Use of Quality Management Systems to Promote Traceability in Commodity Grains

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Iowa Corn and Soybean Production

■ 2008*
  • Corn: 2.19 Billion Bushels
    ■ 13.3 Million Acres
    ■ Average Yield: 171 Bu./Acre
    ■ Average Value: $3.95/Bushel
  • Soybeans: 444.8 Million Bushels
    ■ 9.67 Million Acres
    ■ Average Yield: 46 Bu./Acre
    ■ Average Value: $9.65/Bushel

*Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS)
Why Grain Traceability?

- Seed Production Company
- Input Supplier
- Grain Producer
- Grain Handler
- Processor
- Livestock Producer
- Meat Packer
- Consumer
A Typical Iowa Elevator
Jordan, Iowa
A Typical Iowa Elevator
Jordan, Iowa

2008

- **Corn**: 14 Million Bushels
  - 85,900 Acres
  - Average County Yield*: 163 Bu./Acre

- **Soybeans**: 1.38 Million Bushels
  - 30,900 Acres
  - Average County Yield*: 44.7 Bu./Acre

*Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS)
What Complicates Tracing Grain?
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How Do We Control?

How Do We Achieve Consistency?
Product Realization

- The Product Realization Activity:

Grain Traceability
Monitoring & Measurement of Processes

- Internal Auditing
- Process Measurement
- Measurement of Product
- Control of Nonconforming Product
- Analysis of Data
- Continual Improvement
- Corrective and Preventive Action
Management Responsibility

- You can’t have an effective Quality Management System without management commitment.
- Management takes the results of measurement and analysis to:
  - Establish Quality Objectives
  - Plan
  - Communicate
Provision of Resources

- Determine and provide the resources to:
  - Implement and maintain the Quality Management System
  - Enhance customer satisfaction by meeting customer requirements.
ISO 9001 – NO FEAR!
JUST PLAIN COMMON SENSE

- ISO is a system that standardizes the methods and processes at an organization
- “ISO” could stand for “I Survived Obsolescence”.

[Diagram showing various roles including Seed Production Company, Input Supplier, Grain Producer, Grain Handler, Processor, Livestock Producer, Meat Packer, Consumer]
Thank you!

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