

Seed Sampler Workshops

Who should attend? Seed sampling personnel, seed sampler supervisors, seed exporters, state agency samplers, seed laboratory staff, and QA managers.

What will be gained? Participants will gain training in proper seed sampling techniques. Participants who successfully complete the course and pass the written (open book) and practical examination with an 80% score will have completed the first step required for sampling for ISTA Orange certificates. The workshop will cover sampling requirements published in the *AOSA Rules for Testing Seeds*, *CFIA Canadian Methods and Procedures for Seed Testing* and the *ISTA International Rules for Seed Testing*.

What are the requirements for an authorized sampler collecting samples for ISTA certificates issued by SGS Brookings?

- 1) Sampler must attend a SGS Brookings seed sampler workshop or equivalent workshop and achieve an 80% score in examinations.
- 2) Sampler must draw samples in accordance with ISTA rules and complete the necessary Quality Record associated with each sampled seed lot.
- 3) Samplers will need to participate in seed sampling continuing education, including an approved one-day seed sampler workshop once every three years following initial authorization.

What is the advantage to my company of having an authorized sampler on staff?

- 1) Save time in scheduling sampling.
- 2) Be able to supply Orange Certificates for your export shipments, reducing the chance of delays or returned shipments.
- 3) Reduce the guessing game of which set of seed testing rules to use on seed planned for export. All countries will accept Orange Certificates including Canada, Mexico, Korea, Turkey and Israel.
- 4) Documentation (Training Certificate) that your sampler has received third party training, which may be useful documentation for quality control and export shipment paperwork.

Can we send one person to be trained, and they in turn, train other personnel at our company to be certified samplers? No, ISTA places the responsibility for training the samplers on accredited laboratories. By completing training at an approved workshop and passing a written (open book) and practical test, SGS Brookings is assured that the samplers are properly trained.

1.605.692.7611

