
 S T A T U T O R Y I N S T R U M E N T S

1976 No. 1068

SEEDS

The Beet Seeds Regulations 1976

Made - - - 5th July 1976

Laid before Parliament 15th July 1976

Coming into Operation 5th August 1976

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers vested in them by sections 16(1), (1A), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (8), 17(1), (2), (3) and (4), 24(5), 26(2) and (3) and 36 of the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964(a) as amended by section 4(1) of, and paragraph 5(1), (2) and (3) of Schedule 4 to, the European Communities Act 1972(b) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, after consultation with representatives of such interests as appear to them to be concerned, hereby make the following regulations:—

Application, citation and commencement

1. These Regulations, which apply to Great Britain, may be cited as the Beet Seeds Regulations 1976, and shall come into operation on 5th August 1976.

Revocation of previous Regulations

2. The Beet Seeds Regulations 1974(c) are hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3.—(1) A reference in these Regulations to a numbered regulation or schedule shall be construed as a reference to the regulation or schedule bearing that number in these Regulations.

(2) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“ The Act ” means the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964 as amended by section 4(1) of and Schedule 4 to the European Communities Act 1972;

“ beet seeds ” means seeds of the description specified in Schedule 1;

“ Common Catalogue ” means the Common Catalogue of varieties of kinds of agricultural plants published in the Official Journal of the European Communities;

“ maintainer ” means a person who is indicated in a National List or in the Common Catalogue as responsible for the maintenance of the beet variety;

“ marketing ” includes, as the context shall permit, the offer for sale, exposure for sale, sale and possession with a view to sale of seeds, and any transaction in the course of business—

(a) under which the property in seeds is transferred from one person to another, or

(a) 1964 c. 14.

(b) 1972 c. 68.

(c) S.I. 1974/898 (1974 II, p. 3442).

(b) under which the seeds are made over by one person to another in pursuance of a contract under which the seeds will be used for producing further seeds or for producing plants or parts of plants for human or animal consumption, and “market” and “marketed” shall be construed accordingly;

“Member State” means a member state of the European Communities;

“the Minister” means, in relation to England and Wales, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and, in relation to Scotland, the Secretary of State, and “the Ministers” means the said two Ministers acting jointly;

“monogerm seeds” means genetically monogerm seeds with the percentage of the germinated clusters producing single seedlings being not less than the minimum specified in Part II of Schedule 2;

“National List” means a list of varieties of kinds of beet published in accordance with The Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) Regulations 1973(a) or any Regulations made under the Act by which the same may be superseded;

“official examination” means an examination carried out by or on behalf of the Minister, subject to the payment of any fee imposed by Regulations made under the Act, an examination carried out by or on behalf of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland or, in relation to seeds harvested elsewhere than in the United Kingdom, an examination approved by the Minister;

“official label” and “official notice” mean respectively a label and a notice prepared by or on behalf of the Minister;

“precision seeds” means seeds intended for use in precision drills with the percentage of seeds producing single seedlings being not less than the minimum specified in Part II of Schedule 2;

“seeds” means beet seeds;

“small package” means a package of seeds containing no more than a net weight of 2.5 kilograms of seeds other than pelleted seeds or of 12.5 kilograms of pelleted seeds;

“small EEC package” means a package of certified seeds containing—
 (a) in the case of monogerm or precision seeds, not more than 100,000 clusters or no more than a net weight of 2.5 kilograms, and
 (b) in the case of seeds other than monogerm or precision seeds, no more than a net weight of 10 kilograms,
 excluding in each case the weight of any granulated pesticides, pelleting substances or other solid additives.

(3) In these Regulations, in relation to the categories of seeds referred to herein—

“pre-basic seeds” means seeds of a generation earlier than that of basic seeds—

(a) which have been produced by or under the responsibility of the maintainer,

(b) which are intended for the production of pre-basic seeds, uncertified pre-basic seeds, basic seeds or certified seeds, and

(c) which satisfy the requirements for basic seeds set out in Schedule 2 and which have on an official examination been found to satisfy those requirements;

“uncertified pre-basic seeds” means seeds of a generation earlier than that of basic seeds—

- (a) which have been produced in the United Kingdom by or under the responsibility of the maintainer, and
- (b) which are intended for the production of pre-basic seeds, uncertified pre-basic seeds or basic seeds;

“basic seeds” means seeds—

- (a) which have been produced by or under the responsibility of the maintainer,
- (b) which are intended for the production of certified seeds, and
- (c) which satisfy the requirements for basic seeds set out in Schedule 2 and which have on an official examination been found to satisfy those requirements;

“certified seeds” means seeds—

- (a) which have been produced directly from basic seeds,
- (b) which are intended to be used mainly for the production of plants or parts of plants for human or animal consumption, and
- (c) which satisfy the requirements for certified seeds set out in Schedule 2 and which have on an official examination been found to satisfy those requirements.

