



“Further strengthening of capacities of phytosanitary sector in the fields of plant protection products, plant health and seeds and seedlings, including phytosanitary laboratories and phytosanitary inspections”

(TWINNING BA/12/IB/AG 01)

Component 3: Seeds and propagation materials

ISTA

The International Seed Testing Association



Rita Zecchinelli

# **What is ISTA ?**

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**ISTA**

**is an international, non-profit association  
of public and private seed testing  
laboratories and persons  
under the Governance of the  
Government of member countries and  
distinct economies**

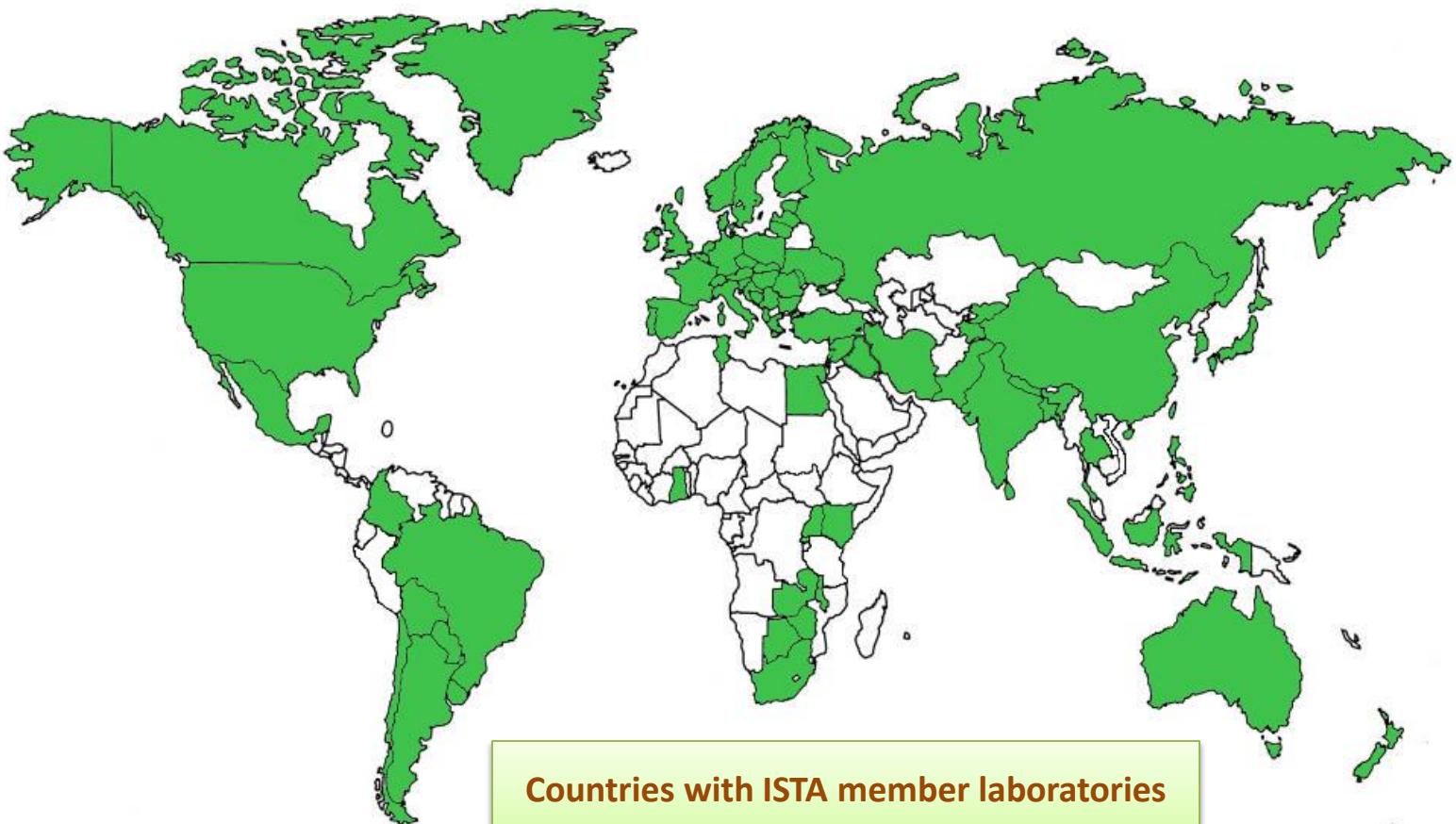


# Why is ISTA relevant to seed stakeholders?

- The vision of ISTA:

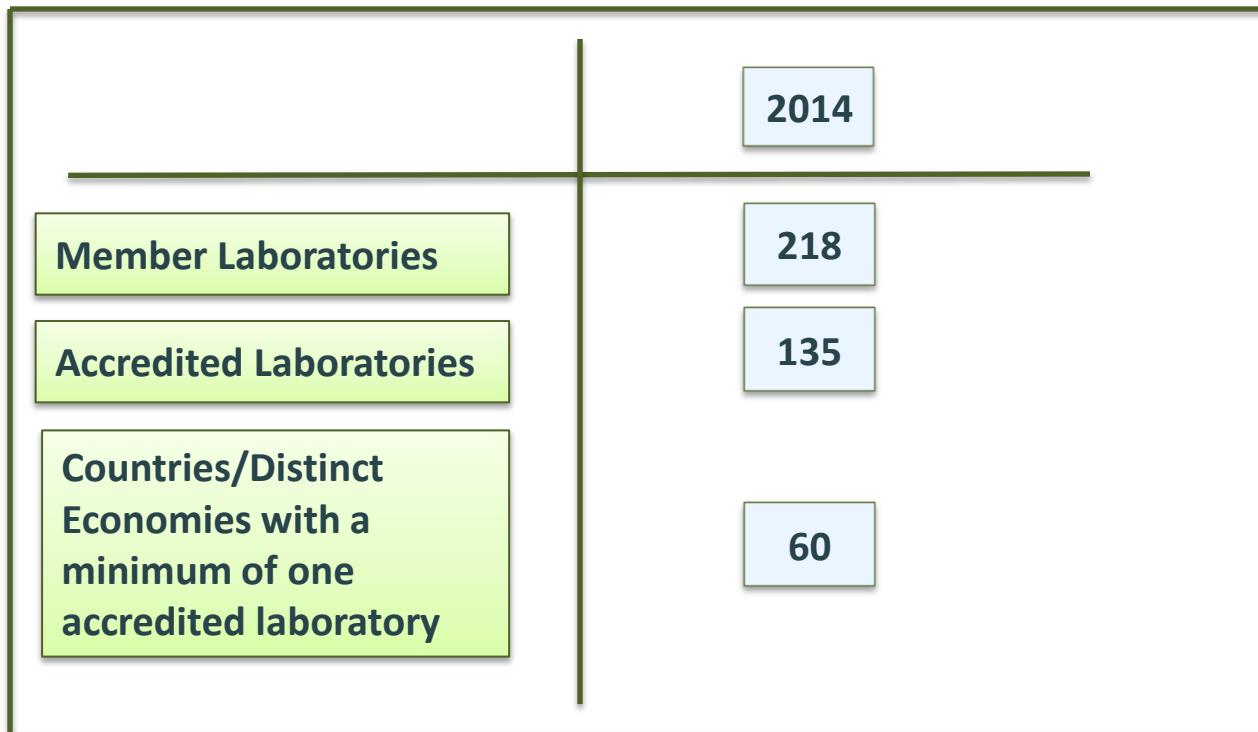
**Uniformity in  
Seed Quality Evaluation  
Worldwide**

