



To Staple or Not Staple

OECD Seed Schemes Ad Hoc Working Group on Labelling

U.S. Presentation

29 January 2019



Some considerations About Staples

- OECD Rules do not specify method of attachment
- Method of attachment must take into consideration the material and construction of the container X tag material interaction
- A simple ban on use of “staples” is arbitrary
- Quality of the attachment should be of greater concern than the specific type of attachment, regardless of method
- In the U.S.:
 - Type of certification tag to be applied may not be known at the time the bag is sewn
 - OECD, AOSCA, state Certification Agency tag
 - Or no certification tag if the seed is sold as ‘common’ (non-certified)
 - Can be done quickly



U.S. Letter to Seed Certifying Agencies

28 May 2002

Various agencies are using various sealing methods, with many questions regarding what is allowable under the OECD Seed Schemes. These rules on sealing appear in the OECD regulations as follows: for Maize and Sorghum Seed is 9.2, Vegetable Seed is 9.4, and all other seed is 8.4.

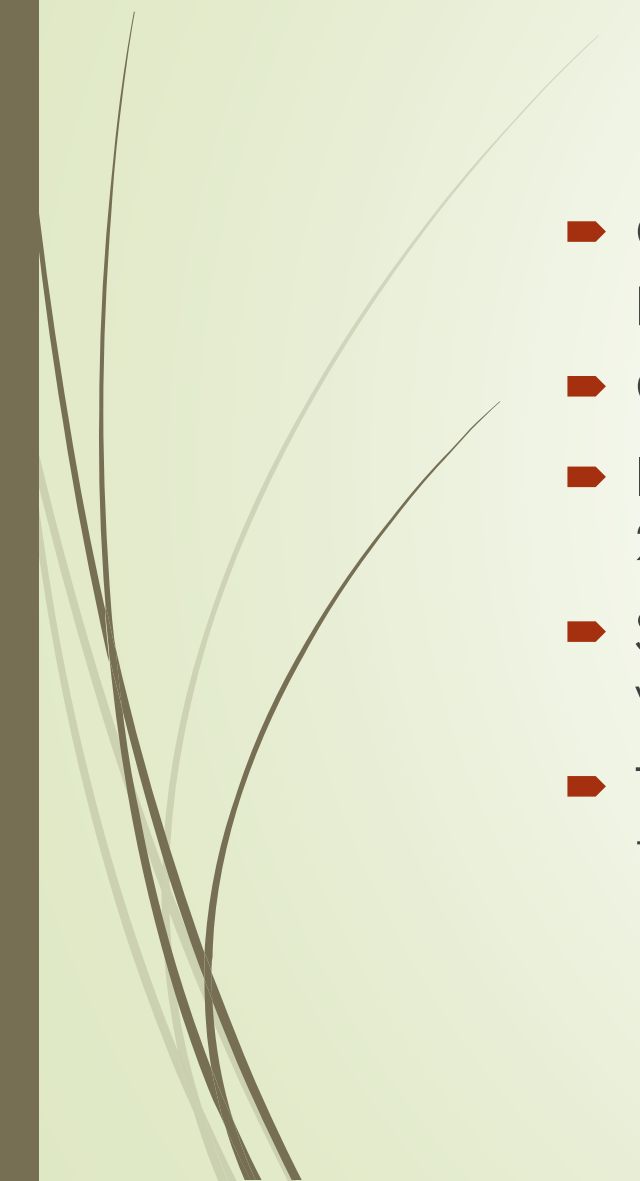
Since the seed certifying agencies are in the process of procuring sealing supplies for the coming season, and since there has been some confusion regarding this issue we have reviewed the regulations and find that *sealing integrity of the lot is maintained when staples are used to attach labels*. Based on this, the US position is that we are abiding by the applicable sealing rules by the use of *staples*, sewing, or using adhesive labels.

Kristen Thompson, Program Manager AOSCA & OECD Seed Schemes



U.S. Guidance to Seed Certifying Agencies and Seed Companies

Fall 2017

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- Check with foreign customer as to their preference – may be a point of negotiation in the sale
 - Consider alternatives to using staples, if readily available.
 - If staples are used, make sure to use heavy duty staples, at minimum 2 but 3 or 4 across the label is better.
 - Seed Certifying Agencies were challenged to provide alternatives where their printing capabilities permitted in a cost effective way
 - The NDA would continue to work with other NDAs on stapled lots if the above guidance was followed.