(4) The Interpretation Act 1889^(a) shall apply to the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as if these Regulations and the Regulations hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

Seeds to which the Regulations apply

4.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this regulation, these Regulations apply to seeds intended to be used only for the production of agricultural or horticultural crops.

(2) These Regulations shall not apply to—

- (a) seeds which are marketed for delivery elsewhere than in a Member State,
- (b) seeds used or to be used for research or experiment,
- (c) seeds used or to be used in the course of a process of selection, and
- (d) seeds which are marketed with a view to processing, treatment or cleaning, provided that the identity of the seeds is stated by the person by whom they are marketed.

(3) Where a person makes arrangements under which some other person uses seeds under the control of the first-mentioned person for the purpose of increasing the first-mentioned person's stock of seeds for sowing or of carrying out tests or trials and under which the whole of the material produced, directly or indirectly, from the seeds, and any unused seeds, become or remain the property of the first-mentioned person these Regulations shall not apply to the marketing of the seeds by the first-mentioned person to the other person as part of the arrangements or to the marketing by that other person to the first-mentioned person of seeds produced, directly or indirectly, from those seeds.

(a) 1889 c.63.

Marketing of Seeds

5.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this regulation no person shall market any seeds unless they are seeds of plant varieties which may be marketed in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) Regulations 1973 or any other Regulations made whereby the same may be superseded and unless they are—

- (a) pre-basic seeds, uncertified pre-basic seeds, basic seeds or certified seeds,
- (b) seeds which have been produced, packaged and officially sealed in a Member State other than the United Kingdom and labelled appropriately in accordance with the requirements of regulation 9(1), (2), (3), (5), (8) and (10),
- (c) seeds which have been produced elsewhere than in a Member State and which are marketed in accordance with and subject to the conditions imposed by a general licence granted by the Ministers under the authority of this paragraph.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this regulation shall not prevent the marketing of kinds of varieties of beet seeds included in mixtures of seeds permitted by the Fodder Plant Seeds Regulations 1974(a), or any other Regulations whereby the same may be superseded, where each of the constituents to which these Regulations apply consists of either basic seeds or certified seeds marketed in accordance with paragraph (1) of this regulation.

(3) The Minister may, by a general licence taking effect during a period specified in the licence and subject to any conditions imposed by the licence,

- (a) authorise any person to market as pre-basic seeds, basic seeds or certified seeds, seeds which fail in some respect to satisfy the requirements for such seeds set out in Schedule 2,
- (b) modify the labelling requirements set out in Schedule 5,
- (c) authorise any person to market seeds which, notwithstanding the requirements of the Seeds (National Lists of Varieties) Regulations 1973 or any other regulations made whereby the same may be superseded, are of a variety not entered in a National List or in the Common Catalogue,

provided that in all other respects, unless expressly otherwise provided, the provisions of these Regulations shall apply in relation to the marketing of the seeds.

(4) Any person may market in relation to a sale or proposed sale to a person engaged in the business of trading in seeds other than by way of retail sale seeds which have been imported from a country other than a Member State notwithstanding that such marketing would otherwise be prohibited by virtue of paragraph 1(c) of this regulation.

(5) Notwithstanding the requirement in Part II of Schedule 2 that basic seeds shall attain the minimum standards of germination specified in the said Schedule any person may, subject to the requirements of regulation 9(2)(b) and (6), market as pre-basic seeds or basic seeds, seeds which in other respects satisfy the requirements for basic seeds set out in the said Schedule but which attain a lower percentage of germination than that specified in the said Schedule in relation to seeds of that kind.

(a) S.I. 1974/897 (1974 II, p. 3414).

(6) In a case where the official examination in respect of the germination of a proposed consignment of seeds has not been completed, but a preliminary test of germination has shown that the seeds attain the appropriate minimum standard of germination specified in Schedule 2 and the seeds in other respects satisfy the appropriate requirements of the said Schedule, the seeds may, subject to the requirements of regulations 9(6) and 10, be sold. In the event of any such sale the seller of the seeds shall, upon or before delivering them to the purchaser, provide him with a statement that the seeds are marketed before the completion of the official germination test together with the result of the preliminary test of germination, and shall provide him with the result of the completed official test as soon as practicable, and in any case not later than seven days after being informed of the result.

