

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Draft Implementation Opinions for Crop Seed Certification

Country: China - People's Republic of

Post: Beijing

Report Category: Planting Seeds, Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

On April 12, 2023, the State Administration for Market Regulation (SAMR) and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) jointly published a draft “Implementation Opinions of SAMR and MARA on Carrying Out Crop Seed Certification” for comment. The Implementation Opinion provides working mechanisms, implementation requirements, and supervision on crop seed certification. Comments can be provided either via email to spncprzc@samr.gov.cn or by mail at the address below. The deadline for comment submission is May 12, 2023.

Summary

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY

On April 12, 2023, SAMR and MARA jointly published a draft ["Implementation Opinions of SAMR and MARA on Carrying Out Crop Seed Certification" for comment](#). (link in Chinese, here after referred to as "Implementation Opinions"). According to the Implementation Opinions, the crop seed certification scheme is voluntary. Seed certification is encouraged through various regulatory streamlining such as reducing the frequency of supervisory inspections for certified seed companies. Additionally, officials intend to issue support policies for seed companies and facilitate seed certification. SAMR plays a leading role in seed certification, and MARA provides technical support. The deadline for comment submission is May 12, 2023.

Comments can be provided via email to spncprzc@samr.gov.cn. Please indicate the words "Revision Comments for Implementation Opinions on Carrying out Crop Seed Certification (Draft for Comment)" in the subject of the email.

Comments can also be sent via mail to the following address:

Department of Certification and Supervision,
State Administration for Market Regulation,
No. 56 Andingmenwai Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing (postal code: 100011).

On the envelope, please indicate the words "Revision Comments for Implementation Opinions on Carrying out Crop Seed Certification (Draft for Comment)".

BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Implementation Opinions of the State Administration for Market Regulation and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs on Carrying out Crop Seed Certification

(Draft for comments)

Market Supervision Bureau (department, committee), Agriculture and Rural (Agriculture and Animal Husbandry) Department (bureau, committee) at all provinces, autonomous regions, municipalities directly under the Central Government and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, and all relevant units:

To thoroughly implement the spirit of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China and the relevant deployment requirements of the Central Seed Industry Revitalization Action, give full play to the role of quality certification in improving the quality of seeds and enhancing the competitiveness of enterprises, accelerate the high-quality development of the crop seed industry, and promote the increase in agricultural production and efficiency, SAMR and MARA have decided to carry out crop seed certification in accordance with the "Seed Law of the People's Republic of China" and the "Regulations on Certification and Accreditation of the People's Republic of China". The following implementation opinions are hereby offered.

1. Working principles and mechanisms

(1) Working principles: According to the principle of "unified management, common norms, government guidance, and market operation", SAMR and MARA jointly organize and promote the work of crop seed certification according to their respective responsibilities.

(2) Working mechanism: Crop seed certification is managed, supervised and comprehensively coordinated by SAMR, and is jointly organized and implemented with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. MARA is responsible for the acceptance of crop seed certification results. SAMR and MARA jointly release the crop seed certification catalogue, certification rules and certification marks (see attachment). After consultation with SAMR, MARA issues relevant technical specifications for crop seeds as the basis for certification. MARA and SAMR jointly establish the Crop Seed Certification Working Committee (the secretariat is located in the National Agricultural Technology Extension and Service Center), which undertakes specific tasks such as decision-making consultation and technical support for crop seed certification.

2. Implementation of certification

(1) The certification institutions engaged in crop seed certification shall be established in accordance with the law, meet the basic conditions stipulated in the "Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Certification and Accreditation" and the "Administrative Measures for Certification Institutions", and have the corresponding professional conditions and technical capabilities for the certification of crop seeds. Crop seed certification can only be carried out after being approved by SAMR in consultation with MARA. When necessary, expert review can be organized.

(2) Certification institutions carry out certification work in accordance with crop seed certification rules and certification technical specifications.

(3) According to the needs of the certification business, the certification institutions may entrust a crop seed inspection agency with corresponding qualifications to carry out inspection and testing activities related to crop seed certification activities and make certification conclusions based on relevant inspection and testing data.

(4) The certification institutions shall disclose information such as the certification fee standard, the validity, suspension, cancellation or revocation status of the certification certificate, the certified product and the producer, accept social supervision and inquiries, and submit the implementation of crop seed certification and certification information to SAMR and MARA as required.

(5) Crop seed certification institutions shall undertake the obligation to keep confidential the state secrets and commercial secrets they know in the process of crop seed certification.

3. Promotion and application

(1) MARA establishes a mechanism for the promotion and application of crop seed certification, and actively promoted the widespread acceptance of crop seed certification results in fields such as industry management and market circulation.

(2) Market supervision departments and competent agricultural and rural departments at all levels shall, according to their respective responsibilities, organize publicity and guidance on seed certification and related training.

(3) The state encourages seed companies to obtain seed certification. As incentives to obtain certification, the state will reduce the frequency of supervisory visits to certified seed companies, and researches and formulates support policies for seed certification institutions, related seed companies, and qualified certified seeds.

4. Supervision and management

(1) Market supervision departments and competent agricultural and rural departments at all levels shall, according to their respective responsibilities, supervise and manage work related to crop seed certification in accordance with the law, and handle complaints and reports of related illegal acts.

(2) Violations of laws and regulations in certification activities or in the use of certification certificates and marks shall be published in accordance with the laws and regulations, and include them in the list of the seriously illegal and untrustworthy in accordance with relevant regulations, and publicize information related to enterprises, such as administrative penalties and the list of seriously illegal and untrustworthy, through the national enterprise credit information publicity system and relevant national platforms.

END UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

Attachments:

No Attachments.