

Special Procedures

Commodity • Seed

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Sampling Seed

Equipment Needed to Sample Seed

To collect the seed samples, make sure you have the equipment listed in **Figure 4-5-1** below.

4-5-1

- ◆ Cartridge type **dust mask** (to avoid breathing pesticide if the seed is treated)
- ◆ **Cloth** (something the length of the trier to empty subsamples onto)
- ◆ Container (must hold at least a quart of seed)
- **♦** Knife
- ◆ Marking pen
- ◆ Protective **gloves** (to prevent skin exposure when sampling dusted seed)
- ◆ **Tape** (to close opened containers)
- **♦** Trier

FIGURE 4-5-1: A List of Equipment Needed to Sample Seed

Collecting the Sample

Follow these steps to sample the seed:

Step 1: Determine how large a sample to collect.

Refer to Table 4-5-1 below as a guide.

TABLE 4-5-1: Amount of Seed to Collect from Each Lot1

If the seed is in:	And the seed is classified as:	Then:
Bags or bulk	Agricultural (Refer to Table 4-5-2 on page-4-5-3)	1. COLLECT 1 quart of seed 2. CONTINUE to Step 2
	Vegetable (Refer to Table 4-5-3 on page-4-5-9)	1. COLLECT 1 pint of seed ² 2. CONTINUE to Step 2
	Other (Not listed in Table 4-5-2 or Table 4-5-3)	1. COLLECT 1 pint of seed ² 2. CONTINUE to Step 2
Small packets or hermetically sealed containers (5 pounds or less)	-	1. COLLECT 1/4 pint of seed ³ 2. CONTINUE to Step 2

- 1 If two or more different agricultural or vegetable seeds are mixed in a bag or in bulk, treat as one lot for sampling purposes.
- 2 If the lot consists of 5 pounds or less, collect 1/4 pint of seed.
- 3 When the lot of seed to be sampled is comprised of seed in small containers or individual packets that cannot practically be sampled, submit enough of the entire unopened containers or packets to supply a sample that meets the minimum size requirements of the classification of that type of seed.

If the lot of seed itself is less than 1/4 pint, randomly inspect a minimum of 2 % of the entire lot.

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Agrotricum	x Agrotriticum Ciferri and Giacom	
Alfalfa	Medicago sativa L.	
Alfilaria	Erodium cicutarium (L.) L'Her.	
Alyceclover	Alysicarpus vaginalis (L.) DC.	
Bahiagrass	Paspalum notatum Fluegge	
Barley	Hordeum vulgare L.	
Barrelclover	Medicago truncatula Gaertn.	
Bean, adzuki	Vigna angularis (Willd.) Ohwi and Ohashi	
Bean, field	Phaseolus vulgaris L.	
Bean, mung	Vigna radiata (L.) Wilczek	
Beet, field	Beta vulgaris L. subsp. vulgaris	
Beet, sugar	Beta vulgaris L. subsp. vulgaris	
Beggarweed, Florida	Desmodium tortuosum (Sw.) DC.	
Bentgrass, colonial	Agrostis capillaris L.	
Bentgrass, creeping	Agrostis stolonifera L. var. palustris (Huds.) Farw.	
Bentgrass, velvet	Agrostis canina L.	
Bermudagrass	Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. var. dactylon	
Bermudagrass, giant	Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers. var. aridus Harlan and de Wet	
Bluegrass, annual	Poa annua L.	
Bluegrass, bulbous	Poa bulbosa L.	
Bluegrass, Canada	Poa compressa L.	
Bluegrass, glaucantha	Poa glauca Vahl	
Bluegrass, Kentucky	Poa pratensis L.	
Bluegrass, Nevada	Poa secunda J.S. Presl	
Bluegrass, rough	Poa trivialis L.	
Bluegrass, Texas	Poa arachnifera Torr.	
Bluegrass, wood	Poa nemoralis L.	
Bluejoint	Calamagrostis canadensis (Michx.) P. Beauv.	
Bluestem, big	Andropogon gerardii Vitm. var. gerardii	
Bluestem, little	Schizachyrium scoparium (Michx.) Nash	
Bluestem, sand	Andropogon hallii Hack.	
Bluestem, yellow	Bothriochloa ischaemum (L.) Keng	
Bottlebrush-squirreltail	Elymus elymoides (Raf.) Swezey	
Brome, field	Bromus arvensis L.	
Brome, meadow	Bromus biebersteinii Roem. and Schult.	
Brome, mountain	Bromus marginatus Steud.	
Brome, smooth	Bromus inermis Leyss.	
Broomcorn	Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench	
Buckwheat	Fagopyrum esculentum Moench	