(7) Paragraphs (5) and (6) of this regulation shall not apply to seeds which have been imported from a country other than a Member State unless they were produced directly from pre-basic seeds or basic seeds certified in a Member State.

Sampling

6.—(1) A sample of seeds taken for the purposes of an official examination or, subject to paragraph (3) of this regulation, for the enforcement of these Regulations shall be taken in accordance with the procedure set out in Part I of Schedule 3.

(2) A sample of seeds taken for the enforcement of these regulations shall be divided into three parts of which one part shall be delivered or sent to the owner of the seeds or his representative, one part shall be delivered or sent to the Chief Officer of an Official Seed Testing Station and the remaining part shall be retained and be available for production to a court in accordance with section 26(7) of the Act: provided that where it appears to the person taking the sample that the seeds from which the sample has been taken were purchased for use and not for resale, the first part of the sample shall be delivered or sent to the last seller of the seeds or his representative in place of the owner of the seeds or his representative.

(3) The size of a sample taken for the enforcement of these Regulations shall be such as to ensure that each of the parts into which it is divided is of not less than the minimum size indicated in Part II of Schedule 3 and the sample shall be divided accordingly.

Certificates of taking and testing of a sample

7.—(1) A certificate in the form set out in Part I of Schedule 4 of the taking of a sample of seeds, adapted as appropriate for use either in England and Wales or in Scotland, is hereby prescribed in accordance with section 26(3) of the Act.

(2) A certificate in the form set out in Part II of Schedule 4 of the result of a test of a sample of seeds taken for the enforcement of these Regulations, adapted as appropriate for use either in England and Wales or in Scotland, is hereby prescribed in accordance with section 24(5) of the Act.

Sealing of packages

8.—(1) No person shall market in accordance with regulation 5(1)(a) a package of seeds (other than a package of uncertified pre-basic seeds, a small package or a small EEC package) unless it has been, not later than at the time of sampling, sealed by a person authorised by the Minister in that behalf, with a sealing device (which may be an adhesive label) in such a manner that when the package is opened the sealing device will be broken and cannot be re-used.

(2) If a package of seeds which has been sealed in accordance with paragraph (1) of this regulation or imported in accordance with regulation 5(1)(b) or 5(1)(c) shall have been opened it may not be re-sealed or further re-sealed except by a person authorised by the Minister in that behalf.

(3) No person shall market a package of uncertified pre-basic seeds, a small package or a small EEC package in accordance with regulation 5(1)(a) unless it has been sealed with a sealing device approved by the Minister in such a manner that when the package is opened the sealing device is broken and cannot be re-used.

(4) If a small EEC package which has been sealed in accordance with paragraph (3) of this regulation or imported in accordance with regulation 5(1)(b) shall have been opened it may not be re-sealed or further re-sealed except by or under the supervision of a person authorised by the Minister in that behalf.

Labelling of packages

9.—(1) Subject to paragraph (9) of this regulation no person shall market any seeds in accordance with regulation 5(1)(a) except in a package which is labelled, inscribed or otherwise dealt with in accordance with this regulation.

(2) (a) A package of pre-basic seeds, a package other than a small package of basic seeds and a package other than a small EEC package of certified seeds shall have affixed on the outside an official label containing, as appropriate to the seeds, particulars of the matters specified, and being of the size and colour also specified, in Part I of Schedule 5, which shall be either an adhesive label or a label secured to the package by an alternative sealing device and shall be affixed in either case by a person authorised by the Minister in that behalf.

(b) If in accordance with regulation 5(5) a person shall market basic seeds of a lower percentage of germination than that specified in Schedule 2 the fact shall be stated on the official label.

(3) A package of pre-basic seeds, a package other than a small package of basic seeds, and a package other than a small EEC package of certified seeds, shall contain an official notice which shall be of the same colour as the official label and shall contain particulars of the matters specified in the items numbered 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11 in Part IA of Schedule 5: provided that if such particulars are printed indelibly on the outside of the package or if the official label is an adhesive label the official notice referred to in this paragraph shall not be required.

(4) A package of uncertified pre-basic seeds shall have affixed on the outside a label containing, as appropriate to the seeds, particulars of the matters specified and being of the colour also specified in Part II of Schedule 5: provided that if such particulars are printed indelibly on the outside of the package the said label shall not be required.

(5) (a) Sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph shall have effect until the 30th June 1977.

(b) A small package of basic seeds shall have affixed on the outside a label containing, as appropriate to the seeds, particulars of the matters specified and being of the colour also specified in Part II of Schedule 5: provided that if such particulars are printed indelibly on the outside of the package the said label shall not be required.

