

RULES COMMITTEE

Rodger Danielson, Chairman

Proposed Rule Changes

The following changes and/or additions to the AOSA Rules have been reviewed by the Rules Committee and are being presented here in order that the membership can study them prior to voting at the annual meeting.

The name and address of the person submitting the change is shown in case you need more information about the proposed rule.

Again, we have some very important proposals this year, so please study them and be prepared to cast an intelligent, well-informed vote next June in Texas.

1. Modification of Ergotized seed rule.

Re-word section 2.10a(8) to modify the current classification of ergotized crop seeds. This proposal was received from Alan Knapp, Iowa State University Seed Laboratory, Ames, Iowa 50011, Phone: (515) 294-6826.

Proposed Rule:

2.10a(8) "Seed units with nematode galls or fungus bodies (smut, ergot, and other sclerotia) which are not entirely enclosed within the seed unit. Also included are ergot and smut-filled caryopses of Dallisgrass (Paspalum dilatatum) and Bahiagrass (Paspalum notatum) which are entirely enclosed within the seed unit. Refer to section 2.7h."

Reasons for proposed change:

The present rules concerning ergot, smut, galls, etc. result in a biased classification of seed units based on whether or not the disease tissue protrudes from the tip of the seed unit. Rewording section 2.10a(8) will allow analysts to classify those seed units in which ergot is visible between the lemma and palea as inert. The wording is also consistent with section 2.7h and the present rule 2.10a(8) concerning the special classification of Dallisgrass (Paspalum dilatatum) and Bahiagrass (Paspalum notatum).

2. Establish blowing point for side-oats grama.

The following proposal was submitted by Larry Prentice (Chairman of the AOSA Rangelgrass Research Subcommittee), Nebraska Crop Improvement Association, 266 Plant Sciences Hall, Lincoln, Nebraska 68583, Phone: (402) 472-1444.

Both side-oats grama and little bluestem were excluded from section 2.7g(1) the so called "modified method" until June 1982. This action was taken by the Executive Board at the 1980 Iowa meeting.

Since then, blue grama was added to section 2.7g(2), which provides for a blowing procedure on this and other species.

This proposal is one which simply adds side-oats grama to the blowing procedure (section 2.7g(2)).

Proposed Rule:

Section 2.7g(1) delete: "Spikelet, spikelet groups, and multiple florets (double florets) of side-oats grama (Bouteloua curtipendula)
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Section 2.7g(2) add: "--- side-oats grama (Bouteloua curtipendula)
---"

Section 2.1ld add new section:

"(7) Side-oats grama: The setting for side-oats grama shall be determined for the individual blower by multiplying the Kentucky bluegrass calibration setting by 1.480. Before blowing, extraneous material that will interfere with the blowing process shall be removed. The sample to be blown should be approximately divided into four (4) parts and each part blown separately. (The 1.480 factor is restricted to the General Seed Blower)."

"Refer to AOSA Handbook No. 24 for required additional procedures to prevent bunching of the seeds during the blowing procedure."

Reasons for change:

Research has shown that the blowing method produces less variability among tests than the hand method. The blowing method does not simulate the hand method in actual purity and germination values, but will generally produce somewhat higher PLS values. Saving of analyst time is substantial by the blowing method and the analysis can be returned to the customer sooner. This proposal has the endorsement of ASTA.

3. Replace germination methods for New Zealand spinach.

The following proposal was submitted by Doris Baxter, Federal Seed Laboratory, P.O. Box 1641, Sacramento, California 95808, Phone: (916) 440-3134.

The proposal would delete the existing germination methods outlined in Table 3 page 57 of the Rules and replace them with a new method.

Proposed Rule:

Delete two germination methods listed on page 57 of the Rules and insert:

<u>Substrata</u>	<u>Temperature</u>	<u>First Count</u>	<u>Final Count</u>	<u>Specific Requirements</u>	<u>Fresh and Dormant Seed</u>
RT	15;20	5	21	Soak fruits overnight (16 hrs.), air dry 7 hrs.; plant in very wet towels. Do not rewater unless later counts exhibit drying out.	on 21st day scrape fruits and test for 7 additional days.

Reasons for change:

This method will reduce the time of testing by one week. It saves laboratory time. Planting in soil is time consuming as is scraping pulp from the seeds.

4. Remove little bluestem from the "modified method" which would in effect require it's purity testing by the "hand-method".

This proposal was submitted by Larry Prentice (see proposal #2 for address).

Proposed Rule:

Section 2.7g(1); delete "--- spikelet groups and spikelets with attached structures of little bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium); ---"

Reasons for change:

In May 1980 a two year moratorium on purity testing by the "modified method" was granted for little bluestem and side oats grama. This moratorium made the "hand method" the official method of testing for these two species until June 1982. It was hoped that during this two year moratorium the AOSA Research Subcommittee on Rangelass Analysis could develop a purity testing method which was reproducible, saved analyst time, reduced variability among labs and retained the high pure live seed (P.L.S.) values obtained by use of the hand method.

This moratorium was the direct results of an appeal to the executive board by representatives of the A.S.T.A. (refer to Vol. 54, No. 3, 1980; Newsletter) that the "modified method" significantly reduced the "P.L.S." values of the above named species in their inventories which caused severe economic hardships for many seedsmen. The AOSA Research Subcommittee on Rangelass Analysis has pursued the aforementioned objectives for the past two years. In this time we have developed a "Uniform Blowing Method" for side oats grama and submitted it for a rules change. We have not, however, adequately developed a new method for little bluestem which

meets the criterion set forth. During the research conducted the "modified method" was studied along with the "hand method" and the "Uniform Blowing Method". In all the research done the "modified method" consistently demonstrated lower P.L.S. values than either of the other two methods, thereby retaining it's unfavorable characteristic. Because of the lack of acceptability of the "modified method" and the increased cost and time of including it in future research studies, we would like to see little bluestem removed from this section of rule 2.7g(1).

January 7, 1982

Membership Report

It feels as though we just finished our convention in Orlando and now I have to report on our trip to Corpus Christie, Texas June 19-24, 1982. The exam for our new R.S.T. candidates will be on Friday, June 18, 1982 at Texas State Seed Lab at Giddings, Texas. Randy Kocurek will arrange transportation for us from Austin, Texas. I will be sending information to the candidates when their applications are approved.

We are also studying an outline for candidates that need the use of a tutor. This will be information as to studies needed during the rest of the year. Two weeks study at the tutor's lab is not quite adequate. Questions from various candidates have shown a need for this study outline.

Candidates should include reference letters with their applications as this will save us 2-3 weeks in time to process the application. Fees for taking the test should be sent to Mary Bristol our Secretary-Treasurer, Box 1771 Fresno, California 93717.

Norman M. Kalbacken

Norman M. Kalbacken, R.S.T.
Chairman, Membership Committee