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Buffalograss	Buchloe dactyloides (Nutt.) Engelm.	
Buffelgrass	Cenchrus ciliaris L.	
Burclover, California	Medicago polymorpha L.	
Burclover, spotted	Medicago arabica (L.) Huds.	
Burnet, little	Sanguisorba minor Scop.	
Buttonclover	Medicago orbicularis (L.) Bartal.	
Canarygrass	Phalaris canariensis L.	
Canarygrass, reed	Phalaris arundinacea L.	
Carpetgrass	Axonopus fissifolius (Raddi) Kuhlm.	
Castorbean	Ricinus communis L.	
Chess, soft	Bromus hordeaceus L.	
Chickpea	Cicer arietinum L.	
Clover, alsike	Trifolium hybridum L.	
Clover, arrowleaf	Trifolium vesiculosum Savi	
Clover, berseem	Trifolium alexandrinum L.	
Clover, cluster	Trifolium glomeratum L.	
Clover, crimson	Trifolium incarnatum L.	
Clover, Kenya	Trifolium semipilosum Fresen.	
Clover, ladino	Trifolium repens L.	
Clover, lappa	Trifolium lappaceum L.	
Clover, large hop	Trifolium campestre Schreb.	
Clover, Persian	Trifolium resupinatum L.	
Clover, red	Trifolium pratense L.	
Clover, red, mammoth	Trifolium pratense L.	
Clover, red, medium	Trifolium pratense L.	
Clover, rose	Trifolium hirtum All.	
Clover, small hop or suckling	Trifolium dubium Sibth.	
Clover, strawberry	Trifolium fragiferum L.	
Clover, sub or subterranean	Trifolium subterraneum L.	
Clover, white	Trifolium repens L. (also see Clover, ladino)	
Clover (also see Alyceclover, Burclover, Buttonclover, Sourclover, Sweetclover)		
Corn, field	Zea mays L.	
Corn, pop	Zea mays L.	
Cotton	Gossypium spp.	
Cowpea	Vigna unguiculata (L.) Walp. subsp. unguiculata	
Crambe	Crambe abyssinica R.E. Fries	
Crested dogtail	Cynosurus cristatus L.	
Crotalaria, lance	Crotalaria lanceolata E. Mey.	

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Crotalaria, showy	Crotalaria spectabilis Roth	
Crotalaria, slenderleaf	Crotalaria brevidens Benth. var. intermedia (Kotschy) Polh.	
Crotalaria, striped or smooth	Crotalaria pallida Ait.	
Crotalaria, sunn	Crotalaria juncea L.	
Crownvetch	Coronilla varia L.	
Dallisgrass	Paspalum dilatatum Poir.	
Dichondra	Dichondra repens Forst. and Forst. f.	
Dropseed, sand	Sporobolus cryptandrus (Torr.) A. Gray	
Emmer	Triticum dicoccon Schrank	
Fescue, chewings	Festuca rubra L. subsp. commutata Gaud.	
Fescue, hair	Festuca tenuifolia Sibth.	
Fescue, hard	Festuca brevipila Tracey	
Fescue, meadow	Festuca pratensis Huds.	
Fescue, red	Festuca rubra L. subsp. rubra	
Fescue, sheep	Festuca ovina L. var. ovina	
Fescue, tall	Festuca arundinacea Schreb.	
Flax	Linum usitatissimum L.	
Galletagrass	Hilaria jamesii (Torr.) Benth.	
Grama, blue	Bouteloua gracilis (Kunth) Steud.	
Grama, side-oats	Bouteloua curtipendula (Michx.) Torr.	
Guar	Cyamopsis tetragonoloba (L.) Taub.	
Guineagrass	Panicum maximum Jacq. var. maximum	
Hardinggrass	Phalaris stenoptera Hack.	
Hemp	Cannabis sativa L.	
Indiangrass, yellow	Sorghastrum nutans (L.) Nash	
Indigo, hairy	Indigofera hirsuta L.	
Japanese lawngrass	Zoysia japonica Steud.	
Johnsongrass	Sorghum halepense (L.) Pers.	
Kenaf	Hibiscus cannabinus L.	
Kochia, forage	Kochia prostrata (L.) Schrad.	
Kudzu	Pueraria montana (Lour.) Merr. var. lobata (Willd.) Maesen and S. Almeida	
Lentil	Lens culinaris Medik.	
Lespedeza, Korean	Kummerowia stipulacea (Maxim.) Makino	
Lespedeza, sericea or Chinese	Lespedeza cuneata (DumCours.) G. Don	
Lespedeza, Siberian	Lespedeza juncea (L. f.) Pers.	
Lespedeza, striate	Kummerowia striata (Thunb.) Schindler	
Lovegrass, sand	Eragrostis trichodes (Nutt.) Wood	
Lovegrass, weeping	Eragrostis curvula (Schrad.) Nees	

