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**COUNCIL DIRECTIVE  
of 30 June 1969  
on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants**

(69/208/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Articles 43 and 100 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament<sup>1</sup>;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

Whereas the production of oil and fibre plants occupies an important place in the agriculture of the European Economic Community;

Whereas satisfactory results in the cultivation of oil and fibre plants depend to a large extent on the use of appropriate seed; whereas to this end certain Member States have restricted the marketing of seed of some species of these plants to high-quality seed; whereas they have been able to take advantage of the systematic plant selection work carried out for some time which has resulted in the development of sufficiently stable and uniform varieties which, by reason of their characters, promise to be of great value for the purposes in view;

Whereas greater productivity will be achieved in the cultivation of oil and fibre plants within the Community if for the choice of the varieties permitted to be marketed the Member States apply uniform rules which are as strict as possible;

Whereas it is, however, justifiable to restrict marketing to certain varieties only where the user can be sure of actually obtaining seed of those varieties;

Whereas certain Member States have for this purpose been applying certification schemes which are intended by official control to ensure identity and varietal purity;

Whereas it is desirable to establish a uniform certification scheme for the Community based on the experience gained in the application of those schemes;

Whereas, as a general rule, seed of oil and fibre plants should be allowed to be marketed only if it has been officially examined and certified, in accordance with the rules for certification, as basic seed or certified seed; whereas the choice of the technical terms 'basic seed' and 'certified seed' is based on already existing international terminology;

Whereas there should be approval for commercial seed in order to take into account the fact that not all genera and species of oil and fibre plants of importance for cropping have as yet produced either the desired varieties or sufficient quantities of seed of the existing varieties to meet all the needs of the Community; whereas it is therefore necessary, in the case of certain genera and species, to approve seed of oil and fibre plants which is not of a named variety, but which satisfies the regulations in all other respects;

Whereas seed of oil and fibre plants which is not placed on the market should not, in view of its minor economic importance, be subject to Community rules; whereas Member States must retain the right to make such seed subject to special provisions;

Whereas Community rules should not apply to seed shown to be intended for export to third countries;

Whereas, in order to improve not only the genetic quality of Community seed of oil and fibre plants but also its external characters, certain requirements should be laid down as to analytical purity and germination;

<sup>1</sup> OJ No C 108, 10.10.1968, p. 30.

Whereas, if certain species of seed are not normally reproduced or marketed in the territory of a Member State, provision should be made for release of that Member State, under the procedure of the Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry, from the obligation to apply this Directive in respect of the species in question;

Whereas, in order to ensure the identity of the seed, Community rules on packaging, sampling, sealing and marking must be established; whereas to this end the labels should give the particulars needed both for official control and for the information of the user and should clearly show the Community nature of the certification of the certified seed of the various categories;

Whereas, in order to ensure that both the requirements as to the quality of the seed and the provisions for ensuring its identity are complied with during marketing, the Member States must make provision for appropriate control arrangements;

Whereas seed satisfying these requirements should, without prejudice to Article 36 of the Treaty, be subject to no marketing restrictions other than those provided for in Community rules;

Whereas, during a first stage, until a common catalogue of varieties has been established, the restrictions allowed should include in particular the right of Member States to restrict the marketing of certified seed to those varieties which are of value for cropping and use in their own territory;

Whereas, subject to certain conditions, seed multiplied in another country from basic seed certified in a Member State should be recognised as equivalent to seed multiplied in that Member State;

Whereas, on the other hand, provision should be made for authorising the marketing within the Community of seed of oil and fibre plants which has been harvested in third countries only if such seed affords the same assurances as seed officially certified, or officially approved as commercial seed, within the Community and complying with Community rules;

Whereas, during periods in which there are difficulties in obtaining supplies of certified seed of the various categories of oil and fibre plants or of commercial seed, seed satisfying less stringent requirements should temporarily be permitted to be marketed;

Whereas, in order to harmonise the technical methods of certification used in the various Member States and to enable comparisons to be made in the future between seed certified within the Community and

that coming from third countries, Community test fields should be established in Member States to permit annual post-control of seed of the various categories of 'certified seed';

Whereas the Commission should be entrusted with the task of adopting certain measures for the application of this Directive; whereas, in order to facilitate implementation of the proposed measures, a procedure should be provided for establishing close co-operation between Member States and the Commission within the Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

#### Article 1

This Directive shall apply to seed of oil and fibre plants marketed within the Community and intended for agricultural production but excluding use for ornamental purposes.