(c) A small package of certified seeds shall have affixed on the outside a label containing, as appropriate to the seeds, particulars of the matters specified and being of the colour also specified in Part II of Schedule 5: provided that if such particulars are indelibly printed on the outside of the package the said label shall not be required.

(d) A small EEC package shall bear on the outside a supplier's label, blue in colour, or a printed notice or a stamp containing, as appropriate to the seeds, particulars of the matters specified in Part III of Schedule 5: provided that if the packaging material is transparent a label of the said colour and containing the said particulars may be placed inside the package in such a manner as to be readable from the outside.

(6) If a person shall market seeds in accordance with regulation 5(5) or 5(6) a supplier's label affixed to the outside of the package shall, where the seeds are marketed in accordance with regulation 5(5), contain a statement of the germination of the seeds and, where the seeds are marketed in accordance with regulation 5(6), contain a statement of the germination of the seeds as ascertained on the preliminary germination test, together in either case with the name and address of the seller and the reference number of the lot.

(7) If a package of seeds shall have been re-sealed in accordance with regulation 8(2) the fact shall be stated, together with the date of the re-sealing and the name of the authority responsible for it, on the official label.

(8) If any seeds have been subjected to any chemical treatment the fact that they have been so subjected and the nature of the treatment or the proprietary name of the chemical employed shall be stated either—

(a) on the label referred to in paragraphs (2), (4) or (5) of this regulation or, where such a label is not required, with the particulars otherwise given in accordance with those paragraphs, or

(b) on a separate supplier's label,

and also, except where the label referred to in the said paragraphs (2), (4) or (5) is not required or where the information prescribed by this paragraph is given on an adhesive label, either on the outside of the package or in a statement enclosed in the package.

(9) A person may sell any seeds otherwise than in a package which is labelled, inscribed or otherwise dealt with in accordance with this regulation, provided that they are sold by way of retail sale, in a quantity not exceeding 2.5 kilograms, and are taken in the presence of the purchaser from a container on or in the proximity of which there is clearly and visibly marked or displayed a statement containing the particulars of the matters specified in Part IV of Schedule 5.

(10) The particulars and information given in accordance with this regulation shall be given in one of the official languages of the European Economic Community.

(11) Subject to the provisions of the Act and of these Regulations no person shall, in the course of the marketing or the preparation for the marketing of any seeds by himself or by any other person, wilfully reproduce, remove, alter, deface, conceal or misuse in any way any label or notice affixed to, contained in or marked on any package of seeds or to be so affixed, contained or marked.

Records of transactions

10. A person who sells any pre-basic seeds, basic seeds or certified seeds in accordance with regulation 5(6) shall make and, during a period of twelve months following the delivery of the seeds, keep available for inspection by an officer duly authorised by the Minister a record of the date of such delivery, the reference number of the lot of seeds delivered, the name and address of the purchaser and the date on which he was provided with the result of the completed official germination test.

Civil liabilities of sellers of seeds

11.—(1) The particulars given to a purchaser by the seller of pre-basic seeds, basic seeds or certified seeds to which these Regulations apply, whether given in pursuance of these Regulations expressly or by implication arising from the description under which the seeds are sold, shall constitute a statutory warranty for the purpose of section 17 of the Act in so far as they relate to the percentage of germination of the seeds, the percentage of analytical purity of the seeds, the content of seeds of other plant species and the varietal purity of the seeds.

(2) Section 17(2) of the Act shall apply to any particulars given to a purchaser by the seller of seeds, being particulars given or implied as in paragraph (1) of this regulation, in so far as they relate to the percentage of germination, the percentage of analytical purity, or of the content of seeds of other plant species and there are hereby prescribed in respect of such matters the limits of variation set out in Schedule 6.

(3) Section 17(3) of the Act shall apply to any particulars given to a purchaser by the seller of seeds, being particulars given or implied as in paragraph (1) of this regulation, in so far as they relate to the percentage of germination, the percentage of analytical purity or of the content of seeds of other plant species.

(4) A purchaser who intends to obtain a test of seeds for the purposes of section 17(3) of the Act shall, not more than ten days after delivery to him of the seeds, give to the seller written notice of his intention and thereupon the seller may indicate a day, not being more than 21 days after delivery of the seeds to the purchaser, and a reasonable time on that day at which a sample of the seeds may be taken in the presence of himself or of his representative and the purchaser shall afford to the seller reasonable facilities for that purpose.

