

**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SEED INSPECTION REPORT  
JULY 1, 2008 - JUNE 30, 2009**

Approximately 1,550 lots of seed belonging to seeds man, seed producers and seed dealers were inspected during the 2009 inspection season. The inspections included examinations of documents, labels and seed; with 304 of the lots sampled. The samples selected represented over 30 different agricultural and vegetable crop kinds. There were 12 samples that did not pass the laboratory analysis. This resulted in 8 warning letters being issued along with 4 stop-sale orders. In addition, 13 warehouse violations were issued.

The violation rate for analyzed samples during 2009 was 4%, which is up from our violation rate of 2% in fiscal year 2008. The most common violation was noxious weeds out of tolerance, followed by purity out of tolerance and inert matter out of tolerance. Additional violations include 18 warning letters in response to seed permit and/or permit violations resulted from the monitoring of seed advertisements.

In fiscal year 2009 there were 186 seedsman, 115 seed producers and 905 seed dealer permits. The total number of valid seed permits in 2008 was 197 seedsman, 119 seed producers and 953 dealer permits. South Dakota seed permits are biennial, with license fees as follows: seed producers and seed dealers, \$75; seedsman, \$500.

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 6 investigations to determine compliance with the seed laws. These investigations resulted in 1 Notice of Violation and 4 warning letters regarding permits, labeling, advertising and the Plant Variety Protection Act. During calendar year 2008, 25 samples of small grain and millet were forwarded to the Federal seed branch for the 2008 trueness to variety grow-out test. No samples were collected for 2009.

**2009 Sample Summary**

**Kinds of seed that did not pass analysis**

Oats - 2	Soybeans - 1	Orchard Grass - 1
Timothy - 1	Wheat Grass - 1	Alfalfa - 1
Switch Grass - 1	Sweetclover -1	Brome Grass - 1
Triticale- 1	Fescue - 1	

**Reasons for seed not passing lab analysis**

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

**Reasons for stop sales**

1. Germination out of tolerance - 2
2. Noxious weed seed out of tolerance. - 1
3. Selling uncertified PVP seed - 1