#### Article 2

1. For the purposes of this Directive, the following definitions shall apply:

A. Oil and fibre plants: plants of the following genera and species:

<i>Arachis hypogaea</i> L.	Groundnut (peanut)
<i>Brassica campestris</i> L. ssp. <i>oleifera</i> (Metzg.) Sinsk.	Turnip rape
<i>Brassica juncea</i> L.	Brown mustard
<i>Brassica napus</i> L. ssp. <i>oleifera</i> (Metzg.) Sinsk.	Swede rape
<i>Brassica nigra</i> (L.) W. Koch	Black mustard
<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L.	Hemp
<i>Carum carvi</i> L.	Caraway
<i>Gossypium</i> sp.	Cotton
<i>Helianthus annuus</i> L.	Sunflower
<i>Linus usitatissimum</i> L.	Flax, linseed
<i>Papaver somniferum</i> L.	Opium poppy
<i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	Castor bean
<i>Sesamum orientale</i> L.	Sesame
<i>Sinapis alba</i> L.	White mustard
<i>Soja hispida</i> L.	Soya bean

B. Basic seed: seed

(a) which has been produced under the responsibility of the breeder according to accepted practices for the maintenance of the variety;

- (b) which is intended for the production of seed either of the category 'certified seed' or of the categories 'certified seed, first generation' or 'certified seed, second generation';
- (c) which, subject to the provisions of Article 4, satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed; and
- (d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

C. Certified seed (turnip rape, brown mustard, swede rape, hemp, black mustard, caraway, cotton, sunflower, opium poppy, white mustard): seed

- (a) which is of direct descent from basic seed or, if the breeder so requests, from seed of a generation prior to basic seed and which can satisfy and has been found by official examination to satisfy the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed;
- (b) which is intended for purposes other than the production of seed of oil or fibre plants;
- (c) which, subject to the provisions of Article 4 (b), satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for certified seed; and
- (d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

D. Certified seed, first generation (groundnut, flax, linseed, sesame, soya): seed

- (a) which is of direct descent from basic seed or, if the breeder so requests, from seed of a generation prior to basic seed which can satisfy and has been found by official examination to satisfy the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed;
- (b) which is intended either for the production of seed of the category 'certified seed, second generation' or for purposes other than the production of seed of oil or fibre plants;
- (c) which satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for certified seed; and
- (d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

E. Certified seed, second generation (groundnut, flax, linseed, sesame, soya): seed

- (a) which is of direct descent from basic seed, from certified seed of the first reproduction or, if the breeder so requests, from seed of a generation prior to basic seed and which can satisfy and has been found by official examination to satisfy the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed;
- (b) which is intended for purposes other than the production of seed of oil or fibre plants;
- (c) which satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for certified seed; and
- (d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

(c) which satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for certified seed; and

(d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

F. Certified seed, third generation (flax, linseed): seed

- (a) which is of direct descent from basic seed, from certified seed of the first or second generation or, if the breeder so requests, from seed of a generation prior to basic seed and which can satisfy and has been found by official examination to satisfy the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed;
- (b) which is intended for purposes other than the production of seed of oil or fibre plants;
- (c) which satisfies the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for certified seed; and
- (d) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

G. Commercial seed: seed

- (a) which is identifiable as belonging to a species;
- (b) which, subject to the provisions of Article 4 (b), satisfies the conditions laid down in Annex II for commercial seed; and
- (c) which has been found by official examination to satisfy the above-mentioned conditions.

H. Official measures: measures taken

- (a) by State authorities, or
- (b) by any legal person whether governed by public or by private law, acting under the responsibility of the State, or
- (c) in the case of ancillary activities which are also subject to State control, by any natural person duly sworn for that purpose,

provided that the persons mentioned under (b) and (c) derive no private gain from such measures.

2. Member States may

- (a) during a transitional period of not more than three years after the entry into force of the laws, regulations or administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive, and by way of derogation from paragraph 1 (C), (D), (E) and (F), certify as certified seed, seed which is of direct descent from seed officially controlled in a Member State in accordance with the scheme in operation at that time and which affords the same assurances as basic seed certified in accordance with the principles of this Directive; this provision shall apply correspondingly to the certified

seed of the first or, where appropriate, second generation referred to in paragraph 1 (E) and (F);

(b) in the case of flax seed, include several generations in the basic seed category and subdivide this category by generation;

(c) during a transitional period which shall not extend beyond 30 June 1974, authorise, in the case of flax seed, the marketing of certified seed of the third generation. In order to remove any difficulties in obtaining supplies of flax seed that occur in a Member State, the Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, may extend that period;

(d) provide that official examinations to check compliance with the condition laid down in Annex II (I) (3) (d) for *Brassica napus oleifera* not be carried out on all lots during certification unless there is doubt whether that condition has been satisfied.