# ISTA in the world



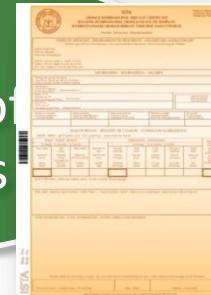


# ISTA in the world





International  
standardization of  
reporting results



International  
exchange of  
scientific results



International  
standardization of  
laboratory performance



International  
standardization of  
methodologies





# Since 1933, ISTA publishes international rules for seed testing



## ELECTRONIC FORMAT TODAY AVAILABLE

International  
standardization  
of methodologies

Table 2A Part 1 Agricultural and vegetable seeds

Species	Maximum weight of lot	Minimum sample weights			
		Submitted sample	Working sample for purity analysis	Working sample for count of other species	
	Chapter 2 (kg)	Chapter 2 (g)	Chapter 3 (g)	Chapter 4 (g)	
<i>Abelmoschus esculentus</i> (L.) Moench	20 000	1 000	140	1 000	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> L.	10 000	25	0.5	5	
<i>Aeschynomene americana</i> L.	10 000	120	12	120	
<i>Agropyron cristatum</i> (L.) Gaertn.	10 000	40	4	40	
<i>Agropyron desertorum</i> (Fisch. ex Link) Schult.	10 000	60	6	60	
<i>Agrostis canina</i> L.	10 000	25	0.25	2.5	
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i> L.	10 000	25	0.25	2.5	
<i>Agrostis gigantea</i> Roth	10 000	25	0.25	2.5	
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> L. (includes <i>A. palustris</i> Hudson)	10 000	25	0.25	2.5	
<i>Allium cepa</i> L.	10 000	80	8	80	
<i>Allium fistulosum</i> L.	10 000	50	5	50	
<i>Allium porrum</i> L.	10 000	70	7	70	
<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> L.	10 000	30	3	30	

