

## 2022 Rule Proposal #2 – Conditional

### PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL

To change the submitted sample size requirements in Section 1.4 to a recommendation.

### PRESENT RULE

#### 1.4 Size of sample

##### a. The following are minimum weights for samples of seed to be submitted for analysis, test, or examination

- (1) Sixty (60) grams (approximately 2 ounces) of grass seed not otherwise mentioned, alsike or white clover, or seeds not larger than these.
- (2) One hundred fifty (150) grams (approximately 5 ounces) of alfalfa, crimson or red clover, flax, lespedezas, millet, rape, ryegrasses, or seeds of similar size.
- (3) Five hundred (500) grams (approximately 1 pound) of proso millet, sudangrass, or seeds of similar size.
- (4) One thousand (1,000) grams (approximately 2 pounds) of cereals, vetches, sorghums, or seeds of similar or larger size.
- (5) Vegetable and flower seed samples (as categorized by the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds Vol. 3. Uniform Classification of Weed and Crop Seeds) shall consist of at least 400, and preferably at least 800, seeds per sample. For official samples being obtained and submitted for regulatory compliance testing, the sample size shall be a minimum of 800 seeds. If a purity analysis or a noxious weed seed examination is required, the submitted sample shall provide at least the minimum weights of working samples set forth in section 2.4.
- (6) Tree and shrub seed samples (as categorized by AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds Vol. 3. Uniform Classification of Weed and Crop Seeds) shall consist of at least 600 seeds per sample for germination purposes (1,000 seeds for paired tests). If a purity analysis or a noxious weed seed examination is required, the submitted sample shall provide at least the minimum weights of working samples set forth in section 2.4.
- (7) Coated, encrusted, or pelleted seed (coated units: refer to 3.8a) submitted for testing shall consist of at least: 7,500 coated units for a purity analysis, 30,000 coated units for a noxious weed seed examination up to a maximum of 2,000 grams, or 1,000 coated units for a germination only test. Refer to sections 3.8 and 6.8 l.

### PROPOSED RULE

#### 1.4 Size of sample

##### a. The following are **recommended** minimum weights for samples of seed to be submitted for analysis, test, or examination

- (1) Sixty (60) grams (approximately 2 ounces) of grass seed not otherwise mentioned, alsike or white clover, or seeds not larger than these.
- (2) One hundred fifty (150) grams (approximately 5 ounces) of alfalfa, crimson or red clover, flax, lespedezas, millet, rape, ryegrasses, or seeds of similar size.
- (3) Five hundred (500) grams (approximately 1 pound) of proso millet, sudangrass, or seeds of similar size.
- (4) One thousand (1,000) grams (approximately 2 pounds) of cereals, vetches, sorghums, or seeds of similar or larger size.

(5) Vegetable and flower seed samples (as categorized by the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds Vol. 3. Uniform Classification of Weed and Crop Seeds) shall consist of at least 400, and preferably at least 800, seeds per sample. For official samples being obtained and submitted for regulatory compliance testing, the sample size shall be a minimum of 800 seeds. If a purity analysis or a noxious weed seed examination is required, the submitted sample shall provide at least the minimum weights of working samples set forth in section 2.4.

(6) Tree and shrub seed samples (as categorized by AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds Vol. 3. Uniform Classification of Weed and Crop Seeds) shall consist of at least 600 seeds per sample for germination purposes (1,000 seeds for paired tests). If a purity analysis or a noxious weed seed examination is required, the submitted sample shall provide at least the minimum weights of working samples set forth in section 2.4.

(7) Coated, encrusted, or pelleted seed (coated units: refer to 3.8a) submitted for testing shall consist of at least: 7,500 coated units for a purity analysis, 30,000 coated units for a noxious weed seed examination up to a maximum of 2,000 grams, or 1,000 coated units for a germination only test. Refer to sections 3.8 and 6.8 l.

## **HARMONIZATION & IMPACT STATEMENT**

Making the submitted sample size a recommended minimum weight would harmonize AOSA better with ISTA and the Canada M&P.

The Canada M&P states:

Section 2.1.1 Size of Submitted sample.

“For crop kinds listed in Schedule I to the *Seeds Regulations*, the minimum size of the submitted sample will be that in Section 2.3.4 Table 1 of the M&P. For crop kinds not in Schedule I, the minimum size of submitted sample will be that in Section 2.3.5 of the M&P.” See Section 2.3.6 for High-value seed where obtaining a submitted sample of prescribed weight is not possible because the size of the entire lot is smaller than the prescribed weight.

Table 1 in Section 2.3.4 refers to the minimum working weights.

The Federal Seed Act:

Section 201.43 size of sample states: The following are minimum sizes of samples of agricultural seed, vegetable seed and screenings to be submitted for analysis, test, or examinations.

The minimum size of samples is less than the weights that are required in the AOSA Rules.

ISTA Rules:

### **2.5.1.5 Obtaining the submitted sample**

The composite sample can be submitted to the seed testing laboratory if it is of appropriate size for the tests to be conducted, or if it is difficult to mix and reduce the composite sample properly under warehouse conditions.

Table 2C in the ISTA rules has a minimum submitted sample size which is equivalent to the working sample weight for the other seed determination.

## **SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

This request was brought forward by some seed control officials. This would harmonize the language between the AASCO sampling handbook and the AOSA Rules. In the AASCO the submitted sample weights are recommended minimum weights.

These recommendations have been in the AOSA Rules in varying amounts since the inception of the AOSA Rules in 1897. In 1897 they were recommended amounts based off the purity weights. They have been amended many times over the years. This leads to believe that there is no definitive statistical information as to why the minimum amount must be submitted. From all articles found, it appears that these have always been recommendations.

### **SUBMITTED BY:**

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