
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2009 No. 388

SEEDS

**The Seeds (Registration, Licensing and
Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009**

Made - - - - *25th November 2009*

Coming into operation *31st December 2009*

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development⁽¹⁾ makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1(1) and (2A), 2(1), 2(2) and (3), 7(2) and (3) and 9(2) and (3) of the Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 (the 1965 Act)⁽²⁾ and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel with regard to the licensing fee for licensed testing establishments and authorising the charging of fees for the services given at the official testing station.

The Department has consulted, in accordance with section 1(1) of the 1965 Act, with representatives of such interests as appear to it to be concerned:

PART 1

General

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 and shall come into operation on 31st December 2009.

General interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations—

“the Act” means the Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965;

“analyst in charge” and “seed analyst” have the meaning given in regulation 27(1);

“authorised officer” means an officer authorised by the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales for the purposes of these Regulations;

(1) Formerly the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland: *see* S.I. 1999/283 (N.I.) Article 3(4)

(2) 1965 c.22 (N.I.); section 1 was amended by 1970 c.20 (N.I.), section 10(1) and S.R. & O.(N.I.) 1972 No. 351 Art. 3 and Schedule 3; section 2 was amended by 1970 c.20 (N.I.), section 10(2) and S.R. 1977 No.295 Art.2

“the Department” means the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland;

“Licensed Seed Testing Station” means a laboratory in respect of which a licence has been granted pursuant to regulation 25;

“official measures” includes—

- (a) matters connected with the registration of a person who may engage in a seed industry activity under Part 2 of these Regulations;
- (b) matters connected with the training, examination and licensing of crop inspectors under Part 3 of these Regulations;
- (c) matters connected with the training, examination and licensing of seed samplers under Part 4 of these Regulations; and
- (d) matters connected with the licensing of seed testing stations and the training and examination of seed analysts and Analysts in Charge under Part 5 of these Regulations;

“prescribed minimum weight”, in relation to a submitted sample, means the minimum weight of such a sample as prescribed in Schedule 7 of the appropriate Seed Marketing Regulations;

“registered person” means a person registered pursuant to regulation 5 as a person who may engage in a seed industry activity;

“seed” means seed of any species to which Seed Marketing Regulations apply;

“seed industry activity” means any of the following—

- (a) the marketing of seed other than the marketing—
 - (i) of small packages of seed, small EC packages of seed, small EC A packages of seed, or small EC B packages of seed (as defined in each case in the Seed Marketing Regulations);
 - (ii) of unpacketed seed;
 - (iii) by a producer of small quantities of seed for scientific purposes or selection work in compliance with an authorisation referred to in that connection in the Seed Marketing Regulations which would permit the marketing of such seed under those Regulations;
 - (iv) by a producer of seed for test and trial purposes in compliance with an authorisation referred to in that connection in the Seed Marketing Regulations (where applicable) which would permit the marketing of such seed under those Regulations;
 - (v) by or on behalf of a breeder of seed for market testing in compliance with an authorisation referred to in that connection in the Vegetable Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(3) which would permit the marketing of such seed under those Regulations; or
 - (vi) of seed, as grown, for processing provided the identity of the seed is ensured;
- (b) the packing, sealing or labelling of seed (including the labelling or marking of standard seed of vegetables) except small packages of seed, small EC packages of seed, small EC A packages of seed, or small EC B packages of seed (as defined in each case in the Seed Marketing Regulations);
- (c) the re-packing, re-sealing or re-labelling of seed;
- (d) the preparation of mixtures of seeds permitted by the Seed Marketing Regulations; and
- (e) the cleaning, treating or other processing of seed intended for marketing;

“the Seed Marketing Directives” means—

- (a) Council Directive [2002/54/EC](#)(4) on the marketing of beet seed, as last amended by Council Directive [2004/117/EC](#)(5);
- (b) Council Directive [66/402/EEC](#)(6) on the marketing of cereal seed, as last amended by Council Directive [2006/55/EC](#)(7);
- (c) Council Directive [66/401/EEC](#)(8) on the marketing of fodder plant seed, as last amended by Commission Decision [2007/72/EC](#)(9);
- (d) Council Directive [2002/57/EC](#)(10) on the marketing of oil and fibre plant seed, as last amended by Council Directive [2004/117/EC](#); and
- (e) Council Directive [2002/55/EC](#)(11) on the marketing of vegetable seed, as last amended by Commission Decision [2006/124/EC](#)(12);

“the Seed Marketing Regulations” means—

- (a) in relation to beet seed, the Beet Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(13);
- (b) in relation to cereal seed, the Cereal Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(14);
- (c) in relation to fodder plant seed, the Fodder Plant Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(15);
- (d) in relation to oil and fibre plant seed, the Oil and Fibre Plant Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(16); and
- (e) in relation to vegetable seed, the Vegetable Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009(17);

“statutory seed testing” means seed testing carried out for the purposes of the Seed Marketing Regulations;

“the Tribunal” means the Plant Varieties and Seeds Tribunal established by the Plant Varieties Act 1997(18);

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), in these Regulations “marketing” means

- (a) selling, holding with a view to sale and offering for sale, and
- (b) any disposal, supply or transfer for the purpose of commercial exploitation of seed to third parties,

whether or not for consideration, and “market” and “marketed” shall be construed accordingly.

(3) Trade in seed not aimed at commercial exploitation of the variety, such as the following operations—

- (a) the supply of seed to official testing and inspection bodies, and
- (b) the supply of seed to a person who provides processing or packaging services but who does not thereby acquire title to the seed supplied,

(4) OJ L 193, 20.7.2002, p. 12

(5) OJ L 14, 18.1.2005, p. 18.

(6) OJ 125, 11.7.1966, p. 2309/66

(7) OJ L 159, 13.6.2006, p. 13

(8) OJ 125, 11.7.1966, p. 2298/66

(9) OJ L 329, 14.12.2007, p. 37

(10) OJ L 193, 20.7.2002, p.74

(11) OJ L 193, 20.7.2002, p. 33

(12) OJ L 339, 6.12.2006, p. 12

(13) S.R. 2009 No. 384

(14) S.R. 2009 No.383

(15) S.R. 2009 No.385

(16) S.R. 2009 No.386

(17) S.R.2009 No.387

(18) 1997 c. 66, section 42

shall not be regarded as marketing of seed of that variety.

(4) All applications, statements of commitment, representations, notices and requests to which these Regulations apply shall be made in writing.

(5) “Writing” in paragraph (4) shall include an electronic communication within the meaning of the Electronic Communications Act 2000(19) provided that—

- (a) any document of the type referred to in paragraph (4) shall only be sent to the Department by an electronic communication if the Department has represented that electronic communication is a means by which persons can send such a document to it, and
- (b) notifications required to be made by the Department to any person shall only be made by an electronic communication if the intended recipient has used the same form of electronic communication in communicating with the Department pursuant to any provision of these Regulations or has otherwise represented that that form of electronic communication is a means by which the Department can communicate with the recipient.

(6) Expressions in these Regulations which are not defined in the preceding paragraphs of this regulation and which appear in the Seed Marketing Regulations have the same meaning in these Regulations as they have in those Regulations.

PART 2

Registration of persons engaged in seed industry activities

Obligation to be registered

3. A person shall not engage in a seed industry activity unless he is registered by the Department as a person who may engage in that activity.

Applications for registration

4.—(1) A person may apply to the Department to be registered as a person who may engage in a seed industry activity.

(2) An application made under paragraph (1) may relate to all seed industry activities or to any one or more of them and shall—

- (a) be made in such form and manner as the Department may require; and
- (b) be accompanied by such information relating to the applicant’s proposed business and such other information as the Department may reasonably require for the purpose of determining whether the applicant is a suitable person to be registered as a person who may engage in the seed industry activity to which his application relates.

Registrations

5.—(1) Where an application is made under regulation 4 the Department shall, after carrying out such investigations and inspections as the Department may think fit, register the applicant as a person who may engage in the seed industry activity to which his application relates if the Department is satisfied that the applicant is a suitable person to engage in such activity.

(2) In deciding whether an applicant is a suitable person to engage in the seed industry activity to which his application relates the Department may take into account the matters specified in Part 1 of Schedule 1.

Conditions to be complied with by registered persons

6. A registration granted under regulation 5 may be subject to any of the conditions specified in Part 2 of Schedule 1 and such other conditions as the Department may think necessary or desirable.

Termination of registrations

7. If a registered person requests the Department to terminate his registration in respect of any or all of the seed industry activities that he is registered as being entitled to engage in the Department shall comply with the request.