(5) On the day and at the time appointed by the seller in accordance with paragraph (4) of this regulation or, if the seller shall have failed to appoint such a day and time, on a day not more than 28 days after delivery of the seeds to the purchaser, the purchaser may, and if the seller or his representative is present shall, take a sample of the seeds, such sample being taken in accordance with the procedure set out in Part I of Schedule 3, and shall divide the sample so taken into two parts, each being of at least the appropriate minimum size specified in Part II of Schedule 3 of which one part shall be sent to the Chief Officer of an Official Seed Testing Station for the purpose of being tested and the

other part delivered or tendered to the seller or his representative or, if he or his representative was not present when the sample was taken, sent to him by post.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 30th June 1976.

(L.S.)

Frederick Peart,
Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food.

Bruce Millan,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

5th July 1976.

SCHEDULE 1

KINDS OF SEEDS TO WHICH THE REGULATIONS APPLY

1. Seeds of sugar beet and fodder beet (including mangel) of the species *Beta vulgaris* L.

Regulations 3(2) and (3), 5(1) and (5)

SCHEDULE 2

REQUIREMENTS FOR BASIC SEEDS AND CERTIFIED SEEDS

PART I

CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE CROP FROM WHICH THE SEEDS ARE OBTAINED

1. So far as it can be ascertained at crop inspection, supplemented where appropriate by examination of a plot sown by the Minister with a sample from the seed lot sown in the field, the plants shall conform to the characteristics of the variety established when the variety was included in the National List or Common Catalogue.

Crop inspections

2. There shall be at least one official field inspection and for basic seeds two such inspections, one in the year of sowing and the other in the year of harvesting.

3. In the case of hybrid and synthetic varieties, in so far as required by the Minister, seed producers shall submit seed for examination at all stages of production of a variety.

Crop condition

4. The cultural condition of the field and the state of development and the condition of the crop shall be such as to permit a sufficient check of identity, varietal purity and state of health.

Previous cropping

5. The crop may be grown only on land which has not previously been cropped in a manner that might adversely affect the nature or quality of the seeds to be produced and which complies with the Minister's requirements in that respect.

Isolation distances

6. There shall be a physical barrier or at least 2 metres of fallow between the seed crop and any crop likely to cause contamination in the seed.

7. Minimum distances from neighbouring seed crops shall be:—

	Basic Seeds (metres)	Certified Seeds (metres)
Until 30th June 1978:		
(a) Sugar beet in relation to:		
— other varieties of sugar beet	500	300
— fodder beet (including mangel) and other varieties of <i>Beta vulgaris</i>	1,000	600
(b) Fodder beet (including mangel) in relation to:		
— other varieties of fodder beet	500	300
— sugar beet and other varieties of <i>Beta vulgaris</i> ...	1,000	600

	Basic Seeds (metres)	Certified Seeds (metres)
From 1st July 1978:		
(a) Sugar beet:		
— monogerm varieties in relation to other monogerm or other varieties	1,000	600
— varieties, other than monogerm, in relation to other varieties	600	300
— in relation to fodder beet and other varieties of <i>Beta vulgaris</i>	1,000	1,000
(b) Fodder beet:		
— monogerm varieties in relation to other monogerm or other varieties	1,000	600
— varieties, other than monogerm, in relation to other varieties	600	300
— in relation to sugar beet and other varieties of <i>Beta vulgaris</i>	1,000	1,000

The above distances shall apply also to isolation from plants or fields of beet grown for root production and flowering at the same time as the plants in the seed producing field.

8. With the approval of the Minister these distances need not be observed if there is adequate protection against any undesirable foreign pollination.

Varietal purity

9. The crop shall possess adequate identity and varietal purity.

PART II

CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE SEEDS

1. The seeds are to possess adequate identity and varietal purity.
2. The seeds shall be of a satisfactory state of health so far as seed-borne diseases and organisms affecting the seeds are concerned.
3. The seeds, excluding where appropriate granulated pesticides, pelleting substances or other solid additives, shall have been shown on an official examination to comply with the following conditions—
 - (a) maximum moisture content 15 per cent. by weight
 - (b) minimum analytical purity 97 per cent. by weight and
 - (c) minimum germination—

	per cent. by number of clusters	
	Sugar beet	Fodder beet (including mangels)
(i) monogerm seeds	73*	73
(ii) precision seeds	73*	73
(iii) natural seeds of varieties with a diploid percentage exceeding 85 ...	73	73
(iv) other seeds	68	68
*As from 1st July 1977 the minimum germination shall be—		
monogerm seeds	80%	
precision seeds	75%	