### Article 3

1. The Member States shall provide that seed of *Brassica campestris* L. ssp. *oleifera* (Metzg.) Sinsk. *Brassica napus* L. ssp. *oleifera* (Metzg.) Sinsk. *Cannabis sativa* L. *Carum carvi* L. *Gossypium* spec. *Helianthus annuus* L. *Linum usitatissimum* L. partim-flax

may not be placed on the market unless it has been officially certified as 'basic seed' or 'certified seed' and unless it satisfies the conditions laid down in Annex II.

2. The Member States shall provide that seed of oil and fibre plant species other than those listed in paragraph 1 may not be placed on the market unless the seed has been officially certified as 'basic seed' or 'certified seed', or is commercial seed, and unless the seed also satisfies the conditions laid down in Annex II.

3. It may be provided, under the procedure laid down in Article 20, that after specified dates seed of oil and fibre plant species other than those listed in paragraph 1 may not be placed on the market unless it has been officially certified as 'basic seed' or 'certified seed'.

4. The Member States shall ensure that official examinations are carried out in accordance with current international methods, in so far as such methods exist.

5. Member States may provide for derogations from the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2:

- (a) for bred seed of generations prior to basic seed;
- (b) for tests or for scientific purposes;
- (c) for selection work;
- (d) for seed as grown, marketed for processing, provided that the identity of the seed is ensured.

### Article 4

Member States may, however, by way of derogation from the provisions of Article 3:

- (a) authorise the official certification and marketing of basic seed which does not satisfy the conditions laid down in Annex II in respect of germination; to this end all necessary measures shall be taken to ensure that the supplier guarantees a specific germination which he shall state for marketing purposes on a special label bearing his name and address and the reference number of the seed lot;
- (b) in order to make seed rapidly available, notwithstanding the fact that official examination to check compliance with the conditions laid down in Annex II in respect of germination has not been concluded, authorise the official certification or approval and marketing as far as the first buyer by way of trade of seed of the categories 'basic seed', 'certified seed' or all kinds or 'commercial seed'. Certification or approval shall be granted only on presentation of a provisional analytical report on the seed and provided that the name and address of the first recipient are given; all necessary measures shall be taken to ensure that the supplier guarantees the germination ascertained at the provisional analysis; this germination shall be stated for marketing purposes on a special label bearing the name and address of the supplier and the reference number of the lot.

These provisions shall not apply to seed imported from third countries, save as otherwise provided in Article 14 in respect of multiplication outside the Community.

### Article 5

Member States may, as regards the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II, impose additional or more stringent requirements for the certification and examination of commercial seed produced in their own territory.

*Article 6*

1. Each Member State shall establish a list of the varieties of oil and fibre plants officially accepted for certification in its territory; the list shall give the main morphological or physiological characters by which varieties of plants directly derived from seed of the category 'certified seed' can be distinguished one from another.
2. In the case of hybrids and synthetic varieties, the authorities responsible for acceptance and certification shall be informed of the genealogical components. The Member States shall ensure that the results of the examination and the description of the genealogical components are, if the breeder so requests, treated as confidential.
3. A variety shall be accepted for certification only if it has been established by official or officially controlled examinations, particularly growing trials, that the variety is sufficiently uniform and stable.
4. The varieties accepted shall be officially checked at regular intervals. If any of the conditions for acceptance for certification is no longer satisfied, acceptance shall be revoked and the variety deleted from the list.
5. These lists and any alterations made to them shall be sent forthwith to the Commission, which shall communicate them to the other Member States.

*Article 7*

1. The Member States shall require that, for the checking of varieties, the examination of seed for certification and the examination of commercial seed, samples are drawn under official supervision in accordance with appropriate methods.
2. For the examination of seed for certification and the examination of commercial seed, samples shall be drawn from homogeneous lots; the maximum weight of a lot and the minimum weight of a sample are given in Annex III.

*Article 8*

1. The Member States shall require that basic seed, certified seed of all kinds and commercial seed be marketed only in sufficiently homogeneous consignments and in sealed containers bearing, as prescribed in Articles 9 and 10, a sealing device and markings.
2. Member States may, for the marketing of small quantities to the final consumer, provide for derogations from the provisions of paragraph 1 in respect of packaging, sealing and marking.