Revocation of registrations

8. Subject to regulation 36, the Department may revoke a person's registration relating to his entitlement to engage in a seed industry activity if—

- (a) the Department is satisfied that the person is not complying with any of the conditions to which his registration is subject;
- (b) she is satisfied that there is no longer available to the person such premises, machinery, equipment, facilities or personnel and services as are necessary to enable him to engage in the seed industry activity;
- (c) the person has been found guilty of committing any offence under section 3 of the Act; or
- (d) the Department is otherwise no longer satisfied that the person is a suitable person to engage in the seed industry activity.

List

9. The Department—
- (a) shall keep a list containing the names and addresses of registered persons who may engage in a seed industry activity specifying, in the case of each registered person, the seed industry activity in respect of which they are registered;
 - (b) shall make the list available for inspection by any person at any reasonable time; and
 - (c) may from time to time publish the list in such manner as the Department thinks appropriate.

PART 3

Licensed crop inspectors

Applications for licences

10.—(1) An individual may apply to the Department for a licence authorising him to inspect crops grown to produce seed of any one or more of the species and categories listed in Part 1 of Schedule 2.

(2) An application made under paragraph (1) shall be in such form and manner as the Department may require and be accompanied by such information as the Department may reasonably require.

Licences

11.—(1) Where an application is made under regulation 10(1) the Department shall grant the applicant a licence authorising him to inspect crops of the species and category to which his application relates if the Department is satisfied that the applicant has—

- (a) completed an appropriate training course relating to the inspection of seed crops of that species and category;
 - (b) passed an examination relating to the inspection of seed crops of that species and category organised by or on behalf of the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales; and
 - (c) signed a statement of commitment to carry out his functions in accordance with such instructions as may from time to time be issued by or on behalf of the Department.
- (2) A licence granted under paragraph (1)—
- (a) shall specify which of the functions listed in Part 2 of Schedule 2 are covered by the licence; and
 - (b) may impose any of the conditions listed in Part 3 of Schedule 2 and such other conditions as the Department may think necessary or desirable having regard to the species and category of crops that may be inspected by the licence holder.
- (3) A licensed crop inspector who is employed by a person who is engaged in a seed industry activity shall carry out crop inspections only on crops grown by or on behalf of his employer unless otherwise agreed between his employer, the applicant for certification and by the Department.

Variation of licences

12.—(1) A crop inspector may apply to the Department for his licence to be varied so as to authorise him to inspect crops being grown to produce seed of another species and category listed in Part 1 of Schedule 2 in addition to the species and category specified in his licence or instead of such species and category.

(2) Where an application is made under paragraph (1) it shall be treated as though it had been made under regulation 10(1) and the Department may vary a crop inspector's licence so as to authorise him to inspect crops of the species and category to which his application relates if the Department is satisfied that the applicant has satisfied the requirements of regulation 11(1).

(3) In varying a licence under paragraph (2) the Department may vary the functions of the crop inspector specified in his licence and the conditions imposed by his licence.

(4) Subject to regulation 36, the Department may vary a crop inspector's licence whether or not the Department has received any application under this regulation by—

- (a) removing his authorisation to inspect a species and category of crop if the Department is satisfied that the crop inspector is no longer qualified to inspect crops of that species and category or that his authorisation to inspect such crops is otherwise no longer appropriate; or
- (b) varying the functions or the conditions set out in the licence.

Termination of licences

13. If a licensed crop inspector requests the Department to terminate his licence the Department shall comply with the request.

Suspension and revocation of licences

14. Subject to regulation 36, the Department may suspend or revoke a licensed crop inspector's licence if the Department is satisfied that the licence holder—

- (a) is no longer qualified to inspect crops of the species and category to which his licence relates or is otherwise unfit to perform any of the functions of a licensed crop inspector specified in the licence, or

- (b) has failed to comply with any of the conditions imposed on him by the licence.

List

15. The Department—

- (a) shall keep a list of the names and addresses of licensed crop inspectors and shall specify in the case of each crop inspector the species and category of crops which he is licensed to inspect;
- (b) shall make the list available for inspection by any person at any reasonable time; and
- (c) may from time to time publish the list in such manner as the Department thinks appropriate.

Fees

16. A licensed crop inspector may charge reasonable fees for carrying out his functions as a licensed crop inspector but shall not derive any private gain in connection with the carrying out of such functions.

PART 4

Licensed seed samplers

Applications for licences

17.—(1) An individual may apply to the Department for a licence authorising him to take samples of seed of the species specified in Part 1 of Schedule 3 for the purposes of the Seed Marketing Regulations.

(2) An application made under paragraph (1) shall be made in such form and manner as the Department may require and shall be accompanied by such information as the Department may reasonably require.

Licences

18.—(1) Where an application is made under regulation 17 the Department shall grant the applicant a seed sampler's licence if

- (a) The Department is satisfied that the applicant has undertaken a training course on seed sampling organised by or on behalf of the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales; and
- (b) the applicant, having completed such a course, has passed an examination on seed sampling organised by or on behalf of the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales.

(2) A licence granted under paragraph (1)

- (a) shall specify which of the functions listed in Part 2 of Schedule 3 are covered by the licence and may in addition specify any other functions which the Department thinks necessary or desirable; and
- (b) may impose any of the conditions listed in Part 3 of Schedule 3 and such other conditions as the Department may think necessary or desirable.

(3) A licensed seed sampler who is employed by a person who is engaged in a seed industry activity shall only sample seed lots produced by or on behalf of his employer unless otherwise agreed between his employer, the applicant for certification and by the Department.

Variation of licences

19. Subject to regulation 36, the Department may vary a seed sampler's licence as the Department thinks fit.

Termination of licences

20. If a seed sampler requests the Department to terminate his licence the Department shall comply with the request.

Suspension and revocation of licences

21. Subject to regulation 36, the Department may suspend or revoke a seed sampler's licence if the Department is satisfied that the seed sampler—

- (a) is no longer qualified to sample seed or is otherwise unfit to perform any of the functions specified in that licence; or
- (b) is not carrying out the functions specified in that licence or complying with the conditions imposed on him by that licence.

List

22. The Department—

- (a) shall keep a list of the names and addresses of licensed seed samplers;
- (b) shall make the list available for inspection by any person at any reasonable time; and
- (c) may from time to time publish the list in such manner as the Department thinks appropriate.

Fees

23. A licensed seed sampler may charge reasonable fees for carrying out the functions of a licensed seed sampler but shall not derive any private gain in connection with the carrying out of such functions.

PART 5

Licensed seed testing stations

Applications for licences

24.—(1) A person may apply to the Department for an establishment to be licensed as a laboratory that may be used for carrying out statutory seed testing.

(2) An application made under paragraph (1) may relate to any species of seed to which the Seed Marketing Regulations apply.

(3) An application made under paragraph (1) shall—

- (a) contain the name and address of the applicant and, where different, the person who shall be in charge of the laboratory (the "person in charge");
- (b) be accompanied by details of the laboratory and species of seed in respect of which a licence is sought; and
- (c) contain such other information as the Department may reasonably require for the purpose of considering the matters to be taken into account in Part 1 of Schedule 4.

Licences

25.—(1) Where an application is made in accordance with regulation 24 the Department shall license the establishment to be used as a laboratory that may carry out statutory seed testing of the species specified in that application if the Department is satisfied that the laboratory is suitable having regard to the matters to be taken into account in Part 1 of Schedule 4.

(2) A licensed seed testing station belonging to a registered person shall only carry out statutory seed testing on seed lots produced by or on behalf of that person unless otherwise agreed between the registered person, the applicant for certification and the Department.

(3) The licence shall be subject to the conditions set out in Part 2 of Schedule 4 and such other conditions as the Department may think necessary or desirable having regard to the species of seed to be tested, the nature of the tests to be carried out and the procedure to be followed in connection with such tests.

Variation of licences

26.—(1) The person in charge of a licensed seed testing station may apply to the Department for the licence held in respect of that licensed seed testing station to be varied so as to authorise its use as a laboratory that may carry out statutory seed testing on another species of seed in addition to the species specified in the licence or instead of such species.

(2) Where an application is made under paragraph (1) the Department shall vary the licence so as to authorise the laboratory to which it relates to carry out statutory seed testing on the species of seed to which that application relates if the Department is satisfied that the laboratory is suitable, having regard to the matters to be taken into account in Part 1 of Schedule 4.

(3) In varying a licence under paragraph (2) the Department may vary the conditions imposed by the licence.

(4) Subject to regulation 36, the Department may vary a licensed seed testing station licence whether or not the Department has received any application under this regulation—

- (a) by removing the authorisation relating to the statutory seed testing of a species of seed if the Department is satisfied that the licensed seed testing station is no longer suitable to carry out statutory seed tests in respect of that species or that the authorisation to test such seed is otherwise no longer appropriate; or
- (b) by varying the conditions imposed by a licensed seed testing station licence.

