

2. Question: Does your laboratory report the percentage of "firm" seed detected in germination testing?

Answers: Six laboratories routinely report the percentage of firm seed in certain crops. The other laboratories do not.

3. Question: Does your State Seed Law require the "firm" seed designation (and percentage) on seed tags? If such designation is not required, then is it permitted or tolerated?

Answers: One state requires labeling for firm seed of one crop. Six states do not permit labeling for firm seed. The rest of the states presumably tolerate the procedure.

It is evident from the survey that there is considerable variation in the attitude of the various state laboratories toward firm seed.

Work of the committee during the coming year will proceed along the lines previously indicated. A few species in which firm seeds are a problem have been selected for consideration. It is hoped that a thorough study of the problem in these species will provide information and techniques applicable to other species as well.

— James C. Delouche, CHAIRMAN

RULES COMMITTEE

A large share of the efforts of the Rules Committee during the year has been to prepare the rules manuscript which incorporates the revisions adopted at the 1959 meeting into the Rules for Testing Seeds. Subsequent to the 1959 meeting, the Executive Board in consultation with the Rules and Editorial Committees decided to withhold publication of the revised rules pending action by the Association at the 1960 meeting on sampling and tolerance proposals which were to be further considered by a special committee on Sampling and Tolerances.

On March 18, 1960, the proposals with respect to sampling and tolerances were distributed to the membership of the Association of Official Seed Analysts and the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists. Within the past two days further consideration has been given to these proposals in a joint meeting of the Rules Committee and the Subcommittee on Sampling and Tolerances here at Springfield. The complete Rules for Testing Seeds will be published as soon as possible after the 1960 meetings.

A discussion of the Rules for Testing Seeds is scheduled for the 1960 meetings to clarify and explain certain procedures that were recently adopted and to discuss other problems relating to them.

A proposal has been received from the Vice-President of the Association suggesting that measures be taken to assemble all of the information available on the subjects of Tetrazolium Testing, Cold Testing, Varietal Determination, and Detection of Seed Treatments, and publish this information in handbook form. The Rules Committee recommends that the incoming President take the necessary action to carry out these proposals.

— E. W. Sundermeyer, CHAIRMAN

Subcommittee on Tree and Shrub Seed Germination

The list obtained by the 1959 survey by regions, in Canada and the United States, was resubmitted to all areas by Mr. Buford Jones. It was hoped that the number of kinds could be reduced if the more important kinds only were included. The revised list of kinds considered important was prepared by C. B. W. Rogers and the names were validated by proper authorities. The list contains several hundred names. A rough copy of the germination methods now in use for approximately one hundred and fifty kinds were assembled. These materials will be passed on to the incoming committee chairman for further consideration.

— Louisa A. Jensen, CHAIRMAN