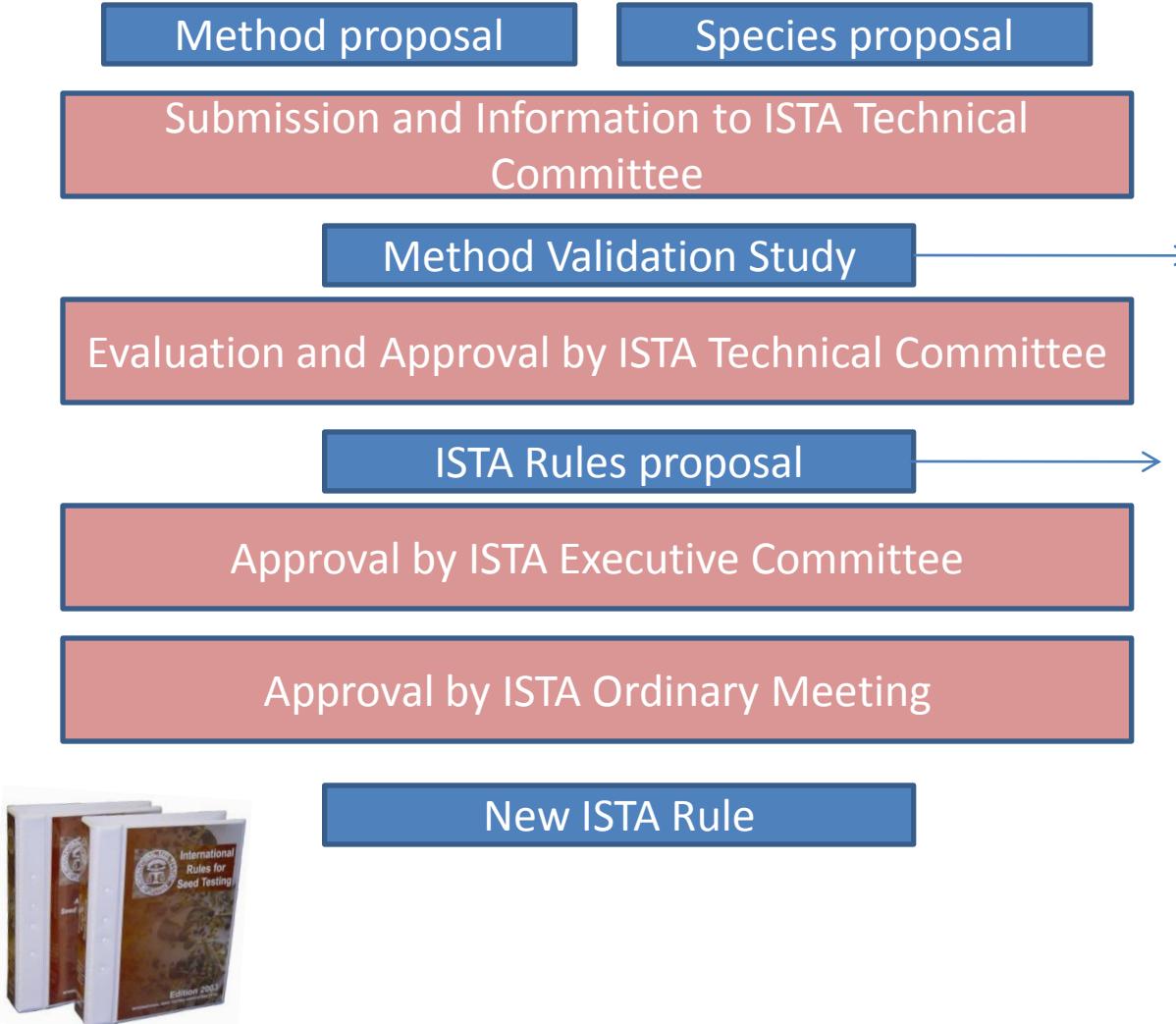


## **The ISTA Rules can be modified and amended annually:**

Proposals to modify or amend the current ISTA International Rules for Seed Testing can be made by members or non-members, public or private laboratories or persons working in the area of seed science and technology.



# How to modify the ISTA International Rules for Seed Testing



Document 06-2009-M

## Method Validation Reports for Rules Proposals 2010

### Contents

ISTA validation study on germination testing of Amaranthus viridis L. (A.viridis); Step (Rules Proposal 2010 B.1)	2
Validation of a cargo sampler and sampling stick without compensation for loss of seed weight (Rules Proposal 2010 B.2)	3
Evaluation of Crepe Cellulose Paper Coated with latex as an ISTA Standard for the detection of seed viability. Presente vegeta and 2D matrix (Rules Proposal 2010 C.1.1)	40
Brewery paper method for the determination of bromate spp. and bromate (Rules Proposal 2010 C.1.2)	45
Use of Organic Germinating Media as primary substrate for the germination of Pueraria lobata (L.) Willd. (Rules Proposal 2010 C.2.1)	46
Proposal for a new method for the detection of Circular Green Moth (Acrobasis (C.G.M.)) Moles (Neotinea) Spec Vitis (ASDV) and Squash (Cucurbita (S.)) (Rules Proposal 2010 C.2.2)	47
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06-2009-M Method Validation Reports on Proposed Changes to Rules 2010. CM approved 2009-04-10 doc.

2009-04-28 15:58



Document 05-2010-CM

## Rules Proposals for the International Rules for Seed Testing 2011 Edition

This document was prepared by the Technical Committee and the Rules Committee of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA). The document contains proposals for adaptation to the ISTA Ordinary Meeting 2010 for voting at the meeting. The document is also intended for the members of the Technical Committee. It is submitted to the 2011 Executive Committee, 2012 Members and ISTA Executive Committees for adoption and modification by the 2012 Ordinary Meeting.

2 documents proposed modifications and changes for 42 Chapters of the 2010 International Rules for Seed Testing. The document is intended for the 2011 Ordinary Meeting 2010 to be held on Thursday, 25 June 2010 in Cologne, Germany.

With special thanks to: Commissions and Committees for proposed document changes.

05-2010-CM Rules Proposals for 2011 Edition.doc  
Approved by ECOM decision No. 543

2010-05-12 12:44

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# Ordinary Meeting

Voting delegates from 72 Member Governments

## Executive Committee

11 Members from all Continents of the  
World nominated by Governments

## Secretariat

11 professional employees

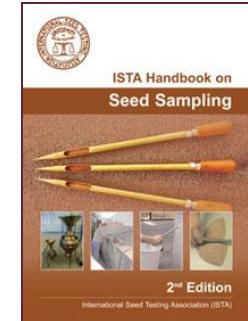
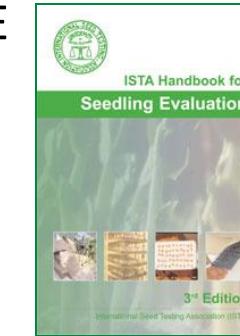
## 18 Technical Committees and Boards

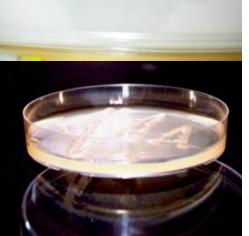
Over 200 experts from all over the world working voluntarily in the  
Technical Committees

Experts are coming from the public and the private sector, from  
member laboratories and non-member laboratories

# *ISTA Technical Committees*

- ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE
- BULKING AND SAMPLING COMMITTEE
- FLOWER SEED COMMITTEE
- FOREST TREE AND SHRUB SEED COMMITTEE
- GERMINATION COMMITTEE
- GMO COMMITTEE
- MOISTURE COMMITTEE
- NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE
- PROFICIENCY TEST COMMITTEE
- PURITY COMMITTEE
- RULES COMMITTEE
- SEED HEALTH COMMITTEE
- STATISTICS COMMITTEE
- SEED STORAGE COMMITTEE
- TETRAZOLIUM COMMITTEE
- VARIETY COMMITTEE
- VIGOUR COMMITTEE
- EDITORIAL BOARD (SST)