Examinations

27.—(1) For the purposes of this Part and Schedule 4—

- (a) a seed analyst is a person who—
 - (i) has completed a training course organised by, or on behalf of, the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales relating to seed testing in respect of seed of the species being tested, or to be tested, by him; and
 - (ii) having completed such a course, has passed the relevant examination organised by, or on behalf of, the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales;
- (b) an Analyst in Charge is a person who, being also a seed analyst, has
 - (i) completed the training course and passed the examination required of a seed analyst in respect of seed of each of the species which may be tested at the licensed seed testing station for which he has, or is to have, responsibility; and

- (ii) passed an examination relating to laboratory management organised by, or on behalf of, the Department, the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or the National Assembly for Wales.

(2) The Department may from time to time require any seed analyst carrying out statutory seed testing at a licensed seed testing station or the Analyst in Charge of a licensed seed testing station to attend such further training courses and undergo such further examinations as the Department considers appropriate in order to maintain his knowledge and qualifications in respect of his functions at the licensed seed testing station.

Duties of seed analysts in charge of licensed seed testing stations

- 28.** A person acting as the Analyst in Charge of a licensed seed testing station shall—
- (a) have direct responsibility for the technical operations of the licensed seed testing station;
 - (b) be in effective control of all the statutory seed testing carried out at the licensed seed testing station; and
 - (c) exercise close supervision of the work of any seed analyst assisting him in connection with statutory seed testing carried out at the licensed seed testing station.

Suspension and revocation of licences

29. Subject to regulation 36, the Department may suspend or revoke a licensed seed testing station licence if it appears to her that—

- (a) there has been a breach of any conditions of the licence
- (b) a person acting as a Analyst in Charge of a licensed seed testing station —
 - (i) is no longer qualified to act as such,
 - (ii) has failed to comply with the duties imposed on him by regulation 28, or
 - (iii) is otherwise unfit to perform his duties; or
- (c) a seed analyst carrying out statutory seed testing at the licensed seed testing station is no longer qualified to do so.

List

- 30.** The Department—
- (a) shall prepare a list of licensed seed testing stations and shall specify in the case of each licensed seed testing station the species of seed which it is licensed to test;
 - (b) shall make the list available for inspection by any person at any reasonable time; and
 - (c) may from time to time publish the list in such manner as the Department thinks appropriate.

Fees

31.—(1) The person in charge of a licensed seed testing station may charge reasonable fees for statutory seed testing carried out on seed at the licensed seed testing station but shall not derive any private gain from such tests.

(2) The Department may charge the person in charge of a licensed seed testing station reasonable fees in respect of costs incurred by the Department in connection with the licensing and supervision of the licensed seed testing station and the statutory seed testing carried out there.

PART 6

Enforcement of Seeds Regulations

Sampling for enforcement purposes

32.—(1) A sample of seed taken for the enforcement of the Seed Marketing Regulations or these Regulations shall be taken and divided by an authorised officer in accordance with the requirements contained in Schedule 5 to provide three parts of which—

- (a) one part shall be delivered or sent to the owner of the seed or his representative; and
- (b) two parts shall be delivered or sent to an official seed testing station, one of which parts shall be officially examined for the purposes of the appropriate Seed Marketing Regulations and the other of which shall be retained by such person for production to a court in accordance with section 9(7) of the Act,

except that where it appears to the person taking the sample that the seed from which the sample has been taken was purchased for use and not for resale, the first part of the sample shall be delivered or sent to the last seller of the seed or to his representative instead of to the owner of the seed or his representative.

(2) Where a part of a sample taken under this regulation has been officially examined for the purposes of the appropriate Seed Marketing Regulations, any residue from the sample may be used for such other tests as the Department may direct including for the purpose of the Community comparative tests referred to in the corresponding Seed Marketing Directives.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), the minimum weight of the sample of seed shall be such as to ensure that each of the parts into which it is divided is of not less than the prescribed minimum weight for the sample.

(4) Where the seed from which a sample is to be taken for the enforcement of the Vegetable Seed Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 is contained in small packages, the sample shall consist of as many such packages as the person taking the sample may reasonably require.

Certificates of taking and testing a sample

33.—(1) A certificate in the form set out in Schedule 6 of the taking of a sample of seed for the enforcement of Seed Marketing Regulations is prescribed for the purposes of section 9(3) of the Act.

(2) A certificate of the result of a test of a sample of seed carried out for the enforcement of the Seed Marketing Regulations is prescribed for the purposes of section 7(3) of the Act, in the form set out in Schedule 7 which corresponds with the species of seed tested.

PART 7

Miscellaneous and supplemental

Arrangements for official measures

34.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this regulation, the Department may make arrangements, in such form as the Department is of the opinion may be necessary or desirable, for the purpose of enabling any person to act under the Department's responsibility or control to carry out official measures.

(2) The Department shall not make arrangements under this regulation unless the Department is satisfied that it will make provision for the purpose of preventing the person with whom the arrangement is made, and any other person, from—

- (a) deriving any private gain from any official measures carried out under the arrangement; and
- (b) carrying out any official measures under the arrangement except under the supervision of the Department.

(3) An arrangement under this regulation may include such conditions as the Department is of the opinion are necessary or desirable for the purposes referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2), including conditions—

- (a) specifying—
 - (i) the official measures that the person with whom the arrangement is made shall carry out under it;
 - (ii) the fees that may be charged by the person with whom the arrangement is made in relation to the official measures carried out; and
 - (iii) the records that must be kept by the person with whom the arrangement is made in connection with the official measures carried out; and
- (b) prohibiting the person with whom the arrangement is made from—
 - (i) carrying out the official measures except under official supervision; and
 - (ii) charging fees in relation to official measures carried out under the arrangement except to the extent that these do not exceed the costs incurred in carrying them out.

(4) The Department may vary, suspend or revoke an arrangement or the conditions of an arrangement made under this regulation, by giving notice to the person with whom the arrangement is made.

(5) A notice of a variation, suspension or revocation of any arrangement or of a condition of an arrangement shall specify—

- (a) in respect of a variation or a revocation, a date on and after which the variation or revocation shall have effect, and
- (b) in respect of a suspension, a period during which the suspension shall have effect,

and the variation, suspension or revocation shall have effect in accordance with the notice.

(6) When a variation, suspension or revocation has effect the Department may, for any purposes in relation to these Regulations or a determination under these Regulations, continue to have regard to such of the official measures carried out under an arrangement which was varied, suspended or revoked as appear to her to be official measures carried out in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

Fees

35.—(1) The Department may charge any person, including any person with whom an arrangement has been made under regulation 34, reasonable fees in respect of the costs the Department reasonably incurs in carrying out official measures for the purposes of these Regulations.

(2) A person with whom an arrangement has been made in accordance with regulation 34, may charge any other person reasonable fees in respect of costs reasonably incurred in carrying out official measures under the responsibility or control of the Department in accordance with these Regulations.

(3) Where a person has been given notice—

- (a) by or on behalf of the Department of a fee duly charged in accordance with paragraph (1); or

(b) by a person with whom an arrangement has been made under regulation 34 of a fee duly charged in accordance with paragraph (2),
the person given the notice shall pay as specified in the notice the amount of the fee so charged.

Right to make representations

36.—(1) The Department shall not—

- (a) refuse to register a person as a person who may engage in a seed industry activity;
- (b) revoke the registration of a person as a person who may engage in a seed industry activity;
- (c) refuse to grant or vary a crop inspector's licence;
- (d) vary a crop inspector's licence pursuant to regulation 12(4);
- (e) suspend or revoke a licensed crop inspector's licence;
- (f) refuse to grant a seed sampler's licence;
- (g) vary a licensed seed sampler's licence;
- (h) suspend or revoke a licensed seed sampler's licence;
- (i) refuse to grant or vary a licensed seed testing station licence;
- (j) vary a licensed seed testing station licence pursuant to regulation 26(4); or
- (k) suspend or revoke a licensed seed testing station licence;

unless the Department has complied with the provisions of this regulation.

(2) The Department shall—

- (a) give the person concerned notice stating what the Department is proposing to do and the reasons for it; and
- (b) inform the person concerned of his right to make representations to the Department and of the manner in which and the time (not being less than 21 days from the giving of the notice) within which such representations may be made.

(3) In this regulation, the person concerned in the case of any notice served in connection with a licensed seed testing station shall be the person in charge of the licensed seed testing station.

(4) Subject to paragraph (5), the Department shall not proceed with its proposed refusal, variation, suspension or revocation (as the case may be) until the period allowed for making representations has passed.

(5) Where the Department considers it necessary to suspend a crop inspector's licence, a seed sampler's licence or a licensed seed testing station licence, with immediate effect, the Department may do so notwithstanding the right of the person concerned to make representations and when the Department gives notice of its decision under paragraph (7) the Department shall—

- (a) indicate whether the suspension should for the time being remain in force; or
- (b) withdraw the suspension of the licence.

