

RULES COMMITTEE

Three supplements to existing tolerance rules were proposed by the Subcommittee on Sampling and Tolerances. These were published in the News Letter of March, 1961, by the Rules Committee, and should be reconsidered at the first opportunity to revise rules.

Preliminary steps were taken to provide a revision of the Uniform Classification of Crop and Weed Seeds for consideration as an appendix to rules or for republication as Handbook No. A68-24 by O. L. Justice.

Comprehensive proposals for rules for purity and germination testing of tree and shrub seeds were received from C. B. W. Rogers and C. E. Heit, Chairmen of the two Subcommittees on this subject working in 1960/61 (See report of Executive Board).

Changes to Rules

After the 1960 A. O. S. A. annual meeting, a Joint Committee on the Climax Blowing Method for Kentucky bluegrass was formed to advise on the bluegrass testing situation. This committee was composed of three members from each of the following: The American Seed Trade Association, the Association of Official Seed Analysts, the American Seed Control Officials, and the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists. After considering research data supplied by the A. O. S. A. Bluegrass Committee, the Joint Committee recommended that the Rules Committee consider a change in the Rules to allow replacement of the Climax Blowing Method by the Uniform Blowing Method. The Rules Committee studied this proposal and supporting data and concurred with the proposal. A resolution to effect the change was sent to A. O. S. A. member laboratories and members of the Society of Seed Technologists, together with copies of the supporting data. Changes to rules recommended are:

Delete the present section 2. 11a and 2. 11b and substitute the following:

2. 11a. Uniform Blowing Method for Kentucky Bluegrass (Poa pratensis).

The Uniform Blowing Method shall be used for the separation of pure seed and inert matter in seeds of common Kentucky Bluegrass and the varieties of Kentucky Bluegrass other than the Merion variety. This method shall be used both for samples in which Kentucky Bluegrass (other than Merion) is the only pure seed component and for Kentucky Bluegrass (other than Merion) occurring in mixtures of kinds. For Merion the hand method, sections 2. 7g and 2. 10a (4) and (5) is applicable.

Specific instructions for the use of the Uniform Blowing Method and stained samples for blower calibration will be supplied by the Association of Official Seed Analysts. (Note: This method becomes effective July 1, 1961).

2. 11b. Purity analysis of Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis) in the rough (non-milled).

The purity analysis of non-milled seeds of Kentucky Bluegrass not in commercial channels may be made by hand. The hand method should be adjusted so that the separation of pure seed and inert florets is equivalent to that which is normally obtained by the Uniform Blowing Method.

N. G. Lewis, CHAIRMAN

TREE AND SHRUB SEEDS SUBCOMMITTEES

The two subcommittees (Purity, C. B. W. Rogers, Chairman; and Germination, C. E. Heit, Chairman) are jointly affiliated with the Rules and Research