

## RULES COMMITTEE REPORT

E. W. Sundermeyer, Chairman

Immediately following the 1967 annual meeting, the Rules Committee solicited proposals for changes in the Rules for Testing Seeds from all official laboratories and Registered Seed Technologists. There was a very good response.

These proposals were studied by committee members prior to the 1968 annual meeting. Further consideration was given to them at the committee meeting in June 1968. A plan of operation was discussed which would facilitate accomplishment of a rules revision by at least 1970.

An open committee meeting was held for the purpose of receiving expression of views on proposals of major interest.

The committee was requested to interpret existing rules in connection with two problems as follows:

1. Some varieties of soybean sustain harvesting and processing damage resulting in pieces of broken seed loosely enclosed in the damaged seed coat. Analysts are not certain as to whether such seed structures are to be classified as pure seed or inert matter. The Rules Committee has decided that in the case of soybean, broken pieces of seed including "splits", loosely enclosed in the seed coat are to be classified according to the Rules. This is to say that if such a seed structure is determined to be more than half a seed, it is to be regarded as pure seed.
2. The roots of Merion Kentucky bluegrass seedlings under artificial test conditions are frequently very short but have been shown to produce normal seedlings under natural growing conditions. This has resulted in much nonuniformity in classification of normal and abnormal seedlings. To deal with this problem without additional delay, an arbitrary interpretation has been made. Seedlings of Merion Kentucky bluegrass with roots 1/16 inch long or longer are to be classified as normal seedlings provided root hairs are present and the seedling is determined to be otherwise normal.