4. The percentage by weight of seeds of other plants shall not exceed 0.3.

5. Additional requirements—

	minimum percentage of single clusters	maximum percentage of germinated clusters giving 3 or more seedlings
(a) monogerm seeds	90	no standard †
(b) precisions seeds with a diploid percentage exceeding 85	58*	5
(c) other precision seed	63*	5

NOTE—for seed harvested after 1st July 1977—

- (i) items marked * shall read 70%
(ii) items marked † shall read 5%

Regulations 6(1) and (3) and 11(5)

SCHEDULE 3

PART I

PROCEDURE FOR THE TAKING OF SAMPLES

1. Prior to sampling a seed lot shall be well mixed so as to be as uniform among its parts as is practicable.

2. When the seed lot is in sacks or other similar sized containers, the 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 – 5 (inclusive)	Each container, portions being taken from at least five positions.
6 – 14 ,,	Not less than 5 containers.
15 – 30 ,,	At least 1 container in 3.
31 – 40 ,,	Not less than 10 containers.
50 or more ,,	At least 1 container in 5.

When there are more than five containers in the lot the containers to be sampled must be selected at random.

3. For sampling seed lots in containers weighing less than 50kg a 100kg weight of seed is taken as the basic unit. Containers shall be combined to form sampling units weighing a maximum of 100kg (e.g. 5 containers each of 20kg form one unit). For sampling purposes each unit shall be regarded as one container and the sampling intensity prescribed above shall be used.

4. The samples shall be taken in the following manner:

(a) Seeds in full sacks or other containers

The sacks or containers shall be sampled at random and samples taken from the top, middle or bottom, but not necessarily from more than one position, of each selected sack or container. The position from which the seed is taken shall be varied from container to container and seed shall be taken from different horizontal positions. Wherever practicable, seed in sacks shall be sampled with a metal spear, trier or probe with a solid point which shall be of sufficient length to reach beyond the middle of the sack when inserted from the side and shall have an oval aperture so placed that the instrument removes portions of seed of equal volume from each part of the sack through which it travels. The instrument shall be inserted into the sack in an upward direction at an angle of approximately 30° to the horizontal, with its aperture downwards until the aperture reaches the centre of the sack. It shall then be rotated

so as to bring the aperture uppermost and withdrawn at once at a decreasing speed so that the quantity of seeds obtained from successive locations increases progressively from the centre to the side of the sack.

Alternatively, a longer instrument may be inserted until the aperture reaches the farther side of the sack, rotated in the manner described above and then withdrawn at a uniform speed.

A stick sampler may be used in place of the instrument mentioned above. It may be used horizontally or vertically. If there is more than one aperture it must have transverse partitions so that each aperture opens into a separate compartment; it shall be inserted diagonally into the sack in the closed position, then opened, gently agitated to allow it to fill completely, closed again, withdrawn and emptied.

Seeds in containers other than sacks shall wherever practicable be sampled with an instrument as aforesaid, which shall be used as already described.

Where it is not practicable to sample seeds in sacks or other containers in the manner already described, portions may be taken by hand, care being taken to keep the fingers tightly closed about the seeds so that none may escape as the hand is withdrawn. If necessary, in order to reach the lower levels, part of the contents shall be emptied into another sack or other container.

(b) *Seeds in a partly filled container*

The seeds shall be thoroughly mixed by hand and small portions then taken from at least five different positions.

(c) *Seeds in bulk*

Portions of seed shall be taken with a stick sampler from at least the number of positions indicated in the table below:—

<i>Size of bulk</i>				<i>Number of positions to be sampled</i>
Not exceeding 50kg	...	...	...	Not less than 3.
Exceeding 50kg	Not exceeding 1,500kg	...	...	Not less than 5.
1,500kg	3,000kg	...	...	At least 1 for each 300kg.
3,000kg	5,000kg	...	...	Not less than 10.
5,000kg	20,000kg	...	...	At least 1 for each 500kg.

Sampling positions must be selected at random in both vertical and horizontal planes. If the sampler has more than one aperture it shall have transverse partitions so that each aperture opens into a separate compartment.

(d) *Seeds in a cleaning, mixing or dressing machine*

Portions of seed shall be drawn during the cleaning, mixing or dressing process so that the entire cross section of the seed stream is uniformly sampled at regular intervals throughout the whole of the process. The frequency shall be at least as indicated in the table below:—

<i>Size of lot</i>				<i>Number of times to be sampled</i>
Not exceeding 50kg	...	...	...	Not less than 3.
Exceeding 50kg	Not exceeding 1,500kg	...	...	Not less than 5.
1,500kg	3,000kg	...	...	At least 1 for each 300kg.
3,000kg	5,000kg	...	...	Not less than 10.
5,000kg	20,000kg	...	...	At least 1 for each 500kg.