INTERNATIONAL SEED TESTING ASSOCIATION (ISTA)  
Secretary: Schönhauserstr. 85, D-8033 München 20, Germany  
Phone: +49-89-65 65 02 Fax: +49-89-65 65 01 E-mail: [posta@posta.de](mailto:posta@posta.de) <http://www.ista-test.org>



### ISTA Accreditation Standard for Seed Testing and Seed Sampling

Note: Any electronic or hard copies of this document are uncontrolled copies / Confirm validity before use

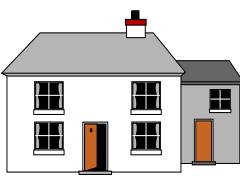
Effective as of 01-08-2015  
ISTA Accreditation Standard  
Version 5.0  
Print Date: 27-07-2015  
Page 1 of 2

# International standardization of laboratory performance

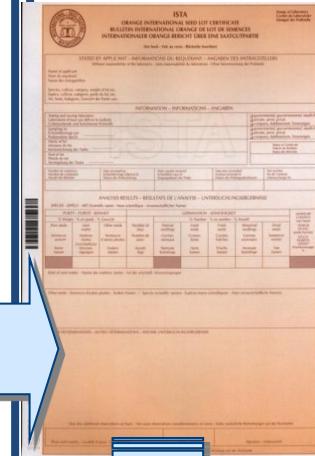
# The ISTA Accreditation Programme



## Seed Testing Laboratory



## ISTA Certificate



## SEED TRADE





## The ISTA Accreditation Programme:

is open for Seed Testing Laboratories from the public and the private sector

the official language is English

all relevant documents can be downloaded from the ISTA website at **[www.seedtest.org](http://www.seedtest.org)**



# Monitoring of laboratory performance:

## ISTA PT Programme Plan 2014-2016

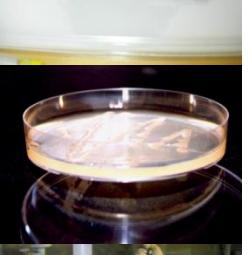
PTround	Date	Species	Test leader
14-1	01.02.14	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	<i>Mari Jürmann</i>
14-1	01.02.14	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	<i>Gillian McLaren</i>
14-2	01.06.14	<i>Callistephus chinensis</i>	<i>Zita Ripka</i>
14-2	01.06.14	<i>Triticum aestivum</i>	<i>Gisela Wustmann</i>
14-3	01.10.14	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	<i>Ruojing Wang</i>
14-3	01.10.14	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	<i>Günter Müller</i>
15-1	01.02.15	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	<i>Fabio Gorian</i>
15-1	01.02.15	<i>Glycine max</i>	<i>Laura Carlson</i>
15-2	01.06.15	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	<i>Sinikka Köyljärvi</i>
15-3	01.10.15	<i>Oryza sativa</i>	<i>Rita Zecchinelli</i>
15-3	01.10.15	<i>Oryza sativa</i>	<i>Günter Müller</i>
16-1	01.02.16	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	<i>Didier Demilly</i>
16-2	01.06.16	<i>Brachiaria brizantha</i>	<i>Benno Voit</i>
16-3	01.10.16	<i>Allium cepa</i>	<i>Sharon Davidson</i>
16-3	01.10.16	<i>Allium cepa</i>	<i>Günter Müller</i>