(6) A person who makes representations to the Department shall provide the Department with a copy of any document upon which that person seeks to rely within the time allowed for the making of such representations.

(7) The Department shall consider any representations made to it under this regulation before giving the person concerned notice of its decision together with the reasons for that decision and, where appropriate, of the date from which the decision shall have effect.

(8) A notice under paragraph (7) shall where applicable inform the person concerned of—

- (a) his right to appeal to the Tribunal against the Department's decision; and

- (b) the time within which such an appeal may be brought.
- (9) There shall be no right of appeal to the Tribunal where the Department—
- (a) has refused to grant a crop inspector's licence or a seed sampler's licence for the sole reason that he failed to pass the relevant examination for the grant of the licence;
 - (b) has refused to vary a crop inspector's licence for the sole reason that he failed to pass the relevant examination for the variation of the licence; or
 - (c) has decided that a licensed crop inspector or licensed seed sampler is no longer qualified to inspect crops or sample seed (as the case may be) and has—
 - (i) in the case of a crop inspector varied, suspended or revoked his licence, or
 - (ii) in the case of a licensed seed sampler suspended or revoked his licence,

for the sole reason that he failed to pass an examination which he was required to undergo as a condition of his licence.

(10) The Department may charge any person making representations under this regulation reasonable fees in that connection which shall be payable on making the representations to her.

Appeals

37.—(1) A person notified of his right to appeal under regulation 36(8) may bring an appeal to the Tribunal.

(2) The Department shall take such steps as may be necessary to give effect to any decision of the Tribunal given on the final determination of an appeal under paragraph (1).

Extension of time

38. Where any document is to be delivered or given or any act is to be done in a time prescribed by these Regulations the Department may, if in all the circumstances of the case the Department considers it reasonable, extend the time for such period and upon such terms as the Department thinks fit.

Form of records

39. Any record required to be kept under these Regulations may be in written or electronic form and shall be kept for at least three years.

Form of lists

40. Any list required to be kept by the Department under these Regulations may be in written or electronic form.

Revocations, transitional and savings provisions

41.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this regulation, the following Regulations are revoked—

- (a) the Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994⁽²⁰⁾ (the 1994 Regulations); and
- (b) the Seeds (Fees) (No.2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002⁽²¹⁾ in relation to matters arising under the 1994 Regulations

⁽²⁰⁾ S.R. 1994 No. 253

⁽²¹⁾ S.R. 2002 No.407

(2) The revocation in paragraph (1) shall not apply in relation to seed harvested on or before 31st December 2009 until 1st July 2010.

(3) Any application made to the Department in accordance with regulation 4(2) of the 1994 Regulations but not determined at the coming into force of these Regulations shall be treated as an application referred to in regulation 4(1) of these Regulations and shall be determined in accordance with these Regulations.

(4) Any registration made pursuant to regulation 4(3) of the 1994 Regulations and having effect at the coming into force of these Regulations shall have effect as though it were a registration made pursuant to regulation 5 of these Regulations.

(5) Subject to paragraph (6)—

(a) any licence granted to a seed testing station pursuant to regulation 8(1) of the 1994 Regulations and having effect at the coming into force of these Regulations shall have effect as though it were a licence granted pursuant to regulation 25 of these Regulations; and

(b) any licence granted to a crop inspector or seed sampler pursuant to regulation 9(1) of the 1994 Regulations and having effect at the coming into force of these Regulations shall have effect as though it were a licence granted pursuant to regulation 11 of these Regulations in the case of a crop inspector and regulation 18 of these Regulations in the case of a seed sampler.

(6) The right to make representations pursuant to regulation 36 of these Regulations and to appeal to the Tribunal pursuant to regulation 37 of these Regulations shall not apply in respect of any licence which was granted under the 1994 Regulations and which is varied within three months of the coming into force of these Regulations.

(7) Any fee arising (whether wholly or in part) under the 1994 Regulations or the Seeds (Fees) (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 but not paid at the coming into force of these Regulations shall be treated as a fee arising under these Regulations and shall be recoverable accordingly.

Sealed with the official Seal of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on 25th November 2009.



John Speers
A senior officer of the Department of Agriculture
and Rural Development.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 25th November 2009.



Jack Layberry
A senior officer of the Department of Finance
and Personnel.

SCHEDULE 1

Regulations 5(2) and 6

REGISTERED SEED INDUSTRY PERSONS

PART 1

Registration: matters that may be taken into account

1. The premises that are available to the applicant.
2. The machinery, equipment and facilities that are available to the applicant.
3. In relation to seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants, the appropriateness of the procedures employed by the applicant in carrying out mixing operations.
4. The personnel and services that are available to the applicant.
5. Where the applicant is a corporate body or a partnership, the individual who is nominated as the point of contact (“the nominated contact”) within the organisation for all communications relating to compliance with the Seed Marketing Regulations and with these Regulations.
6. Where the activities carried out by the applicant include the preparation of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants, the individual who has direct responsibility for the mixing operations.

PART 2

Conditions which may be imposed on a registered person

7. In the case of a company, to notify the Department within 21 days of any change of the company’s name or the address of its registered office or any premises being used by it for the purpose of carrying on any seed industry activity.
8. In the case of a registered person other than a company, to notify the Department within 21 days of any change of address of, or of premises being used by, that person for the purpose of the carrying on any seed industry activity.
9. In the case of a corporate body or a partnership, to notify the Department within 21 days of any change regarding the nominated contact.
10. In the case of the preparation of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants, to notify the Department within 21 days of any change regarding the person with direct responsibility for the mixing operation.
11. To keep such records as the Department may require of his transactions in seeds and of the treatment, testing and other operations undertaken by him or on his behalf in relation to any seeds or their disposal including records relating to—
 - (a) seed crops;
 - (b) the date on which official labels are used (by reference to the unique label number) and the seed lots for which they are used;
 - (c) in the case of seed intended for marketing, the number and weight of seed lots processed and the date on which they are processed by species, category and level;
 - (d) the date on which official samples are taken from seed lots and the identity of the authorised officer or licensed seed sampler;

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- (e) the date on which official samples are despatched to a LSTS for testing;
 - (f) in the case of a seed lot that is officially certified for early movement, the date on which the interim seed test report is issued, the date of which the seed test report is issued and, in a case where the official germination test shows that the seed fails to meet the appropriate germination standard for seed of that species, the date on which the seller notifies the purchaser of the seed the position;
 - (g) the date on which and from whom he buys seed and the date on which and to whom he sells it (by crop identity number or seed lot reference number) and the weight of the seed bought or sold; and
 - (h) in the case of any seed which he treats chemically, the date on which the seed is so treated and details of the treatment applied.
12. To keep a register of seed mixtures intended for use as fodder plants.
13. To permit, at any reasonable time, an authorised officer to inspect and take copies of the records specified in paragraph 11 and of the register specified in paragraph 12.
14. To permit, at any reasonable time, an authorised officer to inspect the premises, machinery, equipment and facilities used by or available to the registered person for the carrying on of the seed industry activity in respect of which that person is registered.
15. To give the Department such other information as the Department may reasonably require in connection with the seed industry activity in respect of which the registered person is registered.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulations 10(1), 11(2) and 12(1)

LICENSED CROP INSPECTORS

PART 1

Species and categories of seed crop that may be inspected by a licensed crop inspector

1. All categories of seed of a species to which the Seed Marketing Regulations apply except pre-basic and basic seed.

PART 2

Functions that may be specified in a crop inspector's licence

2. To authenticate each seed lot sown to produce a seed crop and to record at least one label serial number used for such authentication.
3. To inspect crops in accordance with instructions from time to time issued by or on behalf of the Department for the purposes of the Seed Marketing Regulations to determine whether the crops meet the relevant standards prescribed in the Seed Marketing Regulations including—
 - (a) confirmation of the identity of the variety insofar as possible;
 - (b) the detection and recording of any species impurities or varietal impurities;
 - (c) the checking of compliance with isolation requirements; and
 - (d) the assessment of the general condition of the crop including—

- (i) whether the crop is in a suitable condition for inspection;
 - (ii) any pesticide spray damage that may have been caused to the crop; and
 - (iii) the existence of weeds and diseases.
4. To issue a field inspection report following the inspection of a seed crop in accordance with Seed Marketing Regulations
 5. To submit to the Department such other reports on the inspection of crops carried out by him as the Department may, from time to time, require.
 6. To keep records of crops inspected by him.
 7. To supervise other licensed crop inspectors as directed by the Department.