*Article 9*

1. The Member States shall require that packages of basic seed, certified seed of all kinds and commercial seed be officially sealed in such a manner that when the container is opened the seal is damaged and cannot be re-attached.
2. Packages which have been officially sealed shall not be resealed, whether one or more times, except officially. If packages are resealed, the fact of resealing, the most recent date of resealing and the authority responsible therefor shall be stated on the label required under Article 10 (1).

*Article 10*

1. The Member States shall require that packages of basic seed, certified seed of all kinds and commercial seed
  - (a) be labelled on the outside with an official label in one of the official languages of the Community conforming to the specification in Annex IV; it shall be attached with the official seal; the colour of the label shall be white for basic seed, blue for certified seed of the first generation after basic seed, red for certified seed of subsequent generations after basic seed and brown for commercial seed; if, as envisaged in Article 4 (a), the basic seed does not satisfy the conditions laid down in Annex II in respect of germination, this fact shall be stated on the label;
  - (b) contain an official document, in the same colour as the label, giving the same information as that required under Annex IV (A) (a) (4), (5) and (6) for the label and, in the case of commercial seed, the information required under (b) (2), (5) and 6; this document is not necessary if the information is printed indelibly on the container.
2. Member States may in the case of small packets provide for derogations from the provisions of paragraph 1.
3. This Directive shall not affect the right of Member States to require that seed of oil and fibre plants which is shown to be intended for purposes other than agricultural production may not be placed on the market unless this fact is stated on the label.

*Article 11*

This Directive shall not affect the right of Member States to require that, in cases other than those provided for in Article 4, containers of basic seed, certified seed of all kinds or commercial seed, whether the seed has been produced in their own territory or imported, must, if the seed is to be marketed within their territory, bear a supplier's label.

*Article 12*

The Member States shall require that any chemical treatment of basic seed, certified seed of all kinds or commercial seed be noted either on the official label or on the supplier's label and on the container or inside it.

*Article 13*

1. The Member States shall ensure that basic seed and certified seed of all kinds which have been officially certified and whose containers have been officially marked and sealed as prescribed in this Directive, and commercial seed whose containers have been officially marked and sealed as prescribed in this Directive, are subject to no marketing restrictions as regards their characters, examination arrangements, marking and sealing other than those laid down in this Directive.

2. Member States may:

- (a) where no measures have been taken by the Commission under Article 3 (3) and entered into force, provide that after specified dates seed of oil and fibre plant species other than those listed in Article 3 (1) may not be placed on the market unless it has been officially certified as 'basic seed' or 'certified seed';
- (b) adopt provisions concerning the maximum moisture content accepted for marketing;
- (c) restrict the marketing of certified seed of oil and fibre plants to that of the first generation and, in the case of flax, to that of the first or second generation after basic seed;
- (d) until such time as a common catalogue of varieties can be introduced, restrict the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants to those varieties which are entered in a national list based on value for cropping and use in their territory; the conditions for inclusion in this list shall be the same for varieties coming from other Member States as for domestic varieties.

*Article 14*

1. The Member States shall provide that seed of oil and fibre plants produced directly from basic seed certified in one Member State and harvested in another Member State or in a third country may be certified in the State which produced the basic seed if that seed has undergone field inspection satisfying the conditions laid down in Annex I and if official examination has shown that the conditions laid down in Annex II for certified seed are satisfied.

2. Member States may provide that paragraph 1 apply also to seed of oil and fibre plants which is produced directly from certified seed certified in one Member State and harvested in another Member State or in a third country.

3. Paragraph 1 shall apply in like manner to the certification of certified seed which is produced directly from seed of a generation prior to basic seed and which can satisfy and is shown by official examination to satisfy the conditions laid down in Annexes I and II for basic seed.

*Article 15*

1. The Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall determine whether:

- (a) in the case provided for in Article 14, the field inspections in the third country satisfy the conditions laid down in Annex I;
- (b) seed of oil and fibre plants which has been harvested in a third country and affords the same assurances as regards its characters and the arrangements for its examination, for ensuring identity, for marking and for control is equivalent in these respects to basic seed, certified seed, certified seed of the first, second or third generation or commercial seed harvested within the Community and complying with the provisions of this Directive.

2. Until such time as the Council has taken a decision under paragraph 1, the Member States shall be free to take such decisions themselves. This right shall expire on 1 July 1971.

