

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## Extension and Outreach

**Seed Testing Laboratory**  
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Dear Customers,

We would like to notify you of changes to policies for testing Hemp at the Iowa State University Seed Lab, as well as address some concerns expressed about the testing of Hemp here. Please read this carefully as these guidelines may differ from directions we've provided in the past.

We now require that all hemp samples sent to the ISU Seed Laboratory for testing be accompanied by a lab certificate which indicates that the THC levels of the seed are 0.3% or less. This is a requirement of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and other government agencies.

If a germination test is requested, we need a minimum of 400 seeds (preferably 800-1000 in case a retest is needed). This is a destructive test and you will not get the seeds back. For a physical purity analysis; a minimum of 50 grams is required, this is a non-destructive test. For a Noxious Weed exam for the U.S. or a region within the U.S., a minimum of 500 grams is required; this is a non-destructive test.

Submitted samples must be representative of the lot. For phytosanitary testing, the size of the sample should be determined by your official sampler. Reminder: to obtain a phytosanitary certificate, the sample must be officially sampled. Many of the phytosanitary tests we conduct are destructive; you will not get seeds back. Many countries require seed to be free from Orobanche and Striga; detecting these require a destructive test as well as any tests for fungal, bacterial and viral pathogens.

Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns. Thank you for testing at the ISU Seed Lab.



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Michael G. Stahr  
Manager, Seed Testing Laboratory