

**The Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA)** and its members are dedicated to assisting clients in the production, identification, distribution and promotion of certified classes of seed and other crop propagation materials.

Established in 1919 as the International Crop Improvement Association, AOSCA today has member agencies located around the globe.

These member agencies provide seed certification and a wide range of specialized third-party auditing services. Staff members work with clients to identify their needs, develop customized services, and assist in quality assurance programs. Services may include:

- Variety and pre-variety seed certification
- Third-party record keeping
- Laboratory testing for germination, purity, genetic identify and grain quality
- Identity Preserved and Quality Assurance programs for agricultural products
- Customized field inspection programs
- Organic auditing and certification services

*Dedicated  
to  
Excellence*



For information about all the services offered by AOSCA member agencies, contact the local seed certification agency of the AOSCA office.

Learn more about AOSCA services by visiting our web site: [www.aosca.org](http://www.aosca.org)

# AOSCA

**ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL  
SEED CERTIFYING AGENCIES**

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# AOSCA



**ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL SEED  
CERTIFYING AGENCIES**

A global network providing  
seed certification and quality assurance  
services to the agricultural industry.



# LOOK TO AOSCA FOR LEADERSHIP IN QUALITY SERVICES.

**AOSCA members** provide a wide range of programs to help their clients meet the demands of today's agricultural marketplace. Program components include verification of planting stock origin, field inspections, laboratory analysis of product samples, auditing, official labeling and the approval of seed and grain handling facilities.

With member agencies located throughout the world, AOSCA offers a broad network of organizations to coordinate the delivery of services that enhance and certify the quality of seed and crop propagating materials. Cooperation among member agencies assures uniform quality from field inspection through laboratory testing.

**Seed certification services** preserve genetic purity and identity of crop varieties. AOSCA offers complete programs for certifying traditional agronomic field crops, grasses, oil seeds, tobacco and vegetable crops. Many agencies also provide certification for pre-variety woody plants, native species and forbs species.

**Contract production services** are available through many agencies' foundation seed programs. These organizations have years of experience

in producing high-quality breeder and foundation seed and cooperating with local certification agencies.

**Laboratory analysis** includes testing for physical purity, genetic purity, germination and viability, and quality



components. AOSCA agencies offer a wide range of specialized tests, including electrophoresis, herbicide tolerance, disease resistance and feed or food-grade quality analysis. All laboratories

maintain rigorous quality control standards and follow the official rules for testing.

**Quality Assurance (QA) programs** provide extensive testing and inspection services for seeds merchandised as varieties, hybrids, brands or blends not using traditional certification. Seeds meeting program requirements can display the green QA logo, which assures the customer that the product is of known purity and quality as verified by an unbiased third-party agency. Many agencies also provide customized services, including field inspections, independent

record keeping, disease inspections, pest scouting and certification of noxious-weed-seed-free forage and mulch. Your local AOSCA agency can work with you to develop a QA program that meets your specific needs.

**Identity Preserved (IP) Product Certification** takes QA one step further by verifying a product's specific traits through field inspections, laboratory analysis, record keeping, auditing and specialized care of equipment and storage facilities. The system preserves the identity



of a product and assures its suitability for specialized end uses. Current IP programs include non-GMO grains, as well as value-added traits. AOSCA's trademarked IP label assures the customer that the product's identity and purity have been maintained throughout the growing, production, processing and marketing process.

*Preserving Genetic Purity*

