

# 2023 Seed Industry Policy and Rule Changes

	AOSA	ISTA	OECD	AOSCA	FSA Harmonization Comments
Labeling Changes	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Labelling of pre-basic seed: Changed the wording from “Shall” to “May” when requiring a statement of number of generations by which the seed precedes Certified Seed, 1<sup>st</sup> generation.</li> <li>• Nomenclature of Sorghum species: moved each variety of Sorghum spp. to the appropriate species in the OECD List of Varieties Eligible for Certification.</li> </ul>	Not Applicable	<b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Labeling Section.</i></b>
Certification Changes	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduced general provisions for authorization of the production of varietal mixtures of certified seed under the Schemes.</li> <li>• Moved Pearl Millet from the Grasses and Legume Seed Schemes to the Sorghum Seed Schemes.</li> </ul>	Editorial changes only	<b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Certification Section.</i></b>
Testing Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vol 1 Section 3.8: Restructured pelleted, coated, or encrusted seed purity procedures to provide clarification.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 1.3: Revised the maximum lot size allowance for <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> to 20 sublots.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated the List of the Biochemical and Molecular Techniques (BMT) by adding 3 categories:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. The new BMT has been used to assess a specific characteristic of the</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Not Applicable	<b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Testing Section.</i></b>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vol 1 Table 6A: Added <i>Salvia hispanica</i> germination methods.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 6.5: Clarified guidelines for the evaluation of borderline seedlings in germination testing.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 6.2d, Vol 4 section 3.5.4, and table 6A: Revised information on species belonging to families known to have hard seeds.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 6.7e: Adjusted Germination Percentages for Extra or Missing Seeds.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 6.2 K: Changed the reporting percentage of pure live seed (PLS) from a whole number to 2 decimal places.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 6.9a: Removed raised blotters (RB) as a media option.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.4: Delete 1.4.2.I and allow the weight of the original seed lot and weight of the subplot to be recorded in the same place on an ISTA certificate.</li> <li>Section 1.5.3: Changed to "Except for GMO tests, uncertainties of measurements associated with test results are accessible through the tolerance tables in the ISTA Rules and are not reported on the ISTA Certificates."</li> <li>Section 2.5.2.1: Revised the method to add working and OSD weights to Table 2C.</li> <li>Table 2C Part 1: Revised the maximum lot size allowance for <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>, from 10,000 maximum weight of lot to 200.</li> <li>Table 3B part 2: Numbered pure seed definitions: 33 to include the multi-seed unit that has both fertile and sterile florets.</li> </ul>	<p>variety in the official variety description of a variety registered under the Seed Schemes.</p> <p>II. The new BMT is recognized by a relevant international organization.</p> <p>III. Nationally recognized BMT.</p>		<p><b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Testing Section.</i></b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vol 1 Section 15: The number of seeds tested during the Tetrazolium test will be reported on the report of analysis if less than the required 200 seeds.</li> <li>Vol 1 Table 2A and Table 6A: Added Quinoa (<i>Chenopodium quinoa</i>) to purity weights and germination methods.</li> <li>Introduction into all four Volumes: Added statements (in bold type) regarding deviations from the Rules.</li> <li>Vol 1 Section 12: Clarified that the mechanical seed counting process may be used to determine the number of seeds contained in a sample of additional crop kinds not listed.</li> <li>Vol 3: Corrected the common name for <i>Calamagrostis arenaria</i> (L.) Roth, formerly known as <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (L.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Table 3B part 2: Numbered pure seed definitions: 15 to include a schizocarp more than one-half the original size.</li> <li>Section 3.5.2.4: Clarified the procedure regarding the identification of indistinguishable species.</li> <li>Section 4.7: The sample weight of the determination of other seeds must be reported with a fixed decimal place.</li> <li>Section 5.6.3.1 and Section 5.7: Revised requirements for retesting when fresh seed is present.</li> <li>Table 6A Part 2: Added a tetrazolium test method for <i>Ulmus spp.</i></li> <li>Section 9.2.5.7: Specified oven temperatures and tolerances for moisture determination.</li> </ul>			<p><b>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Testing Section.</b></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vol 4: POACEAE GRASS FAMILY III - Corn section: Improved seedling drawing to show coleoptile.</li> <li>Vol 4 ASTERACEAE, SUNFLOWER FAMILY I – Lettuce: Added additional drawings for necrosis evaluations and add real photos.</li> <li>Vol 4: List organic growing media substrate where sand, soil, and/or sand/soil are also listed.</li> <li>Vol 4: Clarified which families where sufficient secondary, seminal, and/or adventitious roots are permitted to compensate for a missing or defective primary root.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 18.8: Moisture content can be determined and reported on seed mixtures containing only species with the same moisture method prescribed ... and should be reported as such.</li> <li>Section 9.2.7: Moisture test for coated seeds now describes how to handle seed mats and seed tapes regarding the moisture test.</li> <li>Table 9A Parts 1 and 2: Methods for moisture determination will be merged due to changes in the crop groups.</li> <li>Section 9.2.6.2: Clarified the wording “initial moisture content.”</li> <li>Chapter 11: Updated clarifications in the entire chapter to remain current with new advancements of available seed treatments.</li> </ul>			<p><b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Testing Section.</i></b></p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter 11: Revised the germination chapter by rewording the general principles, evaluations, and reporting results.</li> <li>• Chapter 13: Revised the germination chapter by rewording the calculations and expression of results and reporting results.</li> <li>• Chapter 14: Revised and updated the chapter to improve clarity due to new generations of x-ray machines and applications of digital technology.</li> </ul>			<p><b><i>No Harmonization Issues with the FSA Testing Section.</i></b></p>