

## Mycotoxin and Ergot Submission Guidelines

### 1. Submission Form:

- a. Complete a **MYCOTOXIN, ERGOT & NITRATE TOXIN** submission form.
  - i. Ensure that the test request and if grinding is required are filled in.
  - ii. Incomplete submission forms may result in testing delays.

### 2. Sample Size:

- a. Minimum: 0.2 kg (200 g), approximately a full snack Ziplock bag.
- b. Maximum: 1.0 kg (1000g), large Ziplock bag approximately half full.



### 3. Whole/Unground Samples:

- a. A \$30.00 grinding charge applies for whole/unground samples, up to 1 kg in size.
  - i. Clients may request an oversized sample to be entirely ground for an additional \$30/kg grinding fee.
- b. Ensure that no rocks are visible in the sample. If rocks are present testing will be cancelled and client will be notified to submit a new sample.
- c. PDS uses a grinder that produces a very fine grind product which produces consistent toxin values when testing multiple subsamples.



#### Coffee Grinder

Grind is coarse and results may be highly variable  
(Testing multiple subsamples may give different toxin values)



#### Grinding Mill

Grind is fine and results are consistent  
(Testing multiple subsample gives consistent toxin values)

### 4. Ground samples:

- a. Ground samples can be submitted without the additional charge, but results will NOT be guaranteed for samples that cannot pass through a 35 mesh (0.5mm; flour consistency).
- b. This article compares different grinding methods when analyzing ergot:  
<https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/wagac/wmj/2017/00000010/00000003/art00001?crawler=true&mimetype=application/pdf>

Please contact PDS if you have any questions – email: [dso@usask.ca](mailto:dso@usask.ca); phone: 306-966-7316.