

AOSA Bylaw Proposal #3

Purpose of Change: To setup, define and outline duties of an AOSA/SCST Joint Proficiency Committee.

Present Bylaw: Article VII, 5, k.

Proposed Bylaw: Article VII, 5, k.

This will be a joint committee between the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) and the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST) to assist in earning Continuing Education (CE) points. Each AOSA lab, CSA, RST or any analyst shall participate in the AOSA/SCST written or practical proficiency testing exam.

1. **Administration** – the AOSA/SCST Proficiency Testing (PT) Committee will administer the program. The committee will be composed of no less than four CSA or RSTs. . There shall be one SCST member and one AOSA member serve as co-chairs of the committee.
 - a. **Subject Matter** – Subject matter for exam will be determined by the PT committee during the annual meeting and announced to the membership in attendance and through email.
2. **Procedures** –
 - a. Approximately Oct. 1 of each year the PT committee will issue an invite to all AOSA/SCST labs or any analysts to partake in the written exam.
 - b. On or about Oct. 15 labs and/or analysts accepting the invitation will be assigned a test number. All test results will be represented by this test number.
 - c. At least one PT exam will be sent each year to all representatives.
 - d. Species for use in PT exam will come from AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.
 - e. Acceptable formats for the PT exam shall be digital, written and hands-on.
 - f. A conventional testing member's results shall be considered out of tolerance if they are more than two standard deviations from the mean. In the case of written or identification exercises any results less than 80% will be considered out of tolerance.
3. **Time Frame** – Representatives will be given at least 60 days to complete the exam. The PT committee will send a reminder 30 days before the deadline.
 - a. Extraordinary circumstances, illness or injury issues, must be brought to the attention of the PT committee as soon as possible for continuing education point or retest allowance determination.
4. **Results** – All results gathered from the PT exam will be calculated and shared with the representatives via the assigned number. The number of continuing education points possible is one (1) for satisfactory completion of the exam. One half (½) continuing education point will be given to a participant with an unsatisfactory test result. Corrective actions will be followed for

SCST as outlined in section 4 – Proficiency Testing in the guidelines and Article VII, 5, k of the AOSA Bylaws.

5. **Equivalence** Only the AOSA/SCST PT exam will be accepted. No other proficiency exam can be substituted (i.e. ISTA).