

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Revised Draft Oilseed Species Standard Published for  
Comment

**Country:** China - People's Republic of

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** Biotechnology and Other New Production Technologies, Planting Seeds, Oilseeds  
and Products, Trade Policy Monitoring

**Prepared By:** FAS China Staff

**Approved By:** Adam Branson

**Report Highlights:**

On January 4, 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) published a revised “National Standard for Seed of Economic Crops - Part 2: Oil Species (Draft for Comments).” The revised draft standard pertains to seeds for sowing/planting and incorporates quality requirements for flax seeds for oil use, and modifies quality indicators for rapeseed hybrids, conventional sunflower seeds, and peanut seeds. This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft standard. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the unofficial translation. The deadline for submitting public comments on the revised draft is March 5, 2024. Revisions to the draft standard have not been notified to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

## Summary

On January 4, 2024 MARA published the revised [National Standards for Seed of Economic Crops-Part 2: Oil Species \(Draft for Comments\)](#) (link in Chinese). The mandatory national standard and test methods apply to oil seeds for sowing/planting including rapeseeds, sunflower, peanut, sesame, and flax for oil that are produced and sold in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Once finalized, this standard will replace the current [GB4407.2-2008 Seed of Economic Crops—Part 2: Oil Species](#) (link in Chinese), which was published on June 28, 2008 and came into effect on December 1, 2008.

Significant changes in the draft standards include:

1. Added quality requirements for flax seeds used for oil;
2. Modified the quality indicators for germination rate of rapeseed hybrids (qualified seeds) and variety genetic purity of rapeseed hybrids;
3. Modified the quality indicators for germination rate and variety genetic purity of conventional sunflower seeds;
4. Added quality indicators for shelled peanut seeds and modified quality indicators for germination rate of peanut seeds.

This report provides an UNOFFICIAL translation of the revised standard. Post has added current standard levels in the text, marked in **RED**, for comparison purposes. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the unofficial translation. Comments can be provided via email to: [jinfang@agri.gov.cn](mailto:jinfang@agri.gov.cn) or via fax to: (86 10) 59194511 before March 5, 2024. The draft standard has not been notified to the WTO.

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## National Standards of People's Republic of China

GB 4407.2—XXXX  
Replace GB 4407.2-2008

### Seed of Economic Crops - Part 2: Oil Species

(Draft for Comments)

November 13, 2023

Issued on XXXX-XX-XX (date)

Implemented on XXXX-XX-XX (date)

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Released by the State Administration for Market Regulation and China's National Standardization Administration Committee

## Foreword

This document is drafted in accordance with the provisions of GB/T1.1-2020 "Standardization Work Guidelines Part 1: Structure and Drafting Rules of Standardization Documents".

All technical contents of this part of GB 4407 "Seed of Economic Crops" are mandatory.

GB 4407 "Seed of Economic Crops" is divided into the following parts:

- Part 1: Fiber species;
- Part 2: Oil species;

This document is the second part of GB4407. It is a revision of GB 4407.2-2008 will replace GB 4407.2-2008 based on the relevant provisions of the "Seed Law of the People's Republic of China" and the new development situation of the seed industry.

Compared with GB 4407.2-2008, the main changes in this document are as follows:

- Added quality requirements for flax seeds used for oil;
- Modified the description of rapeseed crop name and seed category, modified the quality indicators for germination rate of rapeseed hybrids (qualified seeds); and variety genetic purity of rapeseed hybrids
- Modified the quality indicator for germination rate of peanut seeds, added the quality indicator for shelled peanut, modified the quality indicator for moisture of unshelled peanut;
- Modified the description of sunflower crop name and seed category, modified the quality indicators for germination rate of sunflower conventional seeds, and variety genetic purity of sunflower conventional seeds (qualified seeds);
- Modified test methods and judgment rules.

This document is proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

This document is under the jurisdiction of the National Crop Seed Standardization Technical Committee (SAC/TC37).

The main drafting units of this document are: National Agricultural Technology Extension Service Center, Hubei Provincial Seed Administration Bureau, Hunan Provincial Seed Quality Testing Center, Shandong Provincial Seed Management Station, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Technology Extension Center, Gansu Provincial Seed Station, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region Seed Work Station, Sichuan Provincial Seed Station, Shanghai Agricultural Technology Extension Service Center, Chongqing Seed Station, Guizhou Provincial Seed Management Station, Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Seed Industry Development Center.

The previous versions of the standard replaced by this document are as follows:

- GB4407-1984;
- GB 4407.2-1996;
- GB4407.2-2008

## **Seed of Economic Crops—Part 2: Oil Species**

### **1. Scope**

This part of GB 4407 specifies quality requirements, inspection methods and inspection rules for rape (*Brassica napus* L.), sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.), peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.), sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.) and oil flax (*Sesamum indicum*).

This document applies to the above-mentioned oil species seeds produced and sold in the People's Republic of China.

### **2. Normative reference documents**

The provisions in the following documents constitute indispensable provisions of this document through normative references in the text. For referenced documents with date, only the version corresponding to that date is applicable to this document; for referenced documents without date, the latest version (including all amendments) is applicable to this document.

GB/T 3543 (all parts) Crop Seed Inspection Procedures  
GB 20464 General Rules for Crop Seed Labeling

### **3. Terms and Definitions**

The following terms and definitions apply to this part of GB4407.

#### **3.1 Basic seed**

Seeds from the first to third generation propagated from breeder's seed and confirmed to meet the specified quality requirements.

#### **3.2 Qualified seeds**

Seeds from the first to third generation propagated from basic seeds or hybrids and confirmed to meet the specified quality requirements.

### **4. Quality requirements**

#### **4.1 General**

Seed quality requirements consist of quality indicators and quality labeling values. Quality indicators include variety genetic purity, physical purity, germination rate, and moisture; the quality label value should be authentic and comply with the quality requirements of this part (see 4.2).

## 4.2 Quality requirements

### 4.2.1 Rapeseed

See Table 1 for the quality requirements of rape seed.

**Table 1 Rape Seed Quality Requirements** %

Crop	Type of Seeds		Variety genetic purity not lower than	Physical purity not lower than	Germination rate not lower than	Moisture not higher than
Rape	Conventional Seeds	Basic seed	99.0	98.0	85	9.0
		Qualified Seed	95.0			
	Parents	Basic seed	99.0	98.0	80	9.0
		Qualified Seed	98.0			
	Hybrids	Qualified Seed	86.0/85.0 <sup>1</sup>	98.0	82/80	9.0

### 4.2.2 Sunflower

See Table 2 for the quality requirements of sunflower seed.

**Table 2 Sunflower Seed Quality Requirements** %

Crop	Type of Seeds		Variety genetic purity not lower than	Physical purity not lower than	Germination rate not lower than	Moisture not higher than
Sunflower	Conventional Seeds	Basic seed	99.0	98.0	90/85	9.0
		Qualified Seed	97.0/96.0			

<sup>1</sup> The current standard for variety genetic purity is 85%.

	Parents	Basic seed	99.0	98.0	90	9.0
		Qualified Seed	98.0			
	Hybrids	Qualified Seed	96.0	98.0	90	9.0

#### 4.2.3 Peanuts and sesame

See Table 3 for the quality requirements of peanuts and sesame seed.

**Table 3 Peanut and sesame seed quality requirements %**

Crop	Type of Seeds		Variety genetic purity not lower than	Physical purity not lower than	Germination rate not lower than	Moisture not higher than
Peanut	Shelled seeds	Basic seed	99.0	99.0	83/80	10.0
		Qualified Seed	96.0			
	Unshelled seeds	Basic seed	99.0	99.0	85/80	9.0/10.0
		Qualified Seed	96.0			
Sesame	Basic seed		99.0	97.0	85	9.0
	Qualified Seed		97.0			

Note: Shell refers to the peel of peanuts, and intact shelled seeds are counted as clean seeds during clarity analysis.

#### 4.2.4 Flax for oil

Flax for oil seeds shall comply with the quality requirements of flax seeds in GB4407.1-2008.

Note: Flax used for oil production is commonly known as "flax (Huma)".

### 5 Inspection methods

The inspection method shall be implemented in accordance with the provisions of GB/T 3543. If there is no provision in GB/T 3543, the test method specified by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs shall be implemented.

## **6 Inspection rules**

### **6.1 Sample**

The sampling method and seed batch determination shall comply with the provisions of GB/T 3543.

### **6.2 Determination rules**

The quality judgment rules shall comply with the provisions of GB 20464.

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### **Attachments:**

No Attachments.