

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture, Domestic Animals

Agency

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Subject

Connecticut Seed Law

Inclusive Sections

§§ 22-59-1—22-59-14

CONTENTS

Sec. 22-59-1.	Sampling, inspecting, analyzing, testing and examining agricultural and vegetable seed, and tolerances to be followed
Sec. 22-59-1a.	Grower's declaration
Sec. 22-59-2.	Agricultural experiment station to be seed-testing laboratory
Sec. 22-59-3.	Standards of germination for vegetable seeds
Sec. 22-59-4.	Seeds on retail premises to bear analysis tag
Sec. 22-59-5.	Label to show secondary noxious weed seeds present
Sec. 22-59-6.	Certain seeds deleted from noxious weeds
Sec. 22-59-7.	Seeds germinating below standard
Sec. 22-59-8.	Seeds containing primary noxious weeds prohibited
Sec. 22-59-8a.	Prohibited noxious weed seeds
Sec. 22-59-8b.	Restricted noxious weed seeds
Sec. 22-59-9.	Label lettering
Sec. 22-59-9a.	Labeling of seed prior to distribution
Sec. 22-59-9b.	White sweet clover
Sec. 22-59-9c.	Poison label
Sec. 22-59-10.	Free tests of samples
	Connecticut Grades for Lawn Seed Mixtures
Sec. 22-59-11.	Connecticut grades for lawn seed mixtures
Sec. 22-59-12.	General requirements for officially graded lawn grass mixtures
Sec. 22-59-13.	Labeling and sealing of containers
Sec. 22-59-14.	Labeling of lawn seed mixture

Connecticut Seed Law

Sec. 22-59-1. Sampling, inspecting, analyzing, testing and examining agricultural and vegetable seed, and tolerances to be followed

*The terms used in seed testing and methods of sampling, inspecting, analyzing, testing and examining agricultural and vegetable seeds, and the tolerances to be followed * * * in the administration of chapter 424 of the general statutes shall be those adopted effective July 1, 1955, and as subsequently amended, by the Association of Official Seed Analysts * * * .*

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-1a. Grower’s declaration

A grower’s declaration is a statement signed by the grower giving, for any lot of seed, the lot number, the kind, variety, origin and weight.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-2. Agricultural experiment station to be seed-testing laboratory

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station shall be the official seed-testing laboratory.

Sec. 22-59-3. Standards of germination for vegetable seeds

The standards of germination for vegetable seeds in this state shall be those standards provided for by the rules and regulations of the Federal Seed Act. They are as follows:

	Per cent		Per cent
Artichokes	60	Endive	70
Asparagus	70	Kale	75
Beans, * * * <i>asparagus</i>	75	Kohlrabi	75
<i>Beans, garden</i>		Leek	60
<i>(varieties other than Rival,</i>		Lettuce	80
<i>Topcrop and Logan)</i>	75	Muskmelon	75
<i>Beans, garden,</i>		Mustard	75
<i>(varieties Rival, Topcrop and</i>	70	<i>Mustard, spinach</i>	75
<i>Logan)</i>		Okra	50
<i>Beans, horde or broad</i>	75	Onion	70
Beans, lima	70	<i>Pak-choi</i>	75
<i>Beans, runner</i>	75	Parsley	60
Beets	65	Parsnips	60

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

§22-59-4 *Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources*

Broccoli	75	Peas	80
Brussels Sprouts	70	Pepper	55
Cabbage	75	<i>Pe-tsai or Chinese cabbage</i>	75
<i>Cardoon</i>	60	Pumpkin	75
Carrot	55	Radish	75
Cauliflower	75	Rhubarb	60
Celery and celeriac	55	Rutabaga	75
Chicory	65	Salsify	75
Citron	65	Sorrell	64
Collards	80	<i>Soybean</i>	75
Corn * * *	75	Spinach (except New Zealand)	60
Cornsalad (Fetticus)	70	Spinach, New Zealand	40
Cowpea	75	Squash	75
Cress, garden	75	Swiss Chard	65
Cress, water	40	Tomato	75
Cucumber	80	Tomato, husk	50
Dandelion	60	Turnip	80
Eggplant	60	Watermelon	70

Standards for vegetable seeds are subject to change. This department will furnish information on changes upon request.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-4. Seeds on retail premises to bear analysis tag

All agricultural and vegetable seeds on the premises of a retail merchant shall bear the complete analysis tag as prescribed by law.

(See 1963 Supp. § 22-56.)