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Lupine, blue	Lupinus angustifolius L.	
Lupine, white	Lupinus albus L.	
Lupine, yellow	Lupinus luteus L.	
Manilagrass	Zoysia matrella (L.) Merr.	
Meadow foxtail	Alopecurus pratensis L.	
Medic, black	Medicago lupulina L.	
Milkvetch or cicer milkvetch	Astragalus cicer L.	
Millet, browntop	Brachiaria ramosa (L.) Stapf	
Millet, foxtail	Setaria italica (L.) Beauv.	
Millet, Japanese	Echinochloa frumentacea Link	
Millet, pearl	Pennisetum glaucum (L.) R. Br.	
Millet, proso	Panicum miliaceum L.	
Molassesgrass	Melinis minutiflora Beauv.	
Mustard, black	Brassica nigra (L.) Koch	
Mustard, India	Brassica juncea (L.) Czernj. and Coss.	
Mustard, white	Sinapis alba L.	
Napiergrass	Pennisetum purpureum Schumach.	
Needlegrass, green	Stipa viridula Trin.	
Oat	Avena byzantina C. Koch, A. sativa L., A. nuda L.	
Oatgrass, tall	Arrhenatherum elatius (L.) J.S. Presl and K.B. Presl	
Orchardgrass	Dactylis glomerata L.	
Panicgrass, blue	Panicum antidotale Retz.	
Panicgrass, green	Panicum maximum Jacq. var. trichoglume Robyns	
Pea, field	Pisum sativum L.	
Peanut	Arachis hypogaea L.	
Poa trivialis (see Bluegrass, rough)		
Rape, annual	Brassica napus L. var. annua Koch	
Rape, bird	Brassica rapa L. subsp. rapa	
Rape, turnip	Brassica rapa L. subsp. silvestris (Lam.) Janchen	
Rape, winter	Brassica napus L. var. biennis (Schubl. and Mart.) Reichb.	
Redtop	Agrostis gigantea Roth	
Rescuegrass	Bromus catharticus Vahl	
Rhodesgrass	Chloris gayana Kunth	
Rice	Oryza sativa L.	
Ricegrass, Indian	Oryzopsis hymenoides (Roem. and Schult.) Ricker	
Roughpea	Lathyrus hirsutus L.	
Rye	Secale cereale L.	
Rye, mountain	Secale strictum (K.B. Presl) K.B. Presl subsp. strictum	

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Ryegrass, annual or Italian	Lolium multiflorum Lam.	
Ryegrass, intermediate	Lolium×hybridum Hausskn.	
Ryegrass, perennial	Lolium perenne L.	
Ryegrass, Wimmera	Lolium rigidum Gaud.	
Safflower	Carthamus tinctorius L.	
Sagewort, Louisiana	Artemisia Iudoviciana Nutt.	
Sainfoin	Onobrychis viciifolia Scop.	
Saltbush, fourwing	Atriplex canescens (Pursh) Nutt.	
Sesame	Sesamum indicum L.	
Sesbania	Sesbania exaltata (Raf.) A.W. Hill	
Smilo	Piptatherum miliaceum (L.) Coss.	
Sorghum	Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench	
Sorghum almum	Sorghum×almum L. Parodi	
Sorghum-sudangrass	Sorghum×drummondii (Steud.) Millsp. and Chase	
Sorgrass	Rhizomatous derivatives of a johnsongrass×sorghum cross or a johnsongrass×sudangrass cross	
Southernpea (See Cowpea)		
Sourclover	Melilotus indicus (L.) All.	
Soybean	Glycine max (L.) Merr.	
Spelt	Triticum spelta L.	
Sudangrass	Sorghum×drummondii (Steud.) Millsp. and Chase	
Sunflower	Helianthus annuus L.	
Sweetclover, white	Melilotus albus Medik.	
Sweetclover, yellow	Melilotus officinalis Lam.	
Sweet vernalgrass	Anthoxanthum odoratum L.	
Sweetvetch, northern	Hedysarum boreale Nutt.	
Switchgrass	Panicum virgatum L.	
Timothy	Phleum pratense L.	
Timothy, turf	Phleum bertolonii DC.	
Tobacco	Nicotiana tabacum L.	
Trefoil, big	Lotus uliginosus Schk.	
Trefoil, birdsfoot	Lotus corniculatus L.	
Triticale	x Triticosecale Wittm. (Secale×Triticum)	
Vaseygrass	Paspalum urvillei Steud.	
Veldtgrass	Ehrharta calycina J.E. Smith	
Velvetbean	Mucuna pruriens (L.) DC. var. utilis (Wight) Burck	
Velvetgrass	Holcus lanatus L.	
Vetch, common	Vicia sativa L. subsp. sativa	
Vetch, hairy	Vicia villosa Roth subsp. villosa	
Vetch, Hungarian	Vicia pannonica Crantz	

