

Rules Committee

The following changes in the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds were approved by the AOSA members at the annual business meeting at Boise, Idaho:

1. Clarification to the definition of a multiple floret in section 2.12b. This section will now read as follows: (changes underlined)

2.12b definition: A multiple unit is a seed unit that includes a fertile floret plus one or more of attached structures as follows:

- (1) A sterile floret that extends to or beyond the tip of the fertile floret;
 - (2) Basally attached glume, glumes, or basally attached sterile florets of any length;
 - (3) One or more additional fertile florets.
2. Asparagus spp. were associated with some confusion regarding the nature of viable seeds ungerminated at the end of the test period. It was determined that these seeds were not "hard" as indicated by superscript "c" in section 4.11, table 4, but were probably dormant as indicated by superscript "b". Therefore, superscript c will be replaced by superscript b in association with the final count days for Asparagus densiflorus and A. setaceus in table 4.

It is necessary to add these two species to the list in section 4.2e for which dormant seeds shall be reported if found.

3. Wild garlic and wild onion (Allium spp.) bulblets were not properly accounted for in Rules section 2.9c. Section 2.9c will now read as follows:

2.9 Weed Seed.

- a. (no change)
- b. (no change)
- c. Wild onion and garlic (Allium spp.)bulblets:
 - (1) bulblets which have any part of the husk remaining and are not damaged at the basal end are considered weed seed regardless of size.
 - (2) bulblets which are completely devoid of husk and are not damaged at the basal end, and are retained by a 1/13 inch round hole sieve are considered weed seeds. For Allium spp. bulblets classed as inert refer to 2.10b (5).

4. Changes in AOSA Handbook 25 - Uniform Classification of Weed and Crop Seeds

In section 2.8 of the AOSA Rules, Handbook 25 is referred to as the authority for classifying a species as weed or crop. The following reclassification of species already listed and addition of new species was approved by the AOSA members.

a. Change the classification of the following species from 3 to 1.

Andropogon gerardii Vitman - Big bluestem
Andropogon hallii Hackel - Sand bluestem
Bothriochloa ischaemum (L) Keng - Yellow bluestem
Bouteloua curtipendula (Michaux) Torrey - Side-oats grama
Bouteloua gracilis (H.B.K.) Steudel - Blue grama
Buchloe dactyloides (Nuttall) Englemann - Buffalograss
Panicum virgatum L. Switchgrass
Schizachyrium scoparium (Michaux) Nash - Little bluestem
Sorghastrum nutans (L.) Nash - Yellow indiagrass
Sporobolus cryptandrus (Torrey) A. Gray - Sand dropseed

b. Add the following grasses to class 3

Bothriochloa caucasica (Trinius) C.E. Hubb - Caspian bluestem
Hilaria jamesii (Torrey) Benth - Galleta grass
Leptochloa dubia (H.B.K.) Nees - Green sprangletop
Panicum clandestinum L. - Deertongue
Panicum coloratum L. - Kleingrass

These Rule changes will become effective on October 1, 1984

Items that were tabled and no official action taken were:

1. The addition of a statement in handbook 25 that seeds of any vegetable, herb, flower or tree species listed in the AOSA Rules were to be regarded as crop seeds (except if listed as a noxious weed).
2. Include in handbook 25 as class 3 all flowers, forbes and other species accepted as certifiable by certification agencies.
3. Recommendations regarding the official status of handbooks.

A complete reference to all the proposals for 1984 Rule changes can be seen in the AOSA February, 1984, AOSA Newsletter 58(1):15-37.

Arnold Larsen, Chairman