FO BLACK SEA

JULY 2020







INTRODUCTION RUSSIA UKRAINE 2



INTRODUCTION







DURING THIS UNPRECEDENTED TIME, OUR AIM HAS BEEN TO CONTINUE IN DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE BY PROVIDING QUALITY DATA THROUGH OUR EXTENSIVE NETWORK OF EXPERTS."

Dear Reader,

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic affecting most areas of the world and industries, our inspectors, laboratory technicians and agronomists have continued to provide our usual range of services for clients in the Black Sea region. In Russia, with our 10 laboratories supported by more than 20 mobile units, we have sustained fast and effective testing results. The Ukrainian team are also pleased to report that business continuity has been possible, with all activities deployed safely to protect our customers and employees, whether out in the field or providing remote services.

The weather in Russia, particularly in the south in Krasnodar, Crimea and Stavropol, has had a negative impact on this season's crop production due to sudden drops in temperature overnight and a lack of rainfall. However, the improved weather conditions in May means less than a 10% lower yield compared to last year is expected.

Looking to the forecast, a total production of 124-125 million metric tonnes (MMT) is expected, with 77-79 MMT of wheat. 19 MMT of barley and 14-15 MMT of corn. Between 46-47 MMT will be exported based on the trend from previous years. Between 45-46 MMT will be exported based on the trend from previous years.

This season in Ukraine has seen a drier, warmer climate from late autumn until late spring, with temperatures reported on average at 2.7 degrees centigrade higher than normal. However, warmer conditions allowed diseases, insects and rodents to flourish resulting in a 30-35% loss of crops. Conversely, May has been the coldest recorded in the last 100 years, and despite heavy rain, it delayed harvesting of the winter crop. Minus overnight temperatures in western parts of Ukraine have negatively impacted spring production.

The 2019/20 forecast for Ukraine production is 35 MMT of corn. 25.2 MMT of wheat, 15.5 MMT of sunflower seeds. 7 MMT of barley, 4 MMT of soya and

3 MMT of rapeseed. Export levels are expected to remain stable.

BUSINESS CONTINUITY

During this unprecedented time, our aim has been to continue in delivering an exceptional service by providing quality data through our extensive network of experts. With our team dispersed across the region and our fleet of mobile testing facilities available, even with the limitations imposed due to COVID-19, we have been able to maintain our on site testing so we can deliver quick and efficient test results and comprehensive statistics for our clients.

ADAPTING AND EVOLVING

Where needed, we have adapted our communication channels, such as delivering online training courses, to ensure you stay up-to-date with the latest requirements in the industry. We have also evolved our offerings and capabilities through team training and industry certification upgrades. Discover the latest details from Russia and Ukraine in the following pages.



RUSSIA



IRINA SARYCHEVA Customer Care and Technical Governance Manager

AS WE EMERGE FROM THE BIGGEST GLOBAL CRISIS IN RECENT HISTORY, OUR RUSSIAN TEAM HAS MAINTAINED OUTSTANDING SERVICE LEVELS SO THAT OUR CLIENTS COULD CONTINUE THEIR BUSINESS WITHOUT DISRUPTION."

QUALITY AS IMPORTANT AS QUANTITY

With conditions so changeable during this season, testing the quality of crops has been more important than ever. To help our clients reduce their risk, our fast and precise research and testing data has been essential in determining the standards of the yield.

UPGRADES AND EXPANSIONS

Our testing laboratory in Rostov-on-Don is accredited by leading regulatory bodies including the Grain and Feed Trade Association (Gafta), the Federation of Oils, Seeds and Fats Associations (FOSFA) and ISO/IEC 17025, therefore meeting international laboratory standards. With the recent change in Gafta accreditation last year, the rest of our laboratories are undergoing ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation to maintain Gafta Approved Register of Analyst status too.

Another recent development includes the expansion to our pesticides library. This now means we have greater capabilities in house, with the capacity to test up to 500 molecules with a turnaround time of just 2-3 days, providing a more streamlined and expedited testing and certification process for our clients.

EDUCATING OUR TEAMS

Each year, all of our laboratory technicians are tested to confirm they are maintaining the necessary skills for which they qualified, and are updated on any recent developments.

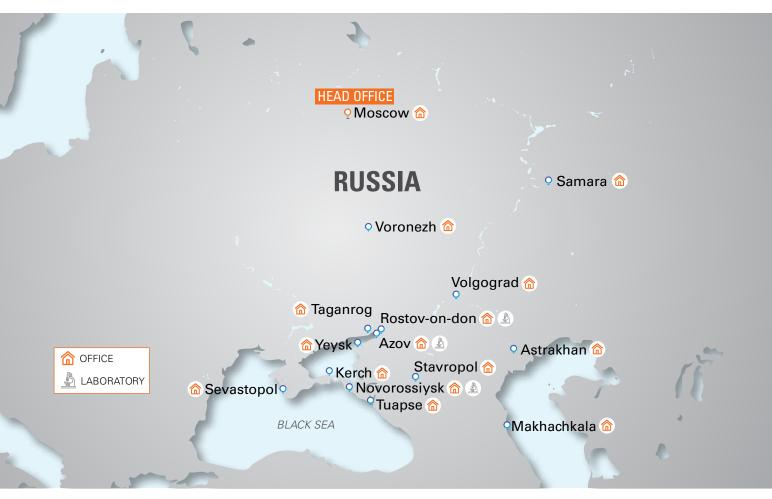
In terms of our administrative staff, we continue enhancing their knowledge of SGS's Standard Inspection Reporting (SIR) system, which was rolled out last year. Standardized data entry ensures



delivery of quality reports that follow the same template and guidelines the world over. By homogenizing the gathering, storage and reporting of inspection data, SIR streamlines communication, and reduces both duplication of effort and reporting turnaround times. This cloudbased solution offers a single secure data repository populated by SGS inspectors, managers and customer care teams, increasing accessibility, accuracy, delivery times and improving communication.

CUSTOMER CARE

The world has changed a lot in the last year and so our aim is to continue to listen to our clients carefully and find innovative ways to meet your needs. Having inspected almost 40% of exported volumes from Russia, we are proud of our contribution to the sector and endeavour to continue delivering industry-leading services.





OUR TEAM

200+ employees



SUPPORTED BY

3 laboratories7 express laboratories25 mobile units



OPERATING FROM

15 offices



ESTABLISHED

1982

SGS IN RUSSIA

GAFTA AND FOSFA SUPERINTENDENT MEMBER

SOLUTIONS

- Testing & inspection
- Risk management

LABORATORIES

Rostov-on-Don – ISO/IEC 17025, ILAC, Gafta & FOSFA accredited

Capabilities:

- Contaminants
- GMO
- Mycotoxins
- Pesticide residues
- Minerals detection
- Chemical testing
- Commodity-specific quality parameters

- Audit & certification
- Market intelligence

Novorossiysk – Gafta accredited Capabilities:

- Contaminants
- Chemical testing
- Commodity-specific quality parameters

Azov - Gafta accredited

Capabilities:

- Contaminants
- Chemical testing
- Commodity-specific quality parameters



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UKRAINE





OUR LOCAL TEAM IN UKRAINE HAS FOCUSED ON BUSINESS CONTINUITY DURING THESE UNUSUAL TIMES BY INVESTING IN THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AND DELIVERING CLIENT-LED SERVICES."

INVESTING TO MEET DEMAND

Our strategy continues to be the market leader by investing in modern and innovative technical equipment and upgrading our laboratory so that we remain agile in meeting domestic and international market demand.

In response to the European Union's (EU) proposal to lower the maximum residue level (MRL) of chlorpyrifos (sometimes referred to as chlorpyrifosethyl) and chlorpyrifos-methyl in food and feed from November 2020, we have developed new monitoring, inspections and testing methods to avoid cargo contamination, as well implementing other safety parameters related to pesticides, dioxins, genetically modified organisms (GMO) and microbiology.

CARGO CONTROL TRAINING

During the off season, our team successfully ran online training courses for customers presenting best practice for successful cargo control and monitoring during intake to inland silos, cargo transshipment to port terminals, as well as loading to vessels.

Due to their success, we plan to deliver further online training on a range of different topics based on customers' requirements and we also have the capability to provide online training for individual organizations depending on their personalized needs.

ENHANCING ACCREDITATIONS

We are currently in the process of achieving the new requirements for the Gafta Approved Register of Superintendents before the deadline next year, May 31, 2021. This change strives to raise the international standards for the fumigation, analysis

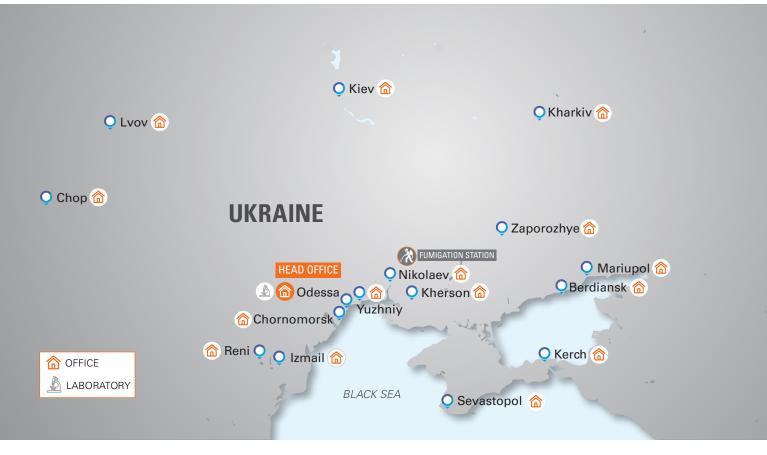
and supervision of agricultural commodity trade and so we are committed to making the necessary changes to ensure we continue delivering a high quality service for our customers.

EXPANDING OUR CERTIFICATIONS

Recently, we have received approval by The Detox Project for our Odessa laboratory to offer testing for their Glyphosate Residue Free Certification program. This has come at a time of increasing global demand for glyphosate testing and aims to make it easier for farmers, suppliers and manufacturers around the globe to access testing services against The Detox Project's standard.

As we turn to the next season ahead, the Ukraine team feel confident they have the expertise and technology to meet your future needs.







OUR TEAM

500+ employees



SUPPORTED BY

3 laboratories14 express laboratories



OPERATING FROM

16 offices



ESTABLISHED

1992

SGS IN UKRAINE

GAFTA APPROVED FUMIGATOR. GAFTA AND FOSFA SUPERINTENDENT MEMBER

SOLUTIONS

- Testing & Inspection
- Fumigation and Pest Management
- Risk Management

Food Safety

LABORATORIES

Capabilities:

- Contaminants and residues
- Mycotoxins
- · Oilseed fatty acid profile
- Chemical testing
- Commodity-specific quality parameters

Molecular Genetics

Capabilities:

- GMO
- Microbiology
- Allergens
- Species identification

Agriculture

Capabilities:

Nutritional labeling

Audit & Certification

Market Intelligence

- Physical & chemical parameters
- Quarantine expertise
- Commodity-specific quality parameters



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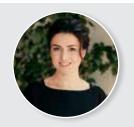


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