

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SEED INSPECTION REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008**

Approximately 1,550 lots of seed belonging to seeds man, seed producers and seed dealers were inspected during the 2008 inspection season. The inspections included examinations of documents, labels and seed. Two hundred and ninety seven of the lots were sampled. The samples selected represented over thirty different agricultural and vegetable crop kinds. There were six samples that did not pass the laboratory analysis. This resulted in three warning letters being issued along with three stop-sale orders. In addition, seventeen warehouse violations were issued.

The violation rate for analyzed samples during 2008 was 2%, which is down from our violation rate of 3% in fiscal year 2007. The most common violation was germination out of tolerance, followed by purity out of tolerance and inert matter out of tolerance. Additional violations include Forty one warning letters in response to seed permit and \ or permit violations resulted from the monitoring of seed advertisements.

In fiscal year 2008 there were 194 seedsman, 119 seed producers and 953 seed dealer permits. The total number of valid seed permits in 2007 was 197 seedsman, 134 seed producers and 997 dealer permits. South Dakota seed permits are biennial, with license fees as follows: seed producers and seed dealers, \$50; seedsman, \$250.

The Department of Public Safety once again did the routine seed inspections for retail stores and garden centers. They checked for proper labeling and current test dates. Their inspectors issue notices of violation on lawn seed, vegetable seed, and wildflower seed. They also issue stop sale orders for seed with expired test dates.

The Department of Agriculture conducted 7 investigations to determine compliance with the seed laws. Seven warning letters were issued for no seed permit and for various label violations.

Twenty five samples of small grain and millet were forwarded to the Federal seed branch for the 2008 trueness to variety grow-out test Twelve samples of winter wheat were submitted in the fall.

2008 Sample Summary

Kinds of seed that did not pass analysis

Corn - 1

Wheat - 1

Soybeans - 1

Wheat grass - 2

Alfalfa - 1

Reasons for seed not passing lab analysis

1. Pure seed out of tolerance - 2 samples
2. Inert material out of tolerance – 2 samples
3. Germ. out of tolerance- 4.
4. Noxious weeds out of tolerance - 1

Reasons for stop sales

1. Germination out of tolerance - 1 sample
2. Purity out of tolerance - 2
3. Inert out of tolerance - 2
4. Other crop out of tolerance - 0.
5. Weed seed out of tolerance – 1