

2022 Rule Proposal #14 - Amended

1. PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL:

The purpose of this proposal is to modify the required germination test information that must appear on the Report of Analysis (ROA). The proposed amended requirements aim to promote observance of the AOSA Rules leading to increased testing uniformity among labs and to provide more test method usage transparency to the Seed Industry as well as the Seed Testing Industry.

2. PRESENT RULE:

SECTION 15: REPORT OF ANALYSIS (ROA)

Laboratory reports of analysis that indicate laboratory testing was performed in accordance to the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds are required to include, but not be limited to, the following information:

- a. Name and address of issuing laboratory.
- b. Name of responsible individual from the issuing laboratory.
- c. Unique laboratory test or sample number assigned by the issuing laboratory.
- d. Date report of analysis is issued.
- e. Date germination test is completed.
- f. Applicant's information, such as kind of seed, cultivar, lot number, lot size, certification number, treatment, etc., as stated by the applicant.
- g. When the submitted sample is treated seed, inoculated seed, film-coated seed, coated or encrusted seed, or pelleted seed, this must be indicated.
- h. Kind of seed by scientific name, or common name, or both.
- i. When a purity analysis is conducted the following information must be reported under Purity Analysis:
 - (1) Weight of purity working sample.
 - (2) Percentage by weight of pure seed, other crop seed, inert matter and weed seed found in the purity working sample, given to two decimal places.
 - (3) Scientific name, or common name, or both, of all other crop seed or weed seed found in the purity working sample. If none are found, this must be indicated.
- j. When a noxious weed seed examination is conducted the following information must be reported under Noxious Weed Seed Examination:
 - (1) Weight of noxious weed working sample.
 - (2) Scientific name, or common name, or both, of noxious weed seed found, the number of each type found and rate of occurrence per unit weight. If none are found, this shall be indicated.
 - (3) The type of examination conducted, including the name of the region (state, province, country, etc.) and examination exclusions as appropriate.
- k. When a germination test is conducted the following information must be reported under Germination Test:
 - (1) Percentage of normal seedlings as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).
 - (2) Percentage of hard seed, if applicable, as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).
 - (3) Percentage of dormant seeds, if applicable, as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).

...

3. PROPOSED RULE:

SECTION 15: REPORT OF ANALYSIS (ROA)

- a. Name and address of issuing laboratory.
- b. Name of responsible individual from the issuing laboratory.
- c. Unique laboratory test or sample number assigned by the issuing laboratory.
- d. Date report of analysis is issued.
- ~~e. Date germination test is completed.~~
- e. Applicant's information, such as kind of seed, cultivar, lot number, lot size, certification number, treatment, etc., as stated by the applicant.
- f. When the submitted sample is treated seed, inoculated seed, film-coated seed, coated or encrusted seed, or pelleted seed, this must be indicated.
- g. Kind of seed by scientific name, or common name, or both.
- h. When a purity analysis is conducted the following information must be reported under Purity Analysis:
 - (1) Weight of purity working sample.
 - (2) Percentage by weight of pure seed, other crop seed, inert matter and weed seed found in the purity working sample, given to two decimal places.
 - (3) Scientific name, or common name, or both, of all other crop seed or weed seed found in the purity working sample. If none are found, this must be indicated.
- i. When a noxious weed seed examination is conducted the following information must be reported under Noxious Weed Seed Examination:
 - (1) Weight of noxious weed working sample.
 - (2) Scientific name, or common name, or both, of noxious weed seed found, the number of each type found and rate of occurrence per unit weight. If none are found, this shall be indicated.
 - (3) The type of examination conducted, including the name of the region (state, province, country, etc.) and examination exclusions as appropriate.
- j. When a germination test is conducted the following information must be reported under Germination Test:
 - (1) ~~Date germination test is completed.~~
 - (2) Percentage of normal seedlings as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).
 - (3) Percentage of hard seeds, if applicable, as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).
 - (4) Percentage of dormant seeds, if applicable, as a whole number (refer to section 6.7).
 - (5) ~~Any special-chemicals (e.g., KNO₃, GA₃, ethephon, ethylene), special-treatments (e.g., prechill, predry) and their duration in days, use of light or dark, and/or type of scarification (e.g., physical, chemical) used to promote germination.~~
 - (6) ~~Actual duration of the germination test in days, excluding periods of prechill and predry.~~
 - (7) ~~Number of seeds tested if different than what is required in Section 6.4.~~

...

4. HARMONIZATION AND IMPACT STATEMENT:

ISTA Rules – This proposal would assist with harmonizing with the ISTA Rules Section 1.5.2.6 Germination which requires stating the actual duration of the test (in days, excluding the period of special treatment or method used for promoting germination);

any special treatment or method used for promoting germination (5.6.3); duration in days of any special treatment or method used for promoting germination, except in the case of prestorage. ISTA Rules do not require the completion date of the germination test to be reported on the ROA.

FSA – This proposal improves harmonization with the FSA. Section 201.6 of the FSA indicates that all information “necessary to show the method used” shall be included:

“§201.6 Germination. The complete record shall include the records of all laboratory tests for germination and hard seed for each lot of seed offered for transportation in whole or in part. The record shall show the kind of seed, lot number, date of test, percentage of germination and hard seeds, and such other information as may be necessary to show the method used.”

Canadian Methods & Procedures (M&P) – This proposal does harmonize with the Canadian M&P Section 1.3.3.h regarding the reporting of treatment used for promoting germination of dormant seeds. The Canadian M&P does not require the date the germination test was completed or actual duration of the germination test in days (but any extension period must be reported).

5. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE:

N/A

6. SUBMITTED BY:

David M. Johnston – RST/CSA Germination and Purity
Program Coordinator Seed Programs
Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture and Forestry
5825 Florida Blvd. – Suite 3004
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Phone: (225) 952-8059
Email: djohnston@ldaf.state.la.us

Riad Baalbaki, PhD – CSA Germination
Senior Seed Botanist
California Department of Food & Agriculture
Plant Pest Diagnostics Branch
3294 Meadowview Road
Sacramento, CA 95832-1448
Phone: (916) 262-3292
Email: riad.baalbaki@cdfa.ca.gov

7. DATE SUBMITTED:

August 20, 2021