

RESOLUTION ON SEED VIGOR

Adopted by
The Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture

Whereas, the American farmer is the supplier of food for the peoples of the world as well as the citizens of these United States of America; and

Whereas, the ability of the American farmer to produce food in sufficient abundance to meet the needs of the world is directly affected by the performance of the seed which he plants for his food crops, and

Whereas, it is essential that the American farmer have available for planting a variety of seeds which can be expected to perform well under a wide range of adverse field conditions such as those which existed throughout the United States during 1980, and

Whereas, appropriate vigor testing of seed will give the American farmer additional information as to the expected performance of specific seeds under adverse field conditions, thereby enabling him to better select seeds to produce a high crop yield,

Now therefore be it resolved by SASDA, during a meeting in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on June 17, 1981, that NASDA request the American Seed Trade Association to cooperate in a national study to develop standards for vigor testing of seeds and a method of affixing information concerning seed vigor on certified seed tags.

AOSA RULE CHANGES

The following rule changes were approved by the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) at their annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, on June 18, 1981. They become effective October 1, 1981.

Change 1: Delete the requirement that normal cowpea seedlings must have cotyledons (section 7a and 7c, pages 112 and 113 of the rules).

Change 2: Establish a uniform blowing method for bluegrama (sections 2.7g (1), 2.7g (2) and 2.11g, pages 23, 24, and 26 of the rules).

Change 3: Reduce the length of germination for carrot from 21 to 14 days (section 4.10, table 3, page 55 of the rules).

Change 4: Accept various nomenclature changes throughout the rules.

Several proposals were tabled for further study and were not accepted as rule changes. These included (1) a proposal to delete the existing formulas for determining percentages of annual and perennial ryegrass; (2) a proposal that carrots and parsnips must have a long, vigorous primary root; and (3) a change in the definition of ergotized seed of both crops and weeds.

Anyone desiring more information about these changes may contact the AOSA Rules Committee Chairman, Ralger Harrison at the Oregon State Seed Laboratory, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331, or call (503) 754-4464.