Sec. 22-59-5. Label to show secondary noxious weed seeds present

The label on all mixtures shall show the name and number of the secondary noxious weed seeds present, singly or collectively, in excess of one seed in each fifteen grams.

(See 1963 Supp. § 22-56.)

Sec. 22-59-6. Certain seeds deleted from noxious weeds

(a) The seeds of * * * bed straw (*Galium spp.*) * * * may be deleted from the list of * * * *prohibited noxious weeds* in lawn grass mixtures. (b) *The seeds of dock (Rumex spp.) except red sorrel (Rumex acetosella L.) may be deleted from the list of restricted noxious weeds in lawn seed mixtures.* (c) *The seeds of Plantago spp. other than broadleaf plantain (Plantago major), blackseed plantain (Plantago rugelii) and buckhorn plantain (Plantago*

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

§22-59-9a

lanceolata) may be deleted from the list of restricted noxious weeds in lawn grass mixtures.
(d) The seeds of annual bluegrass (*Poa annua* L.) may be deleted from the list of restricted noxious weeds in lawn grass mixtures when it is listed on the label as a component crop seed and the percentage by weight and the percentage of germination is shown.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-7. Seeds germinating below standard

Vegetable seeds that germinate below the prescribed standard shall be marked on the face of the packet or on the face of the analysis tag, in a manner not less legible than eight point, open bold face type, with the words “Below Standard” enclosed in a box.

Sec. 22-59-8. Seeds containing primary noxious weeds prohibited

Agricultural seeds containing primary noxious weeds are prohibited from sale.

(See 1963 Supp. §§ 22-55 (e) (1); 27-57 (a) (4).)

Sec. 22-59-8a. Prohibited noxious weed seeds

The following list of prohibited noxious weed seed is established, effective November 1, 1963: The seeds of bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* L.), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense* L.), quackgrass (*Agropyron repens* L. Beauv.), horse nettle (*Solanum carolinense* L.), perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis* L.) dodder (*Cuscuta* spp.), Russian knagweed (*Centaurea repens* L.), yellow nutsedge (*Cyperus esculentus* L.) and bedstraw (*Galium* spp.)

(See 1963 Supp. §§ 92-55(e)(1); 22-57(a)(4).)

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-8b. Restricted noxious weed seeds

The following list of restricted noxious weed seeds is established effective November 1, 1963: Seeds of dock (*Rumex* spp.) plantain (*Plantago* spp.), Wild mustards (*Brassica* spp.), white cockle (*Lychnis alba* Mill.), yellow rocket (*Barbarea vulgaris* R. Br.), annual bluegrass (*Poa annua* L.), and wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum* L.).

(See 1963 Supp. §§ 22-55 (e) (2); 22-57 (a) (6).)

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-9. Label lettering

The term “labeling” shall be interpreted as meaning that the lettering used to cover information required by law shall be large and legible enough so as not to be obscured by other type or illustrations used. Where any question of doubt arises, samples of proposed containers or labels may be submitted to the commissioner of agriculture and natural resources for approval.

Sec. 22-59-9a. Labeling of seed prior to distribution

After seed has been processed, it shall be labeled before distribution to any person, including a wholesaler. Each bag or bulk lot shall be completely labeled when supplied to

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

§22-59-9b

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

a retailer or consumer. Labeling of seed supplied to a wholesaler, one whose predominant business is to supply seed to other distributors rather than to consumers of seed, may be by invoice or by an analysis tag attached to the invoice, if each bag or other container is clearly identified by a lot number stenciled on the container, or if the seed is in bulk. Each bag or container that is not so identified shall carry complete labeling.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-9b. White sweet clover

Sweet clover seed containing more than five per cent of yellow sweet clover seed (more than one and one-quarter per cent of mottled seeds) shall not be labeled white sweet clover. Such seed shall be labeled as an agricultural seed mixture.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-9c. Poison label

Seed treated with a mercurial or similarly toxic substance, if any amount remains with the seed, shall be labeled to show a statement such as “Poison,” “Poison treated” or “Treated with Poison.” The word “Poison” shall be in type no smaller than eight point and shall be in red letters on a distinctly contrasting background. In addition, the label shall show a representation of a skull and crossbones at least twice the size of the type used for the name of the substance and the statement indicating that the seed has been treated.

(Effective October 29, 1963)

Sec. 22-59-10. Free tests of samples

Any citizen of Connecticut may send samples for tests or analysis up to a maximum of five samples for germination tests, or one sample for purity analysis, within a given calendar month. The results of these free tests cannot be used for declaration of sales or for labeling purposes.

Connecticut Grades for Lawn Seed Mixtures

Sec. 22-59