# ISTA Proficiency Test Programme

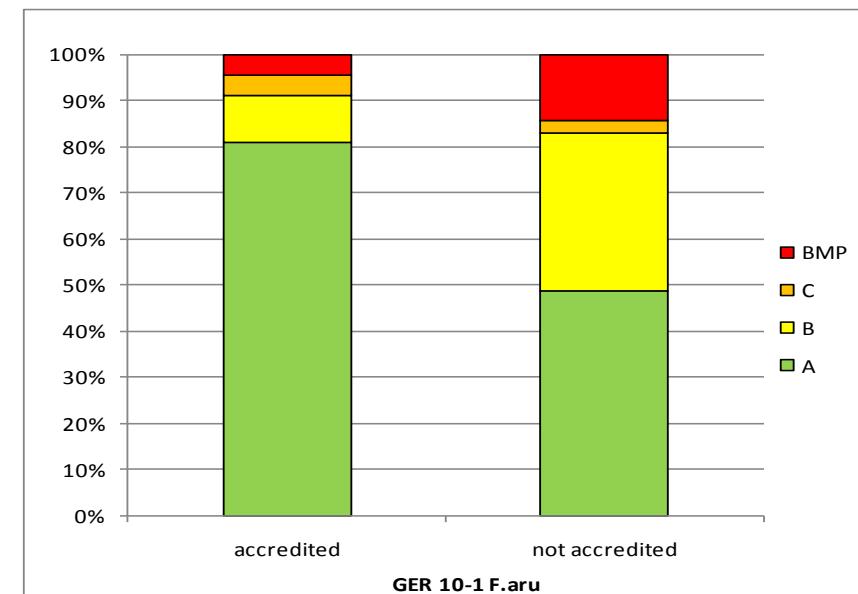
- Proficiency Test fee is covered in yearly Membership fee
- Participation is mandatory for accredited laboratories, for the tests/crop group/events they are accredited for
- Voluntary participation possible for all member laboratories, regardless if accredited or not:
  - Gain experience with other species
  - Compare laboratory's testing performance with the performance of accredited laboratories
- Non members are welcome to participate (service will be charged)

**Goal: measure and monitor laboratory's proficiency**



# ISTA Proficiency Test Programme

- ✓ Testing of samples in accordance with determined methods
- ✓ Statistical evaluation
- ✓ Evaluation of the laboratory's proficiency
- ✓ Detection of systematic errors
- ✓ Detection of trends in performance
- ✓ Results influence the accreditation status





# ISTA Audit Programme

Within the ISTA Accreditation Programme  
Laboratories need to establish a quality  
assurance system following the  
requirements of the  
ISTA Accreditation Standard.



ISTA Accreditation Standard for Seed  
Testing and Seed Sampling

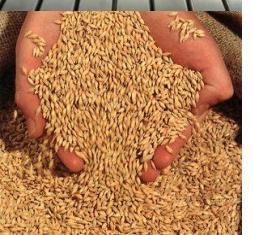
Note: Any electronic or hard copies of this document are uncontrolled copies / Confirm validity before use

The standard can be downloaded free of charge  
from the ISTA webpage [www.seedtest.org](http://www.seedtest.org)

Effective as of 01.08.2015  
ISTA Accreditation Standard

Version 5.0  
Status: Final

Page 1 of 9  
Print Date: 27.07.2015



## ISTA Audit Programme

- small audit team guarantees uniformity of the audit process worldwide
- outstanding experience of ISTA technical auditors guarantees the high quality level of ISTA audits
- ISTA Accreditation and Audit programme is globally accepted and used worldwide

A photograph of an ILSA (International Laboratory for Seed Analysis) seed analysis report form. The form is yellow with black text and has several sections for data entry. It includes fields for 'Sample ID', 'Species', 'Variety', 'Purity', 'Germination', and 'Test Results'. A barcode is visible on the left side.

# International Standardization of Reporting Results



# Facilitation of International Seed Trade – The ISTA Certificates

**ISTA**  
**ORANGE INTERNATIONAL SEED LOT CERTIFICATE**  
**BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL ORANGE DE LOT DE SEMENCES**  
**INTERNATIONALER ORANGE-BERICHT ÜBER EINE SAATGUTPARTIE**

(See back - Voir au verso - Rückseite beachten)

Name of applicant  
Nom du requérant  
Name des Antragstellers

Species, cultivar, category, weight of lot etc.  
Espèce, cultivar, catégorie, poids du lot, etc.  
Art, Sorte, Kategorie, Gewicht der Partie usw.

Testing and issuing laboratory  
Laboratoire d'essai qui délivre le bulletin  
Untersuchende und berichtigende Prüfstelle

Sampling by  
Échantillonage par  
Prüfernahme durch

Marks of lot  
Marques du lot  
Kennzeichnung der Partie

Seal of lot  
Plierv du lot  
Versiegelung der Partie

Number of containers  
Nombre de contenants  
Anzahl der Behälter

Date of sampling  
Échantillonage effectué le  
Datum der Probeziehung

Date sample received  
Échantillon reçu le  
Empfangdatum der Probe

Date test concluded  
Analyse terminée le  
Datum des Prüfungsbefusses

Test number  
N° de l'analyse  
Untersuchungs-Nr.