5. When the individual portions taken from the lot exceed the amount required they shall be put together in a clean receptacle and well mixed. The composite sample so obtained shall be reduced by using an efficient seed divider.

6. Portions of seeds for moisture tests shall be drawn in such a way as to prevent exposure to the atmosphere. Samples shall be packed in air-tight containers. Seeds for moisture tests shall be kept separate from seeds on which other determinations are to be made.

PART II

Maximum weight of a lot and minimum size of a sample

1. The maximum weight of a lot to be sampled shall be 20 tonnes.
2. The minimum size of a sample shall be 500 grams or 7,500 pelleted seeds
3. The minimum size of a sample for a moisture test shall be 50 grams.

Regulation 7(1) and (2)

SCHEDULE 4

PART I

CERTIFICATE OF THE TAKING OF A SAMPLE OF SEEDS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD/DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES FOR SCOTLAND

PLANT VARIETIES AND SEEDS ACT 1964—SECTION 26(3)

THE BEET SEEDS REGULATIONS 1976

CERTIFICATE OF THE TAKING OF A SAMPLE OF SEEDS TAKEN UNDER
SECTION 25(5) OF THE ACT

On the premises of

Name

Address

.....

Kind

Variety

Category

Certificate or reference number.....

Date of sampling.....

Ministry's/Department's reference number.....

I certify that in taking the sample referred to above I used the method of sampling prescribed in Schedule 3 to the Beet Seeds Regulations 1976.

Signed

Authorised by the Minister of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food/Secretary of State.

Date

PART II

CERTIFICATE OF THE RESULT OF A TEST OF SEEDS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD/DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES FOR SCOTLAND

PLANT VARIETIES AND SEEDS ACT 1964

THE BEET SEEDS REGULATIONS 1976

FINAL REPORT OF THE OFFICIAL SEED TESTING STATION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES/SCOTLAND ON A SAMPLE TAKEN UNDER SECTION 25(5) 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
		Quantity represented

Description

Kind		Variety	
Category		Reference No.	

Result of Test

% Pure seed	% Inert matter	% Other crop seeds	% Weed seeds

Inert matter

Other crop seeds

Weed seeds

Germination %

Germinated clusters with—
one seedling %

two seedlings %

three or more seedlings %

Moisture content %

Remarks

Date.....

Chief Officer

Regulations 5(3) and 9(2), (3), (4), (5) and (9)

SCHEDULE 5

PART I

A. OFFICIAL LABEL FOR A PACKAGE OF BASIC SEEDS OR CERTIFIED SEEDS

(a) Prescribed contents:

1. "EEC rules and standards".
2. Certifying Authority and Member State or their mark.
3. Reference number of the lot.
4. "Sugar beet" or "fodder beet".
5. Variety.
6. Category.
7. Country of production.
8. Declared net or gross weight, or declared number of clusters.
9. Where weight of pelleted seed is given (or other solid additives have been mixed with the seed) the nature of the additive and the approximate ratio between the weight of clusters and the total weight.
10. For monogerm seeds "monogerm".
11. For precision seeds "precision".

(b) Minimum size of the label—110mm × 67mm.

(c) The label shall be coloured white for basic seeds and blue for certified seeds.

B. OFFICIAL LABEL FOR A PACKAGE OF PRE-BASIC SEEDS

(a) Prescribed contents:

1. Certifying Authority and Member State or their mark.
2. Reference number of the lot.
3. Kind.
4. Variety.
5. "Pre-basic seeds".
6. Declared net or gross weight or declared number of clusters.
7. Number of generations preceding seeds of the category "certified seeds".

(b) Minimum size of the label—110mm × 67mm.

(c) The label shall be coloured white with a diagonal violet line .

PART II

A. SUPPLIER'S LABEL FOR A PACKAGE OF UNCERTIFIED PRE-BASIC SEEDS

(a) Prescribed contents:

1. Name and address of the supplier responsible for fixing the labels or his identification mark.
2. Reference number of the lot.
3. Kind.
4. Variety.
5. "Uncertified pre-basic seeds".
6. Declared net or gross weight or declared number of seeds.

(b) The label shall be coloured buff.

PART III
SMALL PACKAGES

A. SUPPLIER'S LABEL FOR A SMALL PACKAGE OF BASIC SEEDS OR CERTIFIED SEEDS

(a) Prescribed contents:

1. "EEC rules and standards".
2. Name and address of the supplier responsible for affixing the labels or his identification mark.
3. Reference number of the lot.
4. Kind.
5. Variety.
6. Category.
7. Declared net weight or declared number of seeds.
8. "Passed for marketing in United Kingdom only".
9. For monogerm seeds "monogerm".
10. For precision seeds "precision".

