

Draw a seed sample, and test and identify samples of seed

Level 3

Credits 7

Purpose This unit standard is for people working in the seed processing industry.

People credited with this unit standard are able to: complete a 1000 seed weight test; determine moisture content of seed sample; identify crop, contaminant, and undesirable weed seeds in field dressed and machine dressed seed samples; and draw a sample of seed.

Subfield Agriculture

Domain Seed Dressing

Status Registered

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.

Standard setting body (SSB) Primary Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0052

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

1 Definitions

Seeds – grains, pulses, vegetables, and small seeds such as grass seed, and clover seed.

Contaminants – crop seeds and inert material.

Problem contaminants – contaminants which are difficult to separate from the crop seed during processing.

Common contaminants – those which are often found in seedlots processed at the store.

2 Moisture meters are calibrated for use.

- 3 Quality standards may be standards required by any one, or a combination, of the following – seed processing company; buyer; exporter; country seed is to be exported to; owner of the seed; purity standards listed in the NZ Seed Quality Management Authority, *Seed Store Operating Manual* (AgriQuality Ltd, 2006), available from AgriQuality Ltd, freephone 0508 001122.
- 4 In the context of this unit standard, drawing a seed sample covers samples to be used internally by the seed store and does not cover seed samples taken for the Seed Certification Scheme by a certified seed sampler.
- 5 Seeds eligible for certification in New Zealand are listed in MAF Plants Biosecurity *Seed Certification Field and Laboratory Standards* (MAF Plants Biosecurity, published annually) available from AgriQuality Ltd, freephone 0508 001122.
- 6 *The Manual* is the NZ Seed Quality Management Authority, *Seed Store Operating Manual* (AgriQuality Ltd, 2006), available from AgriQuality Ltd, freephone 0508 001122.
- 7 *Company procedures* refer to the documented procedures for seed sampling, and must comply with the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Complete a 1000 seed weight test.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Test is completed in accordance with company procedures.
- 1.2 Sample taken for test is representative of whole of seedlot in accordance with the Manual.
- 1.3 Test results are verified by a second sample.

Element 2

Determine moisture content of seed sample.

Range infra-red heat lamp, moisture meter.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Determination is completed in accordance with company procedures.
- 2.2 Moisture content is verified by a second sample or a seed laboratory oven test in accordance with company procedures.

Element 3

Identify crop, contaminant, and undesirable weed seeds in field dressed and machine dressed seed samples.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Crop seeds are identified in field dressed and machine dressed seed samples by common name and/or botanical name.
- Range at least five crop seed species of those seeds eligible for certification in New Zealand as listed in MAF Quality Management's *Seed Certification Field and Laboratory Standards*; vegetable seeds.
- 3.2 Contaminant seeds are identified in field dressed and machine dressed seed samples by common name and/or botanical name.
- Range at least six common contaminant seeds for each of the following groups of seed samples – grasses, clovers, cereals, brassicas, non-clover legumes, pulses, vegetables.
- 3.3 Undesirable weed seeds are identified by common and/or botanical name.
- Range evidence is required for at least thirteen weed seeds.
- 3.4 Contaminants other than seeds are identified by common name.
- Range evidence is required for at least three contaminants.

Element 4

Draw a sample of seed.

Range sample taken from seed stored in – silos, boxes, bags.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Seedlot is sampled using methods and frequencies in accordance with company procedures or the Manual.
- 4.2 Sample drawn is representative of seedlot.
- 4.3 Sample is labelled in accordance with company procedures or the Manual.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.