*Article 16*

1. In order to remove any temporary difficulties in the general supply of basic seed, certified seed of all kinds or commercial seed that occur in one or more Member States and cannot be overcome within the Community, one or more of the Member States may be authorised, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 20, to accept for marketing, for a specified period, seed of a category satisfying less stringent requirements.

2. For a category of seed of any given variety, the official label shall be that provided for the corresponding variety; in all other cases the colour shall be that provided for commercial seed. The label shall always state that the seed in question is of a category satisfying less stringent requirements.

*Article 17*

The Directive shall not apply to seed of oil and fibre plants which is shown to be intended for export to third countries.

*Article 18*

The Member States shall make suitable arrangements for seed of oil and fibre plants to be officially controlled during marketing, at least by check sampling, as regards its compliance with the requirements of this Directive.

*Article 19*

1. Community test fields shall be established within the Community for the annual post-control of seed samples of basic seed and certified seed of all kinds of oil and fibre plants which have been taken during check sampling; these fields shall be subject to inspection by the Committee referred to in Article 20.

2. These comparative tests shall, during a first stage, be used to harmonise the technical methods of certification so as to obtain results which are equivalent. As soon as this aim is achieved, annual progress reports shall be made on the comparative tests and sent in confidence to the Member States and to the Commission. The date for the first report shall be set in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 20.

3. The arrangements for carrying out the comparative checks shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 20. Seed of oil and fibre plants which has been harvested in third countries may be included in the comparative tests.

*Article 20*

1. Where the procedure laid down in this Article is to be followed, matters shall be referred by the Chairman, either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State, to the Standing Committee on Seeds and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry (hereinafter called the 'Committee') set up by the Council Decision of 14 June 1966<sup>1</sup>.

2. Within the Committee, the votes of the Member States shall be weighted as provided in Article 148 (2) of the Treaty. The Chairman shall not vote.

3. The representative of the Commission shall submit a draft of the measures to be adopted. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on such measures within a time limit set by the Chairman according to the urgency of the matter. Opinions shall be adopted by a majority of twelve votes.

4. The Commission shall adopt measures which shall apply immediately. However, if these measures are not in accordance with the opinion of the Committee, they shall forthwith be communicated by the Commission to the Council. In that event the Commission may defer application of the measures which it has adopted for not more than one month from the date of such communication.

The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may take a different decision within one month.

*Article 21*

Save as otherwise provided in Annex II in respect of the presence of diseases, harmful organisms and their vectors, this Directive shall be without prejudice to the provisions of national laws justified on grounds of the protection of health and life of humans, animals or plants or the protection of industrial and commercial property.

*Article 22*

Upon application by a Member State, which will be dealt with as provided in Article 20, that State may be wholly or partially released from the obligation to apply this Directive in respect of certain species if seed of those species is not normally reproduced or marketed in its territory.

*Article 23*

The Member States shall, not later than 1 July 1970, bring into force the laws, regulations or administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive. They shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

*Article 24*

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 30 June 1969.

*For the Council*  
*The President*  
*J. P. BUCHLER*

<sup>1</sup> OJ No 125, 11.7.1966, p. 2298/66.

## ANNEX I

## CONDITIONS FOR CROP CERTIFICATION

1. The crop shall have sufficient identity and varietal purity.
2. There shall be at least one official field inspection.
3. The field shall be so cultivated and the crop at such a stage of development as to permit identity and varietal purity to be adequately checked.
4. The field shall not have had previous cropping of a kind incompatible with the production of seed of the species and variety of the crop.
5. The minimum distances from neighbouring crops of:

	Basic seed	Certified seed
Turnip rape, brown mustard, swede rape, black mustard, hemp, cotton, sunflower, castor bean, white mustard and caraway from crops of other varieties or species liable to cross-pollinate with the seed crop shall be	400 m	200 m

These distances can be disregarded if there is sufficient protection from any undesirable foreign pollination.