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Sampling Seed

TABLE 4-5-2: Agricultural Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Vetch, monantha	Vicia articulata Hornem.	
Vetch, narrowleaf or blackpod	Vicia sativa L. subsp. nigra (L.) Ehrh.	
Vetch, purple	Vicia benghalensis L.	
Vetch, woollypod or winter	Vicia villosa Roth subsp. varia (Host) Corb.	
Wheat, common	Triticum aestivum L.	
Wheat, club	Triticum compactum Host	
Wheat, durum	Triticum durum Desf.	
Wheat, Polish	Triticum polonicum L.	
Wheat, poulard	Triticum turgidum L.	
Wheat×Agrotricum	Triticum×Agrotriticum	
Wheatgrass, beardless	Pseudoroegneria spicata (Pursh) A. Love	
Wheatgrass, crested or fairway crested	Agropyron cristatum (L.) Gaertn.	
Wheatgrass, crested or standard crested	Agropyron desertorum (Link) Schult.	
Wheatgrass, intermediate	Elytrigia intermedia (Host) Nevski subsp. intermedia	
Wheatgrass, pubescent	Elytrigia intermedia (Host) Nevski subsp. intermedia	
Wheatgrass, Siberian	Agropyron fragile (Roth) Candargy subsp. sibiricum (Willd.) Meld.	
Wheatgrass, slender	Elymus trachycaulus (Link) Shinn.	
Wheatgrass, streambank	Elymus lanceolatus (Scribn. and J.G. Smith) Gould subsp. lanceolatus	
Wheatgrass, tall	Elytrigia elongata (Host) Nevski	
Wheatgrass, western	Pascopyrum smithii (Rydb.) A. Love	
Wildrye, basin	Leymus cinereus (Scribn. and Merr.) A. Love	
Wildrye, Canada	Elymus canadensis L.	
Wildrye, Russian	Psathyrostachys juncea (Fisch.) Nevski	
Zoysia japonica (see Japanese lawngrass)		
Zoysia matrella (see Manilagrass)		

