

XII. REPORTING THE RESULTS OF TESTS

The report of results on seed samples should be despatched as soon as the results of the test are known. On these depend many decisions regarding certification, sale, purchase and despatch of seed lots. Reports should be legibly written or typed, checked and posted to correct addresses. A carbon copy of the report may be kept in the record for future reference.

The report of results of purity analysis should be given in the calculated percentage to at least one decimal place. Results of germination tests are reported in round numbers. Fractions of one half of one percent or more should be regarded as the next whole number and fractions of less than half of one percent may be dropped. For example, an average germination of 90.50 percent would be reported as 91 percent and a germination of 90.25 as 90 percent.

The analyst must frequently decide which of two results to report when a sample is tested for germination by more than one method or when a check test of any kind is made. It is recommended that the results of different tests be averaged if they are within tolerance. If they are not within tolerance the test should be repeated. In no case should tolerance values be added to the percentages reported for either the purity or germination test.

The number of objectionable weed seeds are reported as the number per kilogram. This can be calculated on the basis of the number of weed seed found in the weight examined.

All weed seed found may be listed as the percentage found in the weight examined. Appendix XIV gives a tentative list of objectionable weeds in India.

As seed certification and seed law enforcement programs are initiated it will be preferable to have different report forms for these programs plus a separate one for service samples. Seed certification reports should indicate clearly whether or not a seed sample has been accepted or rejected for the class of certified seed for which it was intended. Seed control reports should show if the results of the test reveal the seed to be properly labelled. If the sample was not properly labelled the necessary correction should be suggested before the seed is sold.

In all cases the laboratory report should be clear and concise with all pertinent information regarding the seed lot included in the report. Refer to Appendix IX for a suggested Service Sample Report Form.