	0.91	0.18	0.66
MgCl <sub>2</sub>	16.1	16.16	7.28	0.78	0.17	0.61

Comments:

Analyses were conducted following procedures in Mullin et al. 2001. Food Research International 34: 669-677 and using NIR calibrations provided by the instrument manufacturer or developed at Harrow RDC. The data is provided without warranty, express or implied, of fitness for any particular purpose. Please refer to the accompanying pdf document 'Soy Milk & Tofu Analysis - Guide to Interpreting Results' for more information on the test.

Supported by:



# Quality testing data availability

- Canadian Food-Grade Soybean Database:  
[www.buycanadiansoybeans.ca](http://www.buycanadiansoybeans.ca)
- Objective, comparative data on Canadian food-grade soybean varieties – now in 17<sup>th</sup> year
- Samples obtained from Ontario Soybean Variety Trials
- Analyses conducted at Harrow using NIR

Canadian Food Grade Soybean Variety Database

Welcome to the Canadian Food-Grade Soybean Variety Database. With over 100 varieties featured this is the most comprehensive database of Canadian food-grade soybean varieties available. Using the interactive tools, you can search for varieties grown in Canada that are suitable to meet all your functionality needs.

Q SEARCH VARIETIES

**Filter By**

2020

**Intended Use**

☐ Tofu  
☐ Miso  
☐ Soy Beverage  
☐ Soy Sauce  
☐ General use  
☐ Natto

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**

☐ < 42%  
☐ 42-44%  
☐ > 44%

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**

☐ Small < 20  
☐ Medium 20-23  
☐ Large > 23

**Oil**

☐ Low < 20  
☐ Medium 20-21  
☐ High > 21

**Sucrose (% DM)**

☐ < 6.4  
☐ 6.4-7.0  
☐ > 7.0

**Hilum Colour**

☐ Yellow  
☐ Imperfect Yellow  
☐ Other

RESET FILTERS

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC 26-15**

**Intended Uses**  
Tofu, Miso, Soy Beverage, Soy Sauce, General Use

**Growing Region**  
MG 2

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
21.3-22.0

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.7-42.1

**Oil (% DM)**  
20.7-21.5

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
6.6-7.0

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
2090-2190

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC BIG BEN**

**Intended Uses**  
General Use

**Growing Region**  
MG 2

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
20.1-20.7

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.6-41.5

**Oil (% DM)**  
20.0-20.5

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
7.2

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
2350-2520

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC DALE**

**Intended Uses**  
General Use

**Growing Region**  
MG 0

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
19.5

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.8

**Oil (% DM)**  
21.4

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
5.8

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
1530

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC HENSATTO**

**Intended Uses**  
Natto

**Growing Region**  
MG 0

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
8.7

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.6

**Oil (% DM)**  
20.4

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
5.5

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
1660

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC HOSHI**

**Intended Uses**  
Natto

**Growing Region**  
MG 0

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
19.5

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.8

**Oil (% DM)**  
21.4

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
5.8

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
1530

**VARIETY / 2020**  
**AAC INVEST 1605**

**Intended Uses**  
General Use

**Growing Region**  
MG 0

**Hilum Colour**  
Yellow

**Seed Size (g/100 seeds)**  
19.5

**Protein (% DM)<sup>1</sup>**  
40.8

**Oil (% DM)**  
21.4

**Sucrose (% DM)**  
5.8

**Isoflavones<sup>5</sup> (PPM<sup>6</sup>)**  
1530



# Thank you for listening!

Please do not hesitate  
to ask questions.



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Canada