

Pure seed percentages obtained by the official method were slightly higher than for the mechanical method. However, highest pure live seed percentages were obtained by the mechanical method which also required considerably less time.

P. J. Hall, CHAIRMAN

RULES COMMITTEE

The Rules Committee continued to receive and consider suggested Rules changes through 1963, after which material was consolidated and a draft of proposed changes to be voted on at the 1964 annual meeting was prepared. The draft was mailed to AOSA member laboratories and to members of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists on March 13, 1964. This is in accordance with the requirement of the By-Laws that proposed changes be submitted to the membership at least 90 days before the annual meeting at which they are to be adopted or rejected.

These proposals include two significant new areas of testing – tree and shrub seeds, and detection of seed treatments.

The Chairman of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologist Rules Committee is included in committee correspondence; thus liaison is maintained with the SCST.

Harry L. Smith, CHAIRMAN

TREE AND SHRUB SEED SUBCOMMITTEE

The Tree and Shrub Seed Subcommittee submitted a report at the 1963 meeting proposing rules for testing tree and shrub seeds. This draft had been distributed prior to the annual meeting, but not before the required three months stated in our constitution; thus no official action could be taken at the 1963 meeting. Further deliberations among committee members and other experienced workers in agriculture and forestry have resulted in a revised draft. A final draft was submitted to the Rules Committee and to several forestry organizations in December, 1963.

C. B. W. Rogers, CHAIRMAN

DETECTION OF SEED TREATMENTS SUBCOMMITTEE

The conventional agar sheet method of detecting treated seed microbiologically has been standardized and simplified sufficiently to justify the presentation of a proposed new rule to the Rules Committee. Specific details of the procedure are contained in Contribution No. 26 to the Handbook on Seed Testing titled "The Microbiological Assay of Fungicide-Treated Seed".

A new blotting paper technique has been developed by J. F. Schoen. This method—when standardized—will enable almost all seed laboratories to perform assays. The Elanco Testab-D discs appear to be satisfactory for mass determination of pesticides on seed.

It is recommended that further work be conducted on the blotting paper and Elanco Testab-D methods for detection of seed treatment materials on seed.

W. F. Crosier, CHAIRMAN