PART 3

Conditions that may be imposed by a crop inspector's licence

8. To carry out his functions as a licensed crop inspector subject to the supervision of authorised officers.
9. To carry out his functions as a licensed crop inspector subject to supervision by other licensed crop inspectors authorised by the Department in that behalf.
10. To carry out his functions as a licensed crop inspector in accordance with instructions relating thereto issued by or on behalf of the Department.
11. To maintain his expertise by making regular inspections of crops for the purpose of the Seed Marketing Regulations.
12. To attend such training courses and undergo such examinations on the official inspection of crops as the Department may, from time to time, require.
13. To notify the Department within 21 days of any change in his contact address.
14. To inspect not more than the maximum areas, if any, specified by the Department.

SCHEDULE 3

Regulations 17(1) and 18(2)(a) and (b)

LICENSED SEED SAMPLERS

PART 1

Species of seed that may be sampled by a licensed seed sampler

1. All seed of a species to which the Seed Marketing Regulations apply.

PART 2

Functions that may be specified in a seed sampler's licence

2. To sample seed in accordance with the Seed Marketing Regulations and to submit sealed samples of such seed for an official examination or examination under official supervision.

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3. To keep records of seed lots sampled by him and the methods of sampling used.
4. To keep records of the use by him of labels issued or authorised by the Department.
5. To ensure that packages of seed are labelled or re-labelled and sealed or re-sealed in accordance with the Seed Marketing Regulations.
6. To ensure that mixtures of seed are labelled or re-labelled and sealed or re-sealed in accordance with the Seed Marketing Regulations.
7. To ensure that sampling equipment, including automatic sampling devices, operated by him in carrying out his functions operates correctly at all times.

PART 3

Conditions that may be imposed by a seed sampler's licence

8. To carry out his functions subject to supervision by authorised officers.
9. To carry out his functions in accordance with any instructions relating thereto issued by or on behalf of the Department.
10. To attend such training courses and undergo such examinations as the Department may, from time to time, require.
11. To notify the Department within 21 days of any change in his residential address.

SCHEDULE 4

Regulations 24(3)(c), 25(1) and (3), 26(2)
and 27

LICENSED SEED TESTING STATIONS

PART 1

Licensing of laboratories: matters to be taken into account

1. The premises in which the laboratory is situated.
2. The equipment that is available at the laboratory for carrying out statutory seed testing.
3. The knowledge and qualifications—
 - (a) in seed testing and laboratory management of the Analyst in Charge; and
 - (b) in seed testing of any seed analystswho staff, or will staff, the laboratory in respect of which the application is made.

PART 2

Licensed seed testing station licence conditions

4. The licensed seed testing station shall have a person acting as the Analyst in Charge.
5. All statutory seed testing carried out at the licensed seed testing station shall be carried out by a seed analyst or the Analyst in Charge of the LSTS.

6. Any change regarding the person appointed to act as the Analyst in Charge of the licensed seed testing station or regarding the person in charge of the licensed seed testing station shall be notified to the Department within 21 days.

7. The premises in which the licensed seed testing station is maintained shall be satisfactory for the purpose of carrying out statutory seed testing and shall be equipped with equipment that enables the seed tests to be carried out in accordance with current international methods specified by the Department.

8. The licensed seed testing station shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by an authorised officer.

9. Statutory seed testing shall be carried out in accordance with current international methods specified by the Department.

10. A record shall be kept of all statutory seed tests carried out at the licensed seed testing station.

11. The records referred to in paragraph 7 shall be available for inspection at all reasonable times by an authorised officer.

12. A portion (in this Schedule called “the reserve portion”) of every sample of seed submitted for statutory seed testing shall be taken from the submitted sample in accordance with a method specified by the Department and shall be at least the prescribed minimum weight.

13. The reserve portion shall be placed in a bag and the bag shall be identified, sealed and retained under good storage conditions in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. It shall not be opened during the period specified in the instruction except by or on the authority of an authorised officer.

14. The reserve portion shall be delivered to an authorised officer on request.

SCHEDULE 5

Regulation 32(1)

SAMPLING

Obtaining a sample

1. A sample shall be obtained from the seed lot by taking primary samples systematically or at random from different positions in the lot and combining them to form a composite sample. The composite sample may be submitted for testing intact but if the composite sample is too large it may be reduced in weight by using a riffle divider or a centrifugal divider, to give the submitted sample.

Primary sample size

2. At each position of sampling of a seed lot, primary samples of approximately equal size shall be taken.

Condition of the Seed Lot

3. The seed lot to be sampled shall have been subject to appropriate mixing and blending techniques so that it is as uniform as practicable. There shall be no documentary or other evidence of heterogeneity. If a seed lot is presented for sampling in more than one container, the containers shall be of the same size and type and contain approximately the same weight of seed.

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4. When the seed lot is in sacks or similar sized containers each containing at least 15 kg of seed and not more than 100 kg of seed, the minimum number of containers to be sampled shall be in accordance with the following table—

<i>Number of containers in the lot</i>	<i>Minimum number of containers to be sampled</i>
1-4	3 primary samples from each container
5-8	2 primary samples from each container
9-15	1 primary sample from each container
16-30	A total of 15 primary samples with each sample being taken from a different container
31-59	A total of 20 primary samples with each sample being taken from a different container
60 or more	A total of 30 primary samples with each sample being taken from a different container

5. The containers to be sampled shall be selected systematically or at random and primary samples drawn from the top, middle and the bottom of containers, but not necessarily from more than one position in any container. The position from which the seed is taken shall be varied from container to container.

Sampling from small containers

6. For sampling seed lots in containers holding less than 15kg of seed, a 100kg weight of seed shall be taken as the basic unit and the small containers shall be combined to form sampling units not exceeding this weight (for example, eight packages of 12kg or twenty packages of 5kg). For sampling purposes each unit shall be regarded as one container and the sampling procedures prescribed in paragraphs 4 and 5 shall be used.

7. When seed is in moisture-proof containers the opened or pierced container shall be adequately closed or the residues from sampling transferred to new containers. When seeds are in packets of 100g or less each packet may be considered as a primary sample and sufficient shall be taken at random to obtain a submitted sample of the prescribed minimum weight.

Sampling from large containers or seed in bulk

8. For the sampling of containers holding more than 100kg of seed, and for the sampling of seed in bulk, primary samples shall be taken from different horizontal and vertical positions selected at random and the following shall be regarded as the minimum requirement—

<i>Lot weight</i>	<i>Number of primary samples to be taken</i>
Up to 500kg	At least five primary samples
501-3,000kg	One primary sample for each 300kg but not less than 5
3,001-20,000kg	One primary sample for each 500kg but not less than 10
20,001kg and above	One primary sample for each 700kg but not less than 40

Sampling from a seed stream

9. Samples may be drawn from a seed stream during processing using an automatic sampling device, which shall uniformly sample the entire cross-section of the seed stream when a sample is taken. Portions of seed shall be taken at regular intervals throughout the processing of the lot using the same sampling intensity for seed in bulk as specified in paragraph 8.

Sampling Instruments

10. Sampling instruments shall be capable of sampling all parts of the seed lot. A dynamic spear sampler, stick sampler, cargo sampler or seed stream sampler of the type specified in paragraphs 12 to 14, 15 to 17, 18 or 19 respectively shall be used, as appropriate to the location of the seed, to draw primary samples in accordance with the method described in paragraphs 21, 22 and 23, 24 or 25 respectively.

11. Where it is not practicable to use an instrument of the type referred to in paragraph 10 in accordance with a method referred to in paragraph 10 another instrument or method may be used at the discretion of the Department.

Dynamic spear sampler

12. A dynamic spear sampler may be used, in accordance with the method described in paragraph 21, for sampling seed in sacks or small containers. It shall be a hollow, cylindrical, solid-pointed metal spear or trier which shall be long enough to reach beyond the middle of the sack from the side and shall have an aperture so positioned that portions of seed of equal volume are removed from each part of the sack through which it travels

13. In sampling seed of the species specified in column (1) of the following table a dynamic spear sampler shall be used of a type specified in column (2) and the type of spear used in respect of each species shall not be smaller than the type specified in the corresponding entry in column (2)—

<i>(1)</i> <i>Species of seed</i>	<i>(2)</i> <i>Type of dynamic spear sampler</i>
Alaska brome-grass	B
Alsike clover	A
Annual meadowgrass	A
Asparagus	B
Barley	B
Beetroot	B
Birdsfoot trefoil	A
Black medick	A
Black mustard	A
Blue lupin (narrow leaved lupin)	C
Borecole	A
Broad bean	D
Brown mustard	A
Brown top	A