**ANALYSIS RESULTS – RÉSULTATS DE L'ANALYSE – UNTERSUCHUNGSERGEBNISSE**

**SPECIES - ESPÈCE - ART** (Scientific name - Nom scientifique - wissenschaftlicher Name):

PURITY - PURITÉ - REINHEIT		GERMINATION - KEIMFÄHIGKEIT					MORTURE CONTENT - MORTELITÉ - TOTENRAT		
% Weight - % en poids - % Gewicht	% in pods - % dans les graines - % in den Beuteln	% Number - % en nombre - % Anzahl	Normal seedlings Graines normaux	Hard seeds Graines dures	Fresh seeds Graines fraîches	Abnormal seedlings Graines anormaux	Dead seeds Graines mortes	Water content Teneur en eau (gewöhnlich) FEUCHTIGKEIT - GEHALT (frischgewässert) - %	
Semenes pures Reine Samen	Inert matter Matières inertes Urschädliche Verunreinigungen	Other seeds Semenes d'autres plantes Andere Samen	Number of days Nombre de jours Anzahl Tage	Normal seedlings Graines normaux	Hard seeds Graines dures	Fresh seeds Graines fraîches	Abnormal seedlings Graines anormaux	Dead seeds Graines mortes	Tote Samen

Kind of inert matter - Nature des matières inertes - Art der unschädlichen Verunreinigungen

Other seeds - Semences d'autres plantes - Andere Samen / Species (scientific names) - Espèces (noms scientifiques) - Arten (wissenschaftliche Namen)

**OTHER DETERMINATIONS – AUTRES DÉTERMINATIONS – WEITERE UNTERSUCHUNGSERGEBNISSE**

(See also additional observations on back - Voir aussi observations complémentaires au verso - Siehe zusätzliche Bemerkungen auf der Rückseite)

Place and country - Localité et pays - Ort und Staat

Date - Datum

Signature - Unterschrift

See declaration on back - Voir déclaration au verso - Siehe Erklärung auf der Rückseite

Reg. No.  
Reg.-Nr.  
ISTA 00708700

**ISTA**  
**BLUE INTERNATIONAL SEED SAMPLE CERTIFICATE**  
**BULLETIN INTERNATIONAL BLEU D'ÉCHANTILLON DE SEMENCES**  
**INTERNATIONAHLER BLAU BERICHT ÜBER EINE SAATGUTPROBE**

(See back - Voir au verso - Rückseite beachten)

Name of applicant  
Nom du requérant  
Name des Antragstellers

Sampling by  
Échantillonage par  
Prüfernahme durch

Seal of lot  
Plierv du lot  
Versiegelung der Partie

Number of containers  
Nombre de contenants  
Anzahl der Behälter

Date of sampling  
Échantillonage effectué le  
Datum der Probeziehung

Date sample received  
Échantillon reçu le  
Empfangdatum der Probe

Date test concluded  
Analyse terminée le  
Datum des Prüfungsbefusses

Test number  
N° de l'analyse  
Untersuchungs-Nr.

**ANALYSIS RESULTS – RÉSULTATS DE L'ANALYSE – UNTERSUCHUNGSERGEBNISSE**

**SPECIES - ESPÈCE - ART** (Scientific name - Nom scientifique - wissenschaftlicher Name):

PURITY - PURITÉ - REINHEIT		GERMINATION - KEIMFÄHIGKEIT					MORTURE CONTENT - MORTELITÉ - TOTENRAT		
% Weight - % en poids - % Gewicht	% in pods - % dans les graines - % in den Beuteln	% Number - % en nombre - % Anzahl	Normal seedlings Graines normaux	Hard seeds Graines dures	Fresh seeds Graines fraîches	Abnormal seedlings Graines anormaux	Dead seeds Graines mortes	Water content Teneur en eau (gewöhnlich) FEUCHTIGKEIT - GEHALT (frischgewässert) - %	
Semenes pures Reine Samen	Inert matter Matières inertes Urschädliche Verunreinigungen	Other seeds Semenes d'autres plantes Andere Samen	Number of days Nombre de jours Anzahl Tage	Normal seedlings Graines normaux	Hard seeds Graines dures	Fresh seeds Graines fraîches	Abnormal seedlings Graines anormaux	Dead seeds Graines mortes	Tote Samen

