

June 26, 2009

## **2009 MEMO**

### **PLANT BREEDERS and CROP CERTIFICATE ASSIGNEES**

This annual technical memo contains:

- recent and proposed changes in seed crop certification services from CSGA
- reminders of specific requirements for production of Breeder seed crops
- news that may interest those involved with Breeder and assigned seed crop production

For details on how pedigreed seed crops are inspected, see the CFIA Inspection Procedures under Specific Work Instructions at: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/seedsem/inspe.shtml>.

The CSGA seed crop inspection requirements and application forms are available at: <http://www.seedgrowers.ca/cropcertification/index.asp?lang=e> . If you have questions, use the CSGA office contact information below to get answers.

#### **- NEW in 2009**

##### **1. CHANGES effective in 2009 in CSGA REGULATIONS (Circular 6)**

Notice of regulation changes effective in 2009 were posted January 31, 2009, on the CSGA website at: [http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/circular6/Circ6-Notice%20of%20Changes-ENGLISH\\_Rev01.4-2009.pdf](http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/circular6/Circ6-Notice%20of%20Changes-ENGLISH_Rev01.4-2009.pdf).

Replacement pages for the revised sections of Circular 6 were sent in CD format last winter to growers, Plant Breeders and crop certificate assignees. Additional CD's or hard copies of these changes are available from the CSGA office or website. Except for varietal blends of midge tolerant wheat and recognition of certification standards for several minor crops, the changes effective in 2009 simply clarify interpretations of the requirements in Circular 6 for canola crop isolation to camelina, reporting impurities in plots and transferring Select seed.

##### **2. GIANT FOXTAIL Reclassified from PROHIBITED to PRIMARY Noxious**

Amendments to the federal Weed Seeds Order have reclassified Giant Foxtail (*Setaria faberi*) from the Prohibited to the Primary category of noxious weed. Therefore, CSGA will no longer decline the pedigreed status of seed crops containing Giant Foxtail (unless of course, like any other weed, the reported level of Giant Foxtail exceeds the "Very Weedy" incidence level of 100 plants/100 sq. m).

##### **3. a) REVISED BREEDER SEED CROP REGULATIONS**

The CSGA *Regulations and Procedures for Breeder Seed Crop Production* are revised and available at: [http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/Breeder%20Seed%20Crop%20Regulations\\_ENGLISH\\_2009.pdf](http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/Breeder%20Seed%20Crop%20Regulations_ENGLISH_2009.pdf).

Hard copies are being distributed to all recognized Plant Breeders along with a revised *Rogues and Roguing Manual*. Changes include suspension and cancellation procedures, conversion to ISO document format to meet CSGA and Breeder quality management system (QMS) requirements and updating revisions recommended by the Plant Breeders' Committee to reflect sector and technology changes since the 2003 version was published.

##### **b) SUSPENSION and CANCELLATION PROCEDURES for Recognized Plant Breeders**

As recommended by the CSGA Plant Breeders' Committee, revised regulations include procedures for suspension and cancellation of recognition. These procedures are:

- based on the procedures in federal Seeds Regulations for graders and Registered Seed Establishments;
- limited to the CSGA professional recognition of Plant Breeders for Breeder seed crop certification; and
- linked directly to compliance with Breeder seed crop regulations and Quality Management System (QMS) requirements. Details on QMS requirements are outlined on pages 14-17 of the revised regulations at: [http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/Breeder%20Seed%20Crop%20Regulations\\_ENGLISH\\_2009.pdf](http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/Breeder%20Seed%20Crop%20Regulations_ENGLISH_2009.pdf) .

## **- CONTINUING from 2008**

### **1. UPDATING CROP CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS**

Many crop certification forms are being updated with the ISO registration of operations in the CSGA office. Current versions of CSGA crop certification documents are available from the CSGA office and also at: <http://www.seedgrowers.ca/cropcertification/downloads.asp#crop> .

For example, the current version of the *Application for Breeder Seed Crop Certificate (Form 43)* is available at: [http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/forms/Form43\\_2008.pdf](http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/forms/Form43_2008.pdf) .

### **2. OFFICIAL VERIFICATION of ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS**

This is an annual reminder that CSGA regulations require isolation requirements to be verified *at the time of inspection*. For seed crops not in compliance *at the time of inspection*, two options are available.

Both options require a re-inspection by CFIA. The two options are:

- i) The required isolation strips must be removed prior to the CFIA re-inspection, OR
- ii) Except for cross-pollinated crops (such as canola and most forage species), a pedigreed crop can be harvested leaving behind a portion of the crop equivalent to the required isolation. This isolation strip and the crop perimeter should be clearly identified and must be verified by a CFIA re-inspection.

Isolation strips that are removed or left behind must not be used as pedigreed seed. To request re-inspections, contact your local CFIA crop inspection office. Fees for such re-inspections are billed by and payable to the CFIA.