TABLE 4-5-3: Vegetable Seed

Common Name	Botanical Name		
Artichoke	Cynara cardunculus L. subsp. cardunculus		
Asparagus	Asparagus officinalis Baker		
Asparagusbean or yard-long bean	Vigna unguiculata (L.) Walp. subsp. sesquipedalis (L.) Verdc.		
Bean, garden	Phaseolus vulgaris L.		
Bean, lima	Phaseolus lunatus L.		
Bean, runner or scarlet runner	Phaseolus coccineus L.		
Beet	Beta vulgaris L. subsp. vulgaris		
Broadbean	Vicia faba L.		
Broccoli	Brassica oleracea L. var. botrytis L.		
Brussels sprouts	Brassica oleracea L. var. gemmifera DC.		
Burdock, great	Arctium lappa L.		
Cabbage	Brassica oleracea L. var. capitata L.		
Cabbage, Chinese	Brassica rapa L. subsp. pekinensis (Lour.) Hanelt		
Cabbage, tronchuda	Brassica oleracea L. var. costata DC.		
Cantaloupe (see Melon)			
Cardoon	Cynara cardunculus L. subsp. cardunculus		
Carrot	Daucus carota L. subsp. sativus (Hoffm.) Arcang.		
Cauliflower	Brassica oleracea L. var. botrytis L.		
Celeriac	Apium graveolens L. var. rapaceum (Mill.) Gaud.		
Celery	Apium graveolens L. var. dulce (Mill.) Pers.		
Chard, Swiss	Beta vulgaris L. subsp. cicla (L.) Koch		
Chicory	Cichorium intybus L.		
Chives	Allium schoenoprasum L.		
Citron	Citrullus lanatus (Thunb.) Matsum. and Nakai var. citroides (Bailey) Mansf.		
Collards	Brassica oleracea L. var. acephala DC.		
Corn, sweet	Zea mays L.		
Cornsalad	Valerianella locusta (L.) Laterrade		
Cowpea	Vigna unguiculata (L.) Walp. subsp. unguiculata		
Cress, garden	Lepidium sativum L.		
Cress, upland	Barbarea verna (Mill.) Asch.		
Cress, water	Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum (L.) Hayek		
Cucumber	Cucumis sativus L.		
Dandelion	Taraxacum officinale Wigg.		
Dill	Anethum graveolens L.		
Eggplant	Solanum melongena L.		
Endive	Cichorium endivia L.		
Gherkin, West India	Cucumis anguria L.		
Kale	Brassica oleracea L. var. acephala DC.		

TABLE 4-5-3: Vegetable Seed (continued)

Common Name	Botanical Name	
Kale, Chinese	Brassica oleracea L. var. alboglabra (Bailey) Musil	
Kale, Siberian	Brassica napus L. var. pabularia (DC.) Reichb.	
Kohlrabi	Brassica oleracea L. var. gongylodes L.	
Leek	Allium porrum L.	
Lettuce	Lactuca sativa L.	
Melon	Cucumis melo L.	
Muskmelon (see Melon)		
Mustard, India	Brassica juncea (L.) Czernj. and Coss.	
Mustard, spinach	Brassica perviridis (Bailey) Bailey	
Okra	Abelmoschus esculentus (L.) Moench	
Onion	Allium cepa L.	
Onion, Welsh	Allium fistulosum L.	
Pak-choi	Brassica rapa L. subsp. chinensis (L.) Hanelt	
Parsley	Petroselinum crispum (Mill.) A.W. Hill	
Parsnip	Pastinaca sativa L.	
Pea	Pisum sativum L.	
Pepper	Capsicum spp.	
Pe-tsai (see Chinese cabbage)		
Pumpkin	Cucurbita pepo L., C. moschata (Duchesne) Poiret, and C. maxima Duchesne	
Radish	Raphanus sativus L.	
Rhubarb	Rheum rhabarbarum L.	
Rutabaga	Brassica napus L. var. napobrassica (L.) Reichb.	
Sage	Salvia officinalis L.	
Salsify	Tragopogon porrifolius L.	
Savory, summer	Satureja hortensis L.	
Sorrel	Rumex acetosa L.	
Southernpea (see Cowpea)		
Soybean	Glycine max (L.) Merr.	
Spinach	Spinacia oleracea L.	
Spinach, New Zealand	Tetragonia tetragonioides (Pall.) Ktze.	
Squash	Cucurbita pepo L., C. moschata (Duchesne) Poiret, and C. maxima Duchesne	
Tomato	Lycopersicon esculentum Mill.	
Tomato, husk	Physalis pubescens L.	
Turnip	Brassica rapa L. subsp. rapa	
Watermelon	Citrullus lanatus (Thunb.) Matsum. and Nakai var. lanatus	

Step 2: Compute how many subsamples to draw.

Once you know how much seed to collect for your sample, you **must** then calculate how many subsamples to draw to ensure a representative sample.

Consequences of failure to take a good sample: To ensure that seed is free from pest risk, examine a representative sample of the shipment. The examination results can be **no** more accurate than the sample—therefore, the effort you make in sampling will decide the effectiveness of the examination.



When sampling seed, return the excess seed to its original container after you have completed your sampling. **Never** mix seed from different lots before returning your samples. Be careful **not** to spill seed.

To compute how many subsamples to draw, you need to determine how the seed is packaged:

TABLE 4-5-4: Computing Number of Subsamples Based on Seed Packaging

If the seed is in:	Then use Substep:	
Bags or other non hermetically sealed containers	2.A for your computation	
Bulk	2.B for your computation	

2.A (seed in bags or other non hermetically sealed packages): If the seed is packaged in bags, use Table 4-5-5 below to compute how many subsamples to draw. If the number of subsamples you draw does not provide enough seed for an adequate sample, draw the additional seed you need.