Kind of inert matter - Nature des matières inertes - Art der unschädlichen Verunreinigungen

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**OTHER DETERMINATIONS – AUTRES DÉTERMINATIONS – WEITERE UNTERSUCHUNGSERGEBNISSE**

(See also additional observations on back - Voir aussi observations complémentaires au verso - Siehe zusätzliche Bemerkungen auf der Rückseite)

Place and country - Localité et pays - Ort und Staat

Date - Datum

Signature - Unterschrift

Reg. No.  
Reg.-Nr.  
ISTA 00635700

# Only ISTA accredited laboratories issue ISTA Certificates

- ISTA Certificates can be issued by private and public accredited laboratories.
- ISTA Certificates are accepted by all countries in the world.
- ISTA Certificates are mandatory for seed imports in a number of countries.

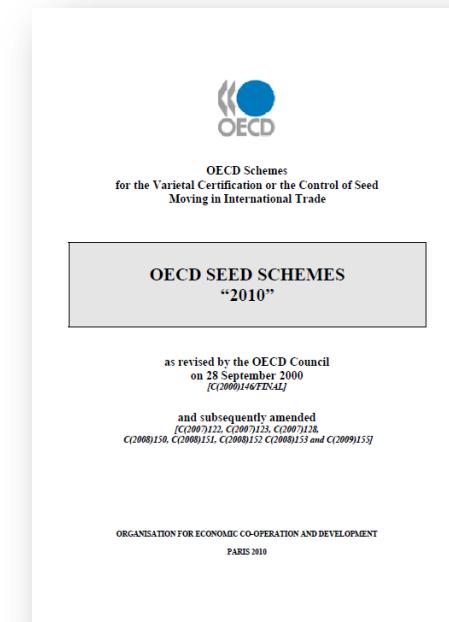
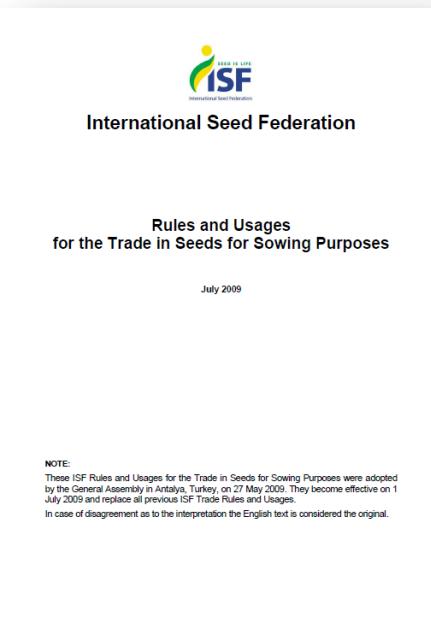


[http://www.qaseeds.com.au/qas\\_quality.php](http://www.qaseeds.com.au/qas_quality.php)



# Issuance of ISTA Certificates

- ISTA Certificates are recommended under the ISF trade rules.
- ISTA Certificates are recommended under the OECD Seed Schemes.





International exchange  
of scientific results



# International exchange of scientific results:

- Editing and issuing the Scientific Journal: Seed Science and Technology
- Organising Seed Symposium as part of the tri-annual ISTA Seed Congress
- Organising other events (e.g. workshops, training courses)
- Establishing a Seed Science Advisory Group, supporting the technical committees, evaluating new technologies.



## In conclusion:

- ISTA is offering unique tools to achieve a uniform and reliable seed quality determination on a high level.
- ISTA is making it possible to evaluate and compare the performance of the seed production internationally on a company level and country level.
- ISTA is facilitating the international trade of seed.



## ISTA Executive Committee 2013-2016:

**President** Joël Léchappé, France



**Vice President** Craig McGill, New Zealand



### 9 Members-at-Large

Mable Simwanza, Zambia



Steve Jones, Canada



Alexander Malko, Russia



Berta Killerman, Germany



Masatoshi Sato, Japan



Grethe Tarp, Denmark



Margus Friedenthal, Estonia



Rita Zecchinelli, Italy



Cecilia Jones, Uruguay





# Questions ?