6. Diseases which reduce the usefulness of the seed shall be at the lowest possible level.

## ANNEX II

## CONDITIONS TO BE SATISFIED BY THE SEED

## I. Certified seed

1. The seed shall have sufficient identity and varietal purity.
2. The seed shall also conform to the following:

## A. Standards:

	Minimum varietal purity (%)	Minimum germination (% of pure seed)	Minimal analytical purity (% by weight)	Maximum content of seeds of other plant species (% by weight)
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Arachis hypogaea</i>				
(a) basic seed	98	70	99	0.1
(b) certified seed	95	70	99	0.1
<i>Brassica</i> species except summer types		85	98	0.2
<i>Brassica</i> species, summer types		85	98	0.3
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>		75	98	0.2
<i>Carum carvi</i>				
(a) basic seed	99	70	97	0.1
(b) certified seed	98	70	97	0.1
<i>Gossypium</i> sp.		80	98	0.2
<i>Helianthus annuus</i>		85	98	0.2
<i>Linum usitatissimum</i>				
— Flax				
(a) basic seed	99.7	92	99	0.1
(b) certified seed, first generation	98	92	99	0.1
(c) certified seed, second generation	97.5	92	99	0.1
— Linseed				
(a) basic seed	99.7	85	99	0.1
(b) certified seed, first generation	98	85	99	0.1
(c) certified seed, second generation	97.5	85	99	0.1
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>				
(a) basic seed	99	80	98	0.1
(b) certified seed	98	80	98	0.1
<i>Ricinus communis</i>		80	98	0.1
<i>Sesamum orientale</i>				
(a) basic seed	98	80	98	0.1
(b) certified seed	96	80	98	0.1
<i>Sinapis alba</i>		85	98	0.3
<i>Soja hispida</i>				
(a) basic seed	97	80	98	0.1
(b) certified seed	95	80	98	0.1

Satisfaction of the conditions in respect of minimum varietal purity shall be checked mainly in the field.

**B. Notes**

- (a) The seed of all species shall be free from *Avena fatua* and *Cuscuta*; however, one seed of *Avena fatua* or *Cuscuta* in a 100-gramme sample shall not be regarded as an impurity if a second sample of 200 grammes is free from *Avena fatua* and *Cuscuta*.
- (b) In the case of *Brassica campestris* ssp. *oleifera*, *Brassica napus* ssp. *oleifera*, *Brassica nigra*, *Brassica juncea* and *Sinapis alba*, not more than one seed of *Raphanus raphanistrum* shall be present in a 100-gramme sample.
- (c) In the case of *Brassica campestris* ssp. *oleifera*, *Brassica napus* ssp. *oleifera*, *Brassica nigra*, *Brassica juncea* and *Sinapis alba*, the percentage by weight of seeds of *Sinapis arvensis* shall not exceed 0.2.
- (d) The number of weed seeds in a 500-gramme sample of *Linum usitatissimum* seed shall not exceed 35, of which the total number of seeds of *Alopecurus myosuroides* and *Lolium remotum* shall not exceed 20.
- (e) *Linum usitatissimum* seed must be free from orobanche; however, one seed of orobanche in a 100-gramme sample shall not be regarded as an impurity if a second sample of 200 grammes is free from orobanche.

3. Harmful organisms which reduce the usefulness of the seed shall be at the lowest possible level.

- (a) In the case of *Cannabis sativa*, *Linum usitatissimum* and *Helianthus annuus*, the number of seeds contaminated by *Botrytis* shall not exceed 5%.
- (b) In the case of *Linum usitatissimum*, the number of seeds contaminated by diseases other than *Botrytis*, and in particular by *Ascochyta linicola*, *Colletotrichum lini* and *Fusarium* spec. shall not exceed 5%.
- (c) In the case of *Gossypium*, the number of seeds contaminated by *Platyedra gossypiella* shall not exceed 1%.
- (d) In the case of *Helianthus annuus* and *Brassica napus oleifera* the percentage by weight of sclerotia of *Scelerotina sclerotiorum* shall not exceed 0.1.

**II. Commercial seed**

With the exception of Item 2 (A), column 2, the conditions laid down in Annex II (I) shall apply to commercial seed.

**ANNEX III**

	Maximum weight of a lot	Minimum weight of a sample
1. Seeds of a size not less than that of a grain of wheat	20 metric tons	500 grammes
2. Seeds of a size smaller than a grain of wheat		
(a) flax seed	10 metric tons	1000 grammes
(b) other seed	10 metric tons	300 grammes

ANNEX IV

LABEL

**A. Required information**

(a) *For basic seed and certified seed:*

1. 'EEC rules and standards'
2. Certification authority and Member State or their initials
3. Month and year of official sealing
4. Reference number of lot
5. Species
6. Variety
7. Category
8. Country of production
9. Declared net or gross weight

(b) *For commercial seed:*

1. 'EEC rules and standards'
2. 'Commercial seed (not certified as to variety)'
3. Certification authority and Member State or their initials
4. Month and year of official sealing
5. Reference number of lot
6. Species
7. Region of production
8. Declared net or gross weight

**B. Minimum dimensions**

110 mm × 67 mm