TABLE 4-5-5: Determining How Many Subsamples to Draw from Seed in Bags

If the number of bags or packages in the shipment is:	Then draw this many subsamples to make your sample:	If the number of bags or packages in the shipment is:	Then draw this many subsamples to make your sample:
1 to 6	5	125 to 134	18
7 to 14	6	135 to 144	19
15 to 24	7	145 to 154	20
25 to 34	8	155 to 164	21
35 to 44	9	165 to 174	22
45 to 54	10	175 to 184	23
55 to 64	11	185 to 194	24
65 to 74	12	195 to 204	25
75 to 84	13	205 to 214	26
85 to 94	14	215 to 224	27
95 to 104	15	225 to 234	28
105 to 114	16	235 to 244	29
115 to 124	17	245 or more	30

Do not sample more than 30 bags per lot. If there are fewer than 5 bags in the lot, you **must** still draw 5 subsamples. You **must** also draw enough seed to fill your sample (1/4 pint, 1 pint, or 1 quart).

Go to "Step 3: Sample with a trier." on page-4-5-12.

- **2.B (bulk seed):** If the seed is being shipped in bulk (unpackaged or loose), use this calculation and the preceding table to compute how many subsamples to draw.
 - **i.** Determine the weight of the lot.
 - ii. Divide the weight of the lot by 100.
 - **iii.** Take the result obtained by your division (consider this figure as the "equivalent number of bags") and go back to the previous Substep (**2.A**) to determine how many subsamples to draw. Refer to the example below.

EXAMPLE

How many subsamples would you draw from a 2,000 pound bulk shipment of oats?

Treat the shipment as a single lot:

- 1. The weight of the lot is 2,000 pounds.
- 2. $2,000 \div 100 = 20$ (the equivalent number of bags).
- 3. Twenty falls between 15 and 24 on the matrix—which directs you to draw 7 subsamples.

iv. Go to "Step 3: Sample with a trier." on page-4-5-12.

Step 3: Sample with a trier.

Knowing how much seed needs to be collected to make a sufficient sample and how many subsamples to draw—now you're ready to sample (for seeds in bags or bulk).

3.A: Check the label or invoice to learn if the seed was treated. If the seed is brightly colored (blue, orange, or pink are common), assume it was treated regardless of what the label says.



If you know or believe the seed is treated, take these precautions:

- ◆ Avoid wiping your mouth or nose with your hands
- Use plastic gloves and a dust mask
- ◆ Wear eye protection
- ♦ Wear protective coveralls

- **3.B:** Determine if the seed is coated, pelleted, or preplanted (anything that would make it impracticable to inspect the seed or tell what it is). **Do not** certify *pelletized* or *embedded* seeds unless you can inspect the seeds before treatment and still meet the required time limits (an option would be to inspect the non-pelletized portion of the same lot of seed and issue an export certificate based on those results). This would **not** include seed that is merely dusted or coated with ingredients such as rhizobia, dyes, or pesticides. You can inspect treated seeds because the seeds are visible through the chemical substance.
- **3.C:** Draw your subsamples randomly. If sampling a bulk shipment, draw your subsamples at equal intervals throughout the shipment.
- **3.D:** If you're sampling a single bag, **do not** make more than a single hole with the trier; merely move the trier in different directions to collect the seed.
- **3.E:** Insert the trier (with the holes down and closed) into the seed. It is better to enter the bag near its top to prevent spillage. If the seed is too large, **does not** flow freely, or the trier **cannot** penetrate the container, sample by hand.
- **3.F:** Rotate the inner sleeve of the trier to open the holes.
- **3.G:** Lightly move the trier back and forth to get the seed into the trier.
- **3.H:** Rotate the inner sleeve of the trier to close the holes.
- **3.I:** Remove the trier from the bag or bulk seed.
- **3.J:** Close the holes in the bag made by the trier. If a burlap or cloth bag, close the hole by moving the tip of the trier over the weave. If a paper bag, close the hole with a pressure-sensitive label or masking tape.
- **3.K:** Combine the seed in a plastic bag or other container large enough to hold all the subsamples.
- **3.L:** Mix the seed thoroughly to blend the subsamples. Collect enough seed to have a sufficient amount to analyze (computed in "Step 1: Determine how large a sample to collect." on page-4-5-2).
- **3.M:** If the seed is treated, wipe off the trier and then wash your hands, face, and arms with soap and water.