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<i>(1)</i> <i>Species of seed</i>	<i>(2)</i> <i>Type of dynamic spear sampler</i>
Brussels sprouts	A
Cabbage	A
Calabrese	A
Carrot	A
Cauliflower	A
Celeriac	A
Celery	A
Chard	A
Cheltenham beet	B
Chicory	A
Chinese cabbage	A
Cocksfoot	B
Common vetch	C
Creeping bent	A
Cucumber	B
Curley kale	A
Durum wheat	B
Endive	A
Festulolium	B
Field bean	C
Field pea (fodder pea)	C
Flax or linseed	B
Fodder beet	B
Fodder kale	A
Fodder radish	A
Fodder rape	A
French bean	D
Gerkin	B
Gourd	C
Hairy vetch	C
Hungarian vetch	C
Hybrid ryegrass	B
Italian ryegrass (including Westerwolds)	B
Kohl rabi	A

<i>(1)</i> <i>Species of seed</i>	<i>(2)</i> <i>Type of dynamic spear sampler</i>
Leaf beet	B
Leek	A
Lettuce	A
Linseed or flax	B
Lucerne	A
Maize	C
Mangel	B
Marrow	C
Meadow fescue	B
Melon	B
Narrow leaved lupin (blue lupin)	C
Oats	B
Oilseed rape	A
Onion	A
Parsley	A
Pea (vegetable)	C
Perennial ryegrass	B
Radish	A
Red beet (beetroot)	B
Red cabbage	A
Red clover	A
Red fescue	B
Red top	B
Rescue grass	B
Rough-stalked meadowgrass	A
Rye	D
Savoy cabbage	B
Sainfoin	A
Sheep's fescue	B
Small timothy	A
Smooth-stalked meadowgrass	A
Soya bean	C
Spelt wheat	B
Spinach	B

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<i>(1)</i> <i>Species of seed</i>	<i>(2)</i> <i>Type of dynamic spear sampler</i>
Spinach beet	B
Sprouting broccoli	A
Sugar beet	B
Sunflower	C
Swede	A
Swede rape	A
Sweet corn and pop corn	C
Tall fescue	B
Tall oatgrass	B
Timothy	A
Tomato	A
Trefoil	A
Triticale	B
Turnip	A
Turnip rape	A
Velvet bent	A
Wheat	B
Wood meadowgrass	A
White lupin	C
White clover	A
White mustard	A
Yellow lupin	C

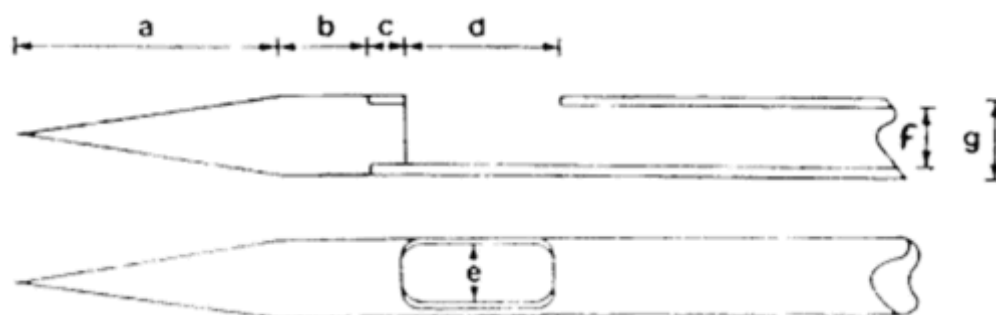
14. In the table set out in paragraph 13 references to type A, B, C and D instruments shall be construed as referring to instruments having a point length (a), shoulder length (b), boss length (c), aperture length (d), aperture width (e), bore width (f) and outside diameter (g) as shown in the diagram below of the dimensions specified in the corresponding entries in the following table—

<i>Type of Instrument</i>	<i>Point length</i>	<i>Shoulder length</i>	<i>Boss length</i>	<i>Aperture length</i>	<i>Aperture width</i>	<i>Bore Width</i>	<i>Outside diameter</i>
	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>	<i>mm</i>
	<i>(a)</i>	<i>(b)</i>	<i>(c)</i>	<i>(d)</i>	<i>(e)</i>	<i>(f)</i>	<i>(g)</i>
A	42	7	8	20	8	10	12
B	85	12	10	33	11	13	15
C	82	12	13	40	15	17	19

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Type of Instrument	Point length	Shoulder length	Boss length	Aperture length	Aperture width	Bore Width	Outside diameter
	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
D	78	15	15	40	18	20	22

Dimensions (mm)

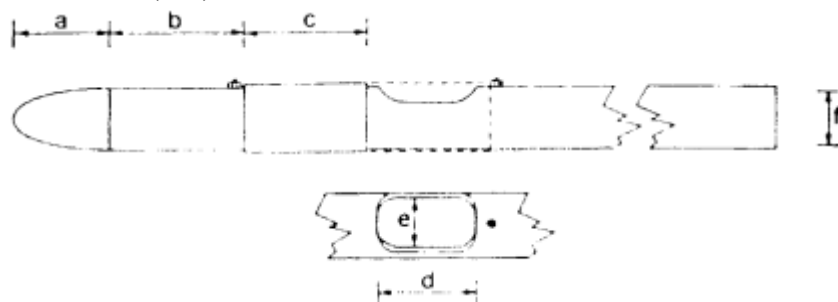


Stick Samplers

15. A stick sampler may be used for drawing primary samples if it has an aperture or apertures of sufficient size to allow the unrestricted entry of seed or other particles and is capable of being opened and closed during the sampling procedure as appropriate to the method of use described in paragraph 22 or 23.

16. A single chamber type stick sampler may be used for sampling seed in open sacks, in large containers or in bulk.

Dimensions (mm)



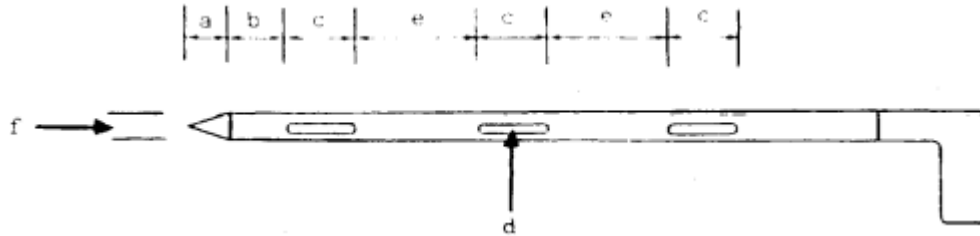
	Point	Shoulder	Sliding Sleeve	Aperture Length	Aperture Width	Bore
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Seeds in sacks	55	25	75	50	22	25
Seeds in containers holding more than 100kg, or in bulk	100	390	63	50	22	30

17. A multi-chamber type stick sampler may be used to sample seed in sacks or, subject to the requirements of paragraph 10 above, any other containers. The apertures shall open into chambers

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that shall be separated from one another by transverse partitions. The contents of each chamber shall be regarded as a primary sample.

Dimensions (mm)



	<i>Point</i>	<i>Shoulder</i>	<i>Sliding Sleeve</i>	<i>Aperture Length</i>	<i>Aperture Width</i>	<i>Bore</i>
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
All species	60	50	100	15	110	25

Cargo sampler

18. A cargo sampler may be used to draw primary samples of seed in accordance with the method described in paragraph 24 for sampling seed in large containers or bulk and shall only be used in the vertical position.

Seed stream sampler

19. A seed stream sampler may be used to draw primary samples if it uniformly samples the cross-section of the seed stream without any loss of the seed that enter the sampler, in accordance with the method described in paragraph 25. Timing devices shall be attached so that the frequency and duration of sampling can be adjusted to meet the requirements of paragraph 9.

Methods of use

20. All instruments shall be clean before use.

Dynamic seed sampler

21.—(1) In the case of a dynamic spear sampler in which the aperture reaches only to the centre of the sack or small container—

- (a) the instrument shall be inserted into the sack in an upward direction at an angle of approximately 30 degrees to the horizontal with its aperture downwards until the aperture reaches the centre of the sack or container;
- (b) it shall be lightly tapped to remove any seed taken in and then rotated to bring the aperture uppermost;
- (c) it shall be withdrawn immediately with a vibratory or oscillatory motion and at a decreasing speed so that the quantity of seed obtained from successive locations increases progressively from the centre to the side of the sack; and
- (d) seed passing through the instrument shall be collected in a clean container.

(2) In the case of a dynamic spear sampler in which the aperture reaches to the far side of the sack or small container—

- (a) the spear shall be inserted in the manner described in sub-paragraph (1) until its aperture reaches almost to the far side of the sack or container;
- (b) it shall be tapped and rotated in the manner described in sub-paragraph (1) and then withdrawn at a uniform speed; and
- (c) the seed passing through the instrument shall be collected in a clean container.