(b) The label shall be coloured white for basic seeds and blue for certified seeds.

B. PARTICULARS TO BE GIVEN WITH A SMALL EEC PACKAGE

(a) Prescribed contents:

1. "Small EEC package".
2. Name and address of supplier responsible for sealing, or his identification mark.
3. Officially assigned serial number.
4. Reference number of the lot.
5. "Sugar beet" or "fodder beet".
6. Variety.
7. "Certified seed".
8. Net or gross weight or number of clusters.
9. Where the weight of pelleted seed is given (or other solid additives have been mixed with the seed) the nature of the additive and the approximate ratio between the weight of clusters and the total weight.
10. For monogerm seeds "monogerm".
11. For precision seeds "precision".

(b) The label shall be coloured blue.

PART IV

PARTICULARS TO BE MARKED OR DISPLAYED ON THE SALE OF UNPACKETED SEEDS

1. "Complies with legal standards".
2. Kind.
3. Variety.
4. For monogerm seeds "monogerm".
5. For precision seeds "precision".

Regulation 11(2)

SCHEDULE 6
LIMITS OF VARIATION
GERMINATION

<i>Minimum percentage of germination or single seedlings per cent.</i>	<i>Limit of variation per cent.</i>
99 - 100	2
97 - 98	3
94 - 96	4
91 - 93	5
87 - 90	6
82 - 86	7
76 - 81	8
69 - 75	9
60 - 68	10
50 - 59	11

ANALYTICAL PURITY

<i>Minimum percentage of analytical purity per cent.</i>	<i>Limit of variation per cent.</i>
99.9 - 100	0.2
99.8	0.3
99.6 - 99.7	0.4
99.3 - 99.5	0.5
99.0 - 99.2	0.6
98.5 - 98.9	0.7
98.3 - 98.4	0.8
97.5 - 98.2	0.9
97.0 - 97.4	1.0
96.5 - 96.9	1.1
95.5 - 96.4	1.2
95.0 - 95.4	1.3

CONTENT OF SEEDS OF OTHER SPECIES

<i>Maximum seeds per cent.</i>	<i>Limit of variation per cent.</i>
0.0	0.1
0.1 - 0.2	0.3
0.3 - 0.4	0.4
0.5	0.5

CLUSTERS WITH THREE OR MORE SEEDLINGS

<i>Maximum clusters with three or more seedlings per cent.</i>	<i>Limit of variation per cent.</i>
0 - 2	2
3 - 4	3
5 - 6	4
7 - 9	5
10	6

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations are made under the Plant Varieties and Seeds Act 1964 as amended by the European Communities Act 1972. They re-enact, with modifications, the Beet Seeds Regulations 1974 which are revoked.

They regulate the marketing in Great Britain of sugar beet and fodder beet seeds (including mangel) but exclude seeds used for research, experiment or selection processes, and uncleaned seeds marketed with a view to processing or other treatment.

Seeds may be marketed only if they are of specified categories as defined in the Regulations and sold in sealed packages labelled with prescribed particulars. The particulars stated or implied on a package of seeds are deemed to constitute a warranty by the seller for the protection of the purchaser under provisions of the Regulations. There is provision for the taking of samples for verification of standards attained and for the enforcement of the obligations imposed by the Regulations. Tampering with labels prescribed by the Regulations will constitute an offence.

These Regulations modify the procedure for the movement of seed prior to the completion of the official examination subject to certain provisions for the protection of the purchaser. New provision is made for the introduction of small EEC packages of seeds which will permit additional unrestricted intra-community trade. The transitional marketing arrangements prior to 1 July 1976 for which provisions existed in the Beet Seeds Regulations 1974 have been omitted. There are a number of minor and drafting amendments.

Schedules to the Regulations include details of the standards to be attained by the different categories of seeds and the crops from which they are derived. Some of these standards are varied as from dates in 1977 and 1978. There are also procedures for the taking of samples and of the particulars to appear on labels on packages of seeds.

The Regulations give effect to Directive 66/400/EEC of the Council of the European Economic Community (O.J.No. 125—11.7.66—O.J./S.E. 1974) on the marketing of beet seed, as amended by Directive 75/438/EEC (O.J. No. L356, 27.12.73, p. 79), Directive 75/444/EEC (O.J.No. L196, 26.7.75, p. 6) and Directive 76/331/EEC (O.J.No. L83, 30.3.76, p. 34).

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