



**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SEED INSPECTION REPORT
JULY 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2018
FY2018**

Seed inspections were conducted at approximately one hundred twenty locations this fiscal year with seed belonging to seedsman, seed producers and seed dealers. The inspections included examinations of documents, labels and seed. One hundred and forty-three of the lots were sampled. The samples selected represented over twenty-five different agricultural and vegetable crop kinds. There were eighteen samples that did not pass the laboratory analysis. This resulted in fourteen warning letters being issued along with four stop-sale orders. One verbal warning was issued as well.

The most common violations were germination out of tolerance and purity out of tolerance, followed by noxious weed seed and inert matter out of tolerance. Those soybeans with germination out of tolerance that were issued a stop-sale order appeared to be brought on by mechanical damage, most likely at harvest. We continue to watch local and farm newspapers for seed advertisements. We did have one individual advertising a certified seed variety, although no field inspections had been conducted to certify it and it was a protected variety.

In fiscal year 2018 there were 128 seedsman, 65 seed producers and 625 seed dealer permits. South Dakota seed permits are biennial, with license fees as follows: seed producers and seed dealers, \$75; seedsman, \$500.

The Department of Agriculture also conducted investigations to determine compliance with the seed laws, including making sure the proper license was being obtained for the type of business conducted. Spot checks were also conducted to make sure licenses were current.

For the upcoming year, the Department of Agriculture is planning to continue routine seed inspections for retail stores and garden centers, to check for proper labeling and current test dates. We also plan to continue watching newspaper advertisements selling seed to make sure those conducting the sales are licensed and the seed advertised is able to be sold.



**FY2018 Sample Summary
South Dakota Department of Agriculture**

Kinds of seed that did not pass analysis

Soybean – 11	Tall Fescue – 1
Kentucky Bluegrass - 1	Triticale – 1
Forage Grass Mix – 1	Oats - 1
Alfalfa - 1	Foxtail Millet - 1

Reasons for seed not passing lab analysis

1. Germination - out of tolerance - 13 samples
2. Pure seed out of tolerance - 4 samples
3. Noxious weeds out of tolerance - 2 samples
4. Inert matter out of tolerance – 2 samples

Reasons for stop sales

1. Germination out of tolerance – 4