## **- PLANNED for 2010**

### **1. CHANGES effective in 2010 in CSGA REGULATIONS (Circular 6)**

Notice of these regulation changes effective in 2010 were posted January 31, 2009, on the CSGA website at: [http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/circular6/Circ6-Notice%20of%20Changes-ENGLISH\\_Rev01.4-2009.pdf](http://www.seedgrowers.ca/pdfs/circular6/Circ6-Notice%20of%20Changes-ENGLISH_Rev01.4-2009.pdf).

Effective in 2010, land requirements for production of Certified crops of Barley, Oat, Rye, Triticale and Wheat (Section 2.2.5) are revised to permit Certified crop production on land that in the previous year produced non-pedigreed crops of any of the crop kinds in Section 3 of *Circular 6* (which includes Beans, Chickpeas, Fababeans, Lentils, Lupins, Peas and Soybeans) regardless of the land use two years prior.

### **2. MORE RECOGNITION of PLANT BREEDERS**

Presently only a certificate, suitable for framing, and official acceptance letter are issued to new recognized Plant Breeders. In response to requests for easier access to Plant Breeder contact information, updates to the CSGA website will include the option for recognized Plant Breeders (as well as accredited Plot Producers and organic seed growers) to authorize CSGA to post their contact information and crop kind experience on either the public or the members' area of the website.

### **3. VARIETY VERIFICATION TESTING**

Reviewing appropriate test methods, and communication of test results, for the post-control variety verification testing which audits seed certification, has been the subject of recent meetings of the CSGA Plant Breeders' Committee, CFIA-CSGA Joint Meetings, OECD Schemes for Varietal Certification of Seed in International Trade and the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA). At all these meetings, this has been recognized as a subject that needs more work and has been brought forward to future meeting agendas.

## **- REMINDERS**

### **1. SEPARATE Applications for Crop Inspection REQUIRED for DIFFERENT ADDRESS LOCATIONS**

Most Breeder plots for CSGA certification are located at the address of the Breeder's employer. For plots at distinctly different locations, Breeders should submit separate Applications for Crop Inspection to CSGA, that contain landowner contact information and directions, for each different address location. This will ensure crop inspection reports are sent to the appropriate inspection office.

### **2. VARIETY NAMES Used on Applications for Crop Inspection**

Variety names used on CSGA *Applications for Crop Inspection* must match the name, or previous experimental name, used on the official Variety Description. Do not include (in the variety name) additional numbers or names used within company quality control systems. In the case of experimental lines, the use of a hyphenated "EXP" prefix or suffix is recommended.

### **3. MAXIMUM Breeder PLOT SIZE: 2.5 acres (1 Ha)**

To ensure adequate inspection intensity, maximum Breeder plot size for CSGA certification is 2.5 acres or 1 Ha. There is no limit on the number of plots applied for inspection.

### **4. BREEDER SEED TAG SIGNATURES**

Breeders should print their name and / or CSGA grower number, after their signature on the bottom line of Breeder seed tags. This expedites CSGA's verification of parent seed eligibility on crop inspection reports and prevents CSGA from having to send follow-up letters, before issuing crop certificates, to growers, companies or certification authorities in other countries.

### **5. VARIETY DESCRIPTIONS**

For new unregistered varieties, which have not previously been officially inspected in Canada, variety descriptions should be submitted to CSGA either before or with *Applications for Crop Inspection*. To be eligible for Breeder seed plot certification, variety descriptions must include the distinguishing characteristics of the new variety and must also identify the Breeder seed maintainer.

## **- AVAILABLE from CSGA**

### **1. FROM the CSGA Website at: [www.seedgrowers.ca](http://www.seedgrowers.ca)**

- a) **2009 Application for Crop Inspection** with separate *Fee Calculation Worksheet*;
- b) **MEMBER LOGIN** at: <http://www.seedgrowers.ca/CSGAMembers/Login.aspx>, provides password-secure access to your own real time crop inspection and CSGA account records;
- c) Official versions of all CSGA Regulations and revisions;
- d) Authorizations to Assign Crop Certificates (Form 179 and 179A);
- e) Applications for Breeder Seed Crop Certificates (Form 43);
- f) Land Use Verification Requests (Form 101);
- g) Variety Certification Eligibility Applications (Form 300) for entering into CSGA certification, new varieties of crop kinds that are exempt from official CFIA registration or unregistered varieties that will be exported and officially labelled in another country;
- h) Pedigreed seed promotional items and pedigreed seed crop directories.

### **2. REPORTS AVAILABLE from CSGA**

In addition to pedigreed seed crop directories available from our website, CSGA provides:

- to crop certificate assignees, a list of all inspected crops and growers with certificates that have been assigned to them.....\$150 (min.); and
- to Plant Breeders or variety developers, or their designates, a list of all the growers and inspected crops of the varieties they developed or maintain..... \$150 (min.).

### **3. CSGA OFFICE**

Phone extensions at (613) 236-0497 and e-mail addresses are also available at: [www.seedgrowers.ca](http://www.seedgrowers.ca) .

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CSGA plans to continue sending you this annual update on pedigreed seed crop inspection and welcomes comments. Contact CSGA or unsubscribe at:

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