**PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL: AMENDED - Amended**

The purpose of this proposal is to add statements (in bold type) regarding deviating from the Rules into all volumes of the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds ~~and into additional areas of Volume 1~~. Currently there is only one such statement, and it is in the Introduction of Volume 1. Principles and Procedures:

When individual samples appear to require special treatment resulting in deviations from the Rules, the following statement must be made in the remarks section of the report of analysis: “(*insert name of test*) test was not conducted in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.” This statement must then be followed by a citation of the AOSA rule and a description/explanation of the deviation. The allowance for deviation should not be construed as an authorization to indiscriminately conduct and report testing not in accordance with these rules.

**PRESENT RULE**

AOSA Rules Volume 2: currently no statement

AOSA Rules Volume 3: currently no statement

AOSA Rules Volume 4 Part 1. Section 1: Introduction

Laboratory test results are used as a basis for buying and selling seed, for the labelling of seed as required by federal and state laws, and for monitoring the labelling to ensure it is current and truthful. Since it is essential that accurate test information be provided, all commercial and official seed testing laboratories must follow accepted rules for testing. These rules must be fully explained and standardized.

**PROPOSED RULE**

AOSA Rules Volume 1 Introduction:

**When individual samples appear to require special treatment resulting in deviations from the Rules, the following statement must be made in the remarks section of the report of analysis: “(*insert name of test*) test was not conducted in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.” This statement must then be followed by a citation of the AOSA rule and a description/explanation of the deviation. The allowance for deviation should not be construed as an authorization to indiscriminately conduct and report testing not in accordance with these rules.**

AOSA Rules Volume 2 Section 1: at the end of Introduction:

**When individual samples appear to require special treatment resulting in deviations from the Rules, the following statement must be made in the remarks section of the report of analysis: “(*insert name of test*) test was not conducted in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.” This statement must then be followed by a citation of the AOSA rule and a description/explanation of the deviation. The allowance for deviation should not be construed as an authorization to indiscriminately conduct and report testing not in accordance with these rules.**

AOSA Rules Volume 3 at the end of Introduction:

**When individual samples appear to require special treatment resulting in deviations from the Rules, the following statement must be made in the remarks section of the report of analysis: “(*insert name of test*) test was not conducted in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.” This statement must then be followed by a citation of the AOSA rule and a description/explanation of the deviation. The allowance for deviation should not be construed as an authorization to indiscriminately conduct and report testing not in accordance with these rules.**

AOSA Rules Volume 4 Part 1. Section 1: Introduction:

Laboratory test results are used as a basis for buying and selling seed, for the labelling of seed as required by federal and state laws, and for monitoring the labelling to ensure it is current and truthful. Since it is essential that accurate test information be provided, all commercial and official seed testing laboratories must follow accepted rules for testing. These rules must be fully explained and standardized. **When individual samples appear to require special treatment resulting in deviations from the Rules, the following statement must be made in the remarks section of the report of analysis: “(*insert name of test*) test was not conducted in accordance with the AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds.” This statement must then be followed by a citation of the AOSA rule and a description/explanation of the deviation. The allowance for deviation should not be construed as an authorization to indiscriminately conduct and report testing not in accordance with these rules.**

**HARMONIZATION AND IMPACT STATEMENT**

The Federal Seed Act, the Canadian M&P, and the ISTA Rules do not contain statements regarding deviating from the rules, remarking about deviations on the report of analysis, and indiscriminately repeating the deviation. The impact of placing the proposed statements in multiple sections of the AOSA Rules is increased recognition of the importance of consistently following the Rules.

**SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

NA

**SUBMITTED BY**

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**DATE SUBMITTED**

October 14, 2022

**DATE AMENDED**

January 5, 2023