After collecting the sample, go to *Inspecting the Sample* below.

Inspecting the Sample

If the foreign country has no specific seed testing requirements, visually inspect the sample you have collected. Look for live pests, pathogens, plant debris, soil, weed seeds, etc.

When inspecting small lots of seed, pour seeds from packets onto white or dark colored paper (contrasting the color/type of seed). This technique is a common way to spot contaminants. Inspect one packet at a time so others aren't contaminated and proper amounts are returned to packets.

Use **Table 4-5-6** below to determine the correct action to take. If the foreign country has specific seed testing requirements, go to **Submitting the Sample** on **page 4-5-14**.

If you find:	And:	Then:
No evidence of live pests, pathogens, plant debris, soil, weed seeds, etc.	-	ISSUE PPQ Form 577 or 579 ¹
Evidence of live pests, pathogens, plant debris, soil, weed seeds, etc. ²	A method of cleaning or treating the seed is available and acceptable to the exporter and the foreign country	OFFER the exporter the option to recondition the seed RE-INSPECT the sample
	No method of cleaning or treating the seed is available or acceptable to the exporter and the foreign country	REFUSE to issue PPQ Form 577 or 579 EXIT this manual

- 1 Refer to *Completing PPQ Forms 577 and 579* on **page 3-8-1** for further information.
- You may offer the exporter the option of getting contaminants and pests identified instead of proceeding directly to cleaning or treating the seed. Refer to **Table 3-5-6** on **page-3-5-11** for further information.



Samples from commercial lots of seed may be extremely valuable. Return all samples to the exporter, being careful to note the lot numbers so that they may be returned to the original seed lot from which they were obtained.

Submitting the Sample

If the foreign country has specific seed testing requirements, submit the seed sample to an accredited facility for testing. Refer to *Testing* on page 3-6-1 for further information.

Certifying Canadian Produced Seed

To facilitate the United States' trade of Canadian produced seed, the following options are available for certifying Canadian produced seed being reexported from the United States.



This policy does not apply to seed reexported from Canada; the options below pertain only to seed grown in Canada.

Option 1

Option 1 will provide the greatest assurance that a commodity meets an importing country's requirements. Therefore, exporters **must** provide the required documentation to allow certification under this option. Consignments not certified under Option 1 may be rejected and ES may **not** be able to assist the exporter.

- **1.** Use PPQ Form 577 to certify the seed. List Canada as the country of origin.
- 2. Issue PPQ Form 577 only if the exporter provides you with the importing country's phytosanitary requirements for Canadian produced seed. The requirements must be in the form of official communication from either the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the importing country or Canada.
- **3.** You may use the official communication presented by the exporter for certification purposes for 6 months from the date of the document, unless the document states otherwise. Remind exporters to obtain confirmation of a country's import requirements each time they export because import requirements can change at any time.
- **4.** If the importing country requires one of the following phytosanitary actions, you may certify the seed once the requirement(s) has been met.
 - **A.** Laboratory analysis or testing: **must** be conducted by a United States authorized laboratory.
 - **B.** Treatment: **must** meet policy and procedures as stated in this manual.

The phytosanitary action **must** be conducted in the United States. **Do not** list phytosanitary actions taken in Canada on PPQ Form 577. **Do not** not use phytosanitary actions taken in Canada as the basis for issuing PPQ Form 577.

5. If the country requires phytosanitary actions/measures, **other than** those listed under point 4, **do not** certify the consignment.

- **6.** You **must** inspect the consignment.
- **7.** If an exporter presents import requirements and you determine that the requirements cannot be met, **do not** certify the consignment under either Option 1 or Option 2.

Option 2

Use Option 2 if the exporter cannot obtain the import requirements of the importing country. Caution the exporter that the consignment may **not** meet the phytosanitary requirements of the importing country, may be rejected, and that ES may **not** be able to assist them if a shipment is held or rejected.

- **1.** Use PPQ Form 579 to certify the seed. List Canada as the country of origin.
- **2. Do not** include additional declarations pertaining to phytosanitary actions.
- **3.** Include an additional declaration that, "The shipment met the entry requirements of the United States."
- **4.** You **must** inspect the consignment.