Single chamber type stick sampler

22. In the case of a single chamber type stick sampler
- (a) the sleeve shall move freely;
 - (b) the instrument shall be inserted vertically downwards till the aperture reaches the appropriate primary sampling position ensuring that the sleeve covers the aperture as it enters the seed;
 - (c) the instrument shall be withdrawn sufficiently to uncover the aperture;
 - (d) the instrument shall be left in position until the primary sample has been collected; and
 - (e) the instrument shall be withdrawn and the contents emptied into a clean container.

Multi-chamber type stick sampler

23. In the case of a multi-chamber type stick sampler—
- (a) the apertures shall be closed before insertion;
 - (b) the instrument shall be inserted diagonally into sacks or vertically into large containers so that all apertures are fully covered;
 - (c) the apertures shall be opened;
 - (d) the instrument shall be agitated so that seed enters;
 - (e) the apertures shall be closed gently to ensure that trapped seed is not broken or damaged;
 - (f) the instrument shall be withdrawn and if the chambers are full the contents shall be emptied onto a clean surface or into a clean container; and
 - (g) if all the chambers are not full, the contents shall be discarded and procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (a) to (f) shall be repeated.

Cargo sampler

24. In the case of a cargo sampler
- (a) the lid shall open and close easily;
 - (b) the instrument shall be inserted with the lid closed to the appropriate primary sampling position which shall be at least 300 mm below the surface of the seed;
 - (c) the handle shall be raised sufficiently to open the lid;
 - (d) the instrument shall be left in position until the primary sample has been collected; and
 - (e) the instrument shall be withdrawn and the contents shall be emptied into a clean container.

Seed stream samplers

25. In the case of a seed stream sampler, the instrument shall take the number of primary samples necessary for the weight of the seed lot being sampled, the primary samples being taken from the seed lot at regular intervals and the resultant composite sample being of a weight not less than the prescribed minimum weight and not greater than can conveniently be reduced by means of one of

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the methods of sample reduction described in paragraph 31. They shall be installed in such a way that the composite sample can be readily identified with the seed lot from which it was taken.

Obtaining a submitted sample—composite sample division instruments

26. Provided the composite sample is of at least the prescribed minimum weight for the relevant species of seed, it may be used as the submitted sample.

27. Where the composite sample exceeds the prescribed minimum weight for the submitted sample, a riffle divider of the type specified in paragraph 28 or a centrifugal divider of the type specified in paragraph 30 may be used to obtain a submitted sample. Other instruments and methods may be used at the discretion of the Department.

Riffle divider

28. The riffle divider shall consist of a rectangular hopper leading to a series of evenly spaced chutes, arranged so that seed is distributed equally on two sides. There shall be a minimum of 18 chutes, each discharging in the opposite direction to its immediate neighbour. Three (or more) metal collecting vessels (pans) of sufficient depth to prevent seed bouncing out shall be used.

Method of use

29.—(1) The method of using a riffle divider shall be as follows—

- (a) the divider shall be placed on a firm level surface;
 - (b) the divider and pans shall be clean;
- (2) For sample mixing—
- (a) an empty pan shall be placed on each side of the divider to receive the discharge from the chutes;
 - (b) the entire composite sample shall be poured evenly into the other pan(s);
 - (c) the seed shall then be poured from the pan(s) evenly along the entire length of the hopper;
 - (d) the two pans into which the seed has passed shall then be replaced with empty pans;
 - (e) the procedures described at sub-paragraphs (a) and (d) shall then be repeated twice to mix the sample thoroughly;
- (3) For sample reduction—
- (a) before reduction, the composite samples shall have been thoroughly mixed using procedures described at sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (e). The contents of one of the two receiving pans shall then be set aside. If the seed in the second pan is of at least the prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample of a particular species of seed, it may be used as the submitted sample. If the weight of seed in the second pan is greater than the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, it may be reduced using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (b) to (d);
 - (b) an empty pan shall be placed on each side of the divider to receive the discharge from the chutes;
 - (c) the contents of the second pan shall be poured evenly along the entire length of the hopper;
 - (d) the contents of one of the two pans into which the seed has been passed shall then be set aside. If the weight of seed in the other pan is still greater than the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for the submitted sample, it may be submitted intact or it may be reduced further using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (b) to (d);

- (e) if the weight of seed in either of the two pans at either (a) or (d) is less than the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (f) to (j) shall be used;
 - (f) an empty pan shall be placed on each side of the divider to receive the discharge from the chutes;
 - (g) the contents of one of the pans shall be set aside. The contents of the other pan shall be poured evenly along the entire length of the hopper;
 - (h) one receiving pan and its contents shall then be removed and replaced with an empty pan. The other pan, with its contents, shall be left in place;
 - (i) the contents of the pan removed at (h) shall be poured evenly along the entire length of the hopper so that two subsamples of different weight shall be produced;
 - (j) the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (h) and (i) when repeated, constitute the process of continuous halving, and shall be repeated using whichever subsample is appropriate until sufficient seed is obtained in one pan, which when added to the seed set aside at (g) produces a submitted sample of at least the appropriate prescribed minimum weight;
- (4) To obtain more than one submitted sample—
- (a) two submitted samples shall be obtained from a composite sample by first obtaining a sample of at least twice the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (e) and (3)(a) to (j) as appropriate, and then dividing it into two parts by passing it once through the divider;
 - (b) when three submitted samples are required from one composite sample, one sample of at least the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, shall be extracted using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (e) and (3)(a) to (j) as appropriate. All portions of seed which have been set aside shall then be recombined and the residue of the composite sample so obtained shall be subject to the procedure specified at sub-paragraph (a).

Centrifugal divider

30. The centrifugal divider shall consist of a hopper from which the seed flows on to a shallow cup that is then rotated by an electric motor. The seed shall be distributed by centrifugal force onto a stationary baffle that divides it into two equal parts that are then discharged through separate spouts. Four metal collecting vessels (pans) of sufficient depth to prevent seed bouncing out shall be used.

Method of use

- 31.—(1) The method of using a centrifugal divider shall be as follows—
- (a) the divider shall be levelled prior to use;
 - (b) the divider and pans shall be clean;
- (2) For sample mixing—
- (a) an empty pan shall be placed under each spout of the divider;
 - (b) the entire composite sample shall be poured into the centre of the hopper;
 - (c) the motor shall be operated so that the seed passes into the pans;
 - (d) the motor shall be switched off;
 - (e) the two pans containing seed shall be removed and replaced by empty ones;

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- (f) the contents of both pans removed at (e) shall be poured together into the centre of the hopper, the seed being allowed to blend as it flows in. The procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (c), (d) and (e) shall be repeated;
 - (g) the procedure specified in sub-paragraph (f) shall be repeated to mix the sample thoroughly;
- (3) For sample reduction—
- (a) before reduction, the composite sample shall have been thoroughly mixed using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (g). The contents of one of the two receiving pans shall then be set aside. If the seed in the second pan is of at least the prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample of a particular species of seed, it may be used as the submitted sample. If the weight of seed in the second pan is greater than the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, it may be reduced using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (b) to (d);
 - (b) empty pans shall be placed under the spouts;
 - (c) the contents of the second pan shall be poured into the hopper and the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(c) and (d) shall be repeated;
 - (d) the contents of one of the two pans into which the seed has passed shall then be set aside. If the weight of seed in the other pan is still greater than the appropriate minimum prescribed weight for a submitted sample, it may be submitted intact or it may be reduced further using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (b) to (d);
 - (e) if the weight of seed in either of the two pans at either (a) or (d) is less than the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (f) to (j) shall be used;
 - (f) empty pans shall be placed under the spouts;
 - (g) the contents of one of the pans shall be set aside, the contents of the other pan shall be poured into the centre of the hopper and the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2) (c) and (d) shall be repeated;
 - (h) one receiving pan and its contents shall then be removed and replaced with an empty pan; the other pan, with its contents, shall be left in place;
 - (i) the contents of the pan removed at (h) shall be poured into the centre of the hopper and the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(c) and (d) shall be repeated so that two sub-samples of different weight shall be produced;
 - (j) the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (h) and (i) above, when repeated, constitute the process of continuous halving, and shall be repeated using whichever sub-sample is appropriate until sufficient seed is obtained in one pan, which when added to the seed set aside at (g) produces a submitted sample of at least the appropriate prescribed minimum weight;
- (4) To obtain more than one submitted sample—
- (a) two submitted samples shall be obtained from a composite sample by first obtaining a sample of at least twice the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (g) and (3)(a) to (j) as appropriate, and then dividing it into two parts by passing it once through the divider;
 - (b) when three submitted samples are required from one composite sample, one sample, of at least the appropriate prescribed minimum weight for a submitted sample, shall be extracted using the procedures specified in sub-paragraphs (2)(a) to (g) and (3)(a) to (j) as appropriate. All portions of seed which have been set aside shall then be recombined and the residue of the composite sample so obtained shall be subject to the procedure specified in sub-paragraph (a).

Moisture sample

32. Primary samples of seed for moisture tests shall be drawn in such a way as to minimise exposure to the atmosphere. The composite moisture sample so collected may, if his licence permits it, be tested by a licensed seed sampler but shall in any other case be submitted intact to the testing station in an airtight container. It shall not be passed through a seed divider. Seed for moisture tests shall be kept separate from seed on which other determinations are to be made.

SCHEDULE 6

Regulation 33

CERTIFICATE OF THE TAKING OF A SAMPLE OF SEEDS

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965—Section 9(3)
 The Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
 The Cereal Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Certificate of the taking of a sample of seeds taken under section 8(3) of the act.

I certify that in taking the sample referred to above I have used one of the methods of sampling prescribed in the appropriate part of Schedule 5 of the Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Signed:

Name (in block letters):

Date:

10. Date received at OSTs

11. Mixtures: (enter details as appropriate)

Species				
Varieties				
Prop. by weight				
Ref. No. of lot				
Species				
Varieties				
Prop. by weight				
Ref. No. of lot				

12. Moisture sample taken
 13. Country of production
 14. Should the result be sent To these premises?

Yes	no
Yes	no

If no, please state name and address for result to be sent to:

Post code:

Sample taken on the premises of (name):	
Address:	
Postcode:	
1. Species	
2. Variety	
3. Category	(b) Level (specify)
4. Date of sampling	
5. Seed lot reference number	
6. Quantity sampled (ie total weight of seed from which the sample was taken)	7. Treatment (specify trade name)
8. Date of sampling	
9. Date of sampling	

15. Sample taken from (please specify type of container)—

16. Remarks

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).

SCHEDULE 7

Regulation 33

CERTIFICATES OF THE RESULTS OF TESTS OF SEEDS

PART 1

Cereal seeds

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 – Section 7(3)
 The Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
 The Cereal Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Report of the Official Seed Testing Station for Northern Ireland on a sample taken under Section 8(3) of the Act.

On the premises of (Name and address)

	Official Station Sample No.	_____
	Control Sample No.	_____
	Date received at Station	_____
	Date of sampling	_____
	Quantity sampled	_____

Description Species		Variety	
Category and level		Reference No.	

Result of test	% pure seed	% inert matter	% other seeds	% solid additives
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Inert matter
Other seeds

No. of seeds	500g	Further 500g	Total 1 kg	Total 3kg
Other cultivated cereal spp.				
Spp other than cultivated cereals				
Total				
<i>Avena fatua, A. ludoviciana, A. sterilis</i>				
<i>Lolium temulentum</i>				
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>				
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>				
<i>Agropyron repens</i>				
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>				

Number of pieces	Ergot				
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Loose smut infection % in	Embryos examined	Pre-treated for dormancy
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Germination %	Fresh seed %	Moisture content %
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Varietal purity declared variety %	Other varieties %	Date
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Remarks:

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CHIEF OFFICER

PART 2

Fodder plant seed

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 – Section 7(3)
 The Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
 The Fodder Plant Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Report of the Official Seed Testing Station for Northern Ireland on a sample taken under Section 8(3) of the Act.

On the premises of (Name and address)

	Official Station Sample No.	
	Control Sample No.	
	Date received at Station	
	Date of sampling	
	Quantity sampled	

Description		Variety	
Species			
Category and level		Reference No.	

Result of test				% <i>Agropyron repens</i>	% <i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>
% pure seed	% inert matter	% other seeds	% solid additives	% <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	% <i>Sinapis arvensis</i>
Inert matter					
Other seeds					% <i>Melilotus spp</i>

No. of seeds		
	<i>Agropyron repens</i>	
	<i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>	
	<i>Avena fatua, A. ludoviciana, A. sterilis</i>	
	<i>Cuscuta spp.</i>	
	<i>Melilotus spp</i>	
	<i>Rumex spp. other than R. acetosella and R. maritimus</i>	

No. of seeds infected with Ascochyta Fabae in		seeds examined	
Germination %	Hard seed %	Fresh seed %	
Varietal purity, declared variety %	Other varieties %	Date	
Remarks:			

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Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).

PART 3

Beet seeds

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 – Section 7(3)
 The Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
 The Beet Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Report of the Official Seed Testing Station for Northern Ireland on a sample taken under Section 8(3) of the Act.

On the premises of (Name and address)

	Official Station Sample No.	_____
	Control Sample No.	_____
	Date received at Station	_____
	Date of sampling	_____
	Quantity sampled	_____

Description
 Species Variety

Category Reference No.

Result of test

% pure seed	% inert matter	% other seeds	% solid additives

Inert matter
 Other seeds

Germination %

Germinated clusters with—

One seedling	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> %
Two seedlings	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> %
Three or more seedlings	<input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/> %

Moisture content % Date

Remarks:

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PART 4

Vegetable seeds

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 – Section 7(3)
The Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
The Vegetable Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Report of the Official Seed Testing Station for Northern Ireland on a sample taken under Section 8(3) of the Act.

On the premises of (Name and address)

	Official Station Sample No.	_____
	Control Sample No.	_____
	Date received at Station	_____
	Date of sampling	_____
	Quantity sampled	_____

Description
Species Variety

Category Reference No.

Result of test

% pure seed	% inert matter	% other seeds	% solid additives
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Inert matter

Other seeds

Germination % Fresh seed %

No. of seeds infected with _____ in _____ Seeds examined

_____ _____ Date

_____ _____

Remarks:

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Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).

PART 5

Oil and fibre plant seeds

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Seeds Act (Northern Ireland) 1965 – Section 7(3)
 The Seed (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
 The Oil and Fibre Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Report of the Official Seed Testing Station for Northern Ireland on a sample taken under Section 8(3) of the Act.

On the premises of (Name and address)

	Official Station Sample No.	
	Control Sample No.	
	Date received at Station	
	Date of sampling	
	Quantity sampled	

Description Species		Variety	
Category		Reference No.	

Result of test	% pure seed	% inert matter	% other seeds	% solid additives
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Inert matter	
Other seeds	
No. of seeds	

Other plant species.		
<i>Avena fatua, A. ludoviciana, A. sterilis</i>		
<i>Cuscuta spp.</i>		
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>		
<i>Rumex spp. other than Rumex. acetosella</i>		
<i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>		
<i>Lolium remotum</i>		
Number of pieces	Sclerotia of <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i>	

Germination % Fresh seed % Date

Remarks: _____

CHIEF OFFICER

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations come into operation on 31 December 2009. They revoke and replace the Seeds (Registration, Licensing and Enforcement) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994 (S.R. 1994 No. 253).

These Regulations continue to prohibit a person from engaging in the seed industry activity (Regulation 2) unless he has been registered by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (Regulation 3). Provision continues to request the termination of registrations (regulation 7). Any breach of the conditions of registration may lead to revocation (regulation 8).

There is continued provision to license crop inspectors (regulation 11) and also for a crop inspector to apply to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. to have his licence varied (regulation 12(1)) or terminated (regulation 13) and the Department can continue to be able to vary the licence in any event (regulation 12(4)). The Department has the power to suspend or revoke the licence (regulation 14).

The Regulations continue arrangements to license seed samplers (regulation 18). The power of the Department to vary the licence continues (regulation 19) and the licensee can apply to the Department for the termination of his license (regulation 20). The Department has the power to suspend or revoke the licence (regulation 21).

There is continued provision to license seed testing stations (regulation 25). The person in charge may now apply to vary the licence (regulation 26(1)) and the Department continues to be able to vary it in any event (regulation 26(4)). The licence may now be suspended or revoked not only for breach of conditions of the licence but also if any seed analyst or the analyst in charge of the license seed testing station is unfit (regulation 29).

The Department is required to keep a list of registered persons (regulation 9), a list of licensed crop inspectors (regulation 15), a list of licensed seed samplers (regulation 22) and a list of LSTSs (regulation 30).

Regulation 32 gives provision for enforcement of seeds regulations and gives requirements relating to sampling. Arrangements are in place for any person under the responsibility of the Department to carry out official measures (regulation 34) and for fees to be charged in that connection (regulation 35).

The right to make representations is expanded to cover the categories set out in regulation 36(1). The Department will not proceed with a refusal, variation, suspension or revocation until the person concerned has had an opportunity to make representations, except that she may suspend a licence with immediate effect if the Department considers it necessary. The right of appeal to the Tribunal is correspondingly expanded, with some exceptions (regulation 36(9)).

The Regulations also include provisions regulating the sampling of seed lots for the purposes of the Beet Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, the Cereal Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, the Fodder Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, the Oil and Fibre Plant Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, and the Vegetable Seeds Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009.

No impact assessment has been for this Rule, as it effects no significant change to the regulation of the seed market in Northern Ireland.