United States of America
Certified Seed, 1st Generation

Number 966,603

Species : Festuca rubra

Cultivar : Finesto

Parent Lot # : U21-12-02014-1

OECD Ref # : USA-WA-15-0060

Closure Date : 11/2015

Bag Weight : 50 lbs

Lot Number : U21-14-10R70-2

Meets EC Norms and Standards - Sampled and
analyzed
according to AOSA rules

O. E. C. D.

Seed
Scheme

Single Staple

**O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme**

**Système de
l'O.C.D.E.
pour les
Semences**

Certified 1st Generation

Species: multiflorum

Cultivar: Helios

Basic Ref. No.: OR1165-12-HL001

***** Not for Re-Importation *****

Sampled & analyzed according to AOSA rules
by OSU and meets EC Norms and standards.

Reference No: USA-OR15-21243
25 kgs. L12-11-74ARG

Date of Sealing: 01-19-2016

0H5HWR7BIGEI132

2016149553 0586

Single Staple, heavier staple and better positioning

O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme

Système de
l'O.C.D.E.
pour les
Semences

Certified Seed, 1st Generation

Species: *Lolium multiflorum*

Cultivar: Hellen

Basic Ref. No.: OR1165-12-HL001

*** Not for Re-Importation ***

Sampled & analyzed according to AOSA rules
by OSU and meets EC Norms and standards.

Reference No: USA-OR15-21243
25 kg. L12-14-74ARG

Date of Sealing: 01-19-2016

VXRN51558M.OVUO 2016149553 0004

2 staples, more solid attachment

**O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme**

**Système de
l'O.C.D.E.
pour les
Semences**

Basic Seed

Species: Festuca rubra subsp. rubra
Cultivar: Dorianna
Basic Ref. No.: D/BN3169/36S

Sampled & analyzed according to AOSA rules
by OSU and meets EC Norms and standards.

Reference No: USA-OR14-19798
25 lbs. LA20-14-19965

Date of Sealing: 01-09-2015

BJCC4BCXKI99GSG

2015141372 0032

O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme

Organisation de
l'O.C.D.
pour les
Semences

Certified Seed, 1st Generation

Species:

Cultivar:

Basic Ref.

Sampled & analyzed according to AOSA rules
by OSHA and meets EC Norms and standards.

Reference No:

Date of

2A

-12-9-CL11

USA-OR18-23753
L175-17-241WC
27 Sep 2018

9EPQ

20181720

3

2 staples on the side, too close to the edge

**O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme**

**Système de
l'O.C.D.E.
pour les
Semences**

**United States of America
Certified Seed, 1st Generation**

SAMPLED AND ANALYZED
ACCORDING TO AOSA BY USDA
SPECIES: POA FRATENSIS
CULTIVAR: COCKTAIL
REF. #: USA-ID-17-027
BAG WEIGHT: 1000LB
TRACES TO: FSI-91KBO-12
SEALED: OCT 2017
MEETS EC NORMS & STANDARDS

SERIAL #: 17C00013533

3 staples, heavier duty and
strategically placed

Large plastic tie
through hole
punched in label

Works well for
“mini-bulk” but
not for small
bags

**O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme**

**Système de
l'O.C.D.E.
pour les
Semences**

**United States
Certified Seed, Inc.**

SPECIES: IDAHO

VARIETY: TEST

REFERENCE NO: USA-ID-17

BAG WEIGHT: 00LB

TRACES TO: TEST TAG

SEALED: MAR 2018

SAMPLED AND ANALYZED

ACCORDING TO AOSA B

MEETS EC NORMS & STAND

11700000

**O.E.C.D.
Seed Scheme**

**United States
Certified Seed, Inc.**

SPECIES: IDAHO

VARIETY: TEST

REFERENCE NO: USA-ID-17

Cardstock sewn
in with closure
stitches

Adhesive label
attached to the
cardstock later

