What test weight harmonization might mean for you? Example

On August 1, 2023, primary test weight tolerances for CWRS and four other classes of western Canadian wheat will move to export tolerances which are tighter. Durum primary test weight minimums will remain lower than export test weight minimums for the upcoming crop year, but the Canadian Grain Commission has indicated its goal is to have a single standard for all grading factors.

How might this affect you? CWRS you deliver to your local elevator will need to meet a minimum test weight of 79 kg/hL or 63.3 lbs/bushel to grade a #1. Currently, CWRS delivered to a primary elevator needs to have a minimum test weight of 75 kg/hL or 60.1 lbs/bushel to grade a #1, the current primary standard. Following the minimum test weight increase on August 1, 2023 for all grades, a delivery of CWRS that would have previously made #1 at the primary standard of 75 kg/hL or 60.1 lbs/bu now will have the potential to be downgraded to as low as feed based on that single grading factor. This could have significant impacts for your farm depending on harvest quality and price spreads between grades. As is the case with many other grading factors (e.g., frost) and non-grading factors (e.g., falling number, DON), this may be a rare problem, but it can be very costly when downgrading does occur.

Grade	1 CWRS	2 CWRS	3 CWRS	Feed	
		Test Weight kg/hL (lbs/bu)			
Primary	75 (60.1)	72 (57.7)	69 (55.4)	65 (52)	
Export	79 (63.3)	77 (61.7)	76 (61)	73 (58.5)	
(Table source:	Test weight conversion	charts for Canadian a	grains. Canadian Grai	n Commission, 2022)	