

Crowning guide for frost damaged sugar beet



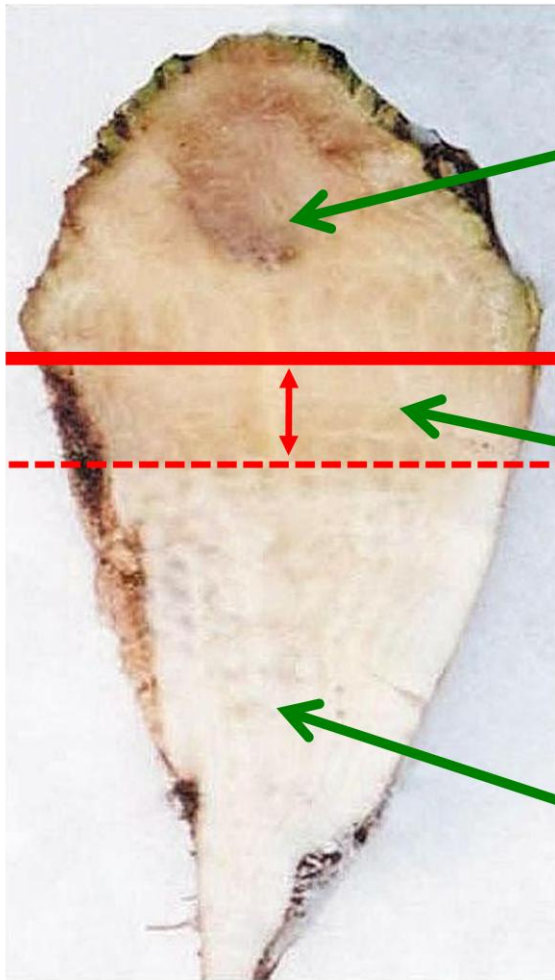
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The frost damaged part of most sugar beet roots is now starting to deteriorate due to the mild conditions following the severe frosts this winter. Any deteriorated parts of roots must be removed prior to delivery for processing.

HARVEST GUIDANCE

1. Scalp beet to remove all deteriorated parts of the root and as much discoloured beet as practical.
 - a. **Forward speed should be reduced** to ensure all beet is correctly scalped.
 - b. **Special knives** may be available to increase level of crowning.
 - c. **Scalpers may have to be modified to run below soil level** (Harvester manufacturers have been advised of this requirement and may be able to offer a solution).
2. Care should be taken to ensure scalps are not carried into the beet sample.
 - a. These scalps will be deteriorated and may lead to a rejection.
 - b. Open turbine gates to ensure any large scalps are released.
3. Assess your harvested roots.
 - a. All **soft and weeping material must be removed**.
 - b. Any frost damaged root attached must be firm and not showing signs of deterioration.
4. Only harvest beet to meet your daily delivery requirements.
 - a. Beet which has been **harvested for more than 24hrs** should be **examined carefully before delivery** for signs of deterioration.
 - b. **Roots showing signs of deterioration MUST NOT be delivered** for process.
5. Crops unable to meet the required standard
 - a. Growers with crops unable to meet the required standard should contact their BS area manager for further guidance (Some crops may now be uneconomic to harvest and further costs should be avoided).

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All soft and deteriorated material **MUST** be removed. Roots with soft deteriorated material will be rejected.

Crown at this point

Remove as much of the discoloured damaged root as practical. The remaining discoloured section of the root **must not** be soft or gumming

Remaining white undamaged beet should represent the majority of the length of the final topped root. Crops unable to be harvested to this standard will not be accepted for processing.

Soil surface



Crown at this point



Soil surface



Crown at this point



Soil surface



Crown at this point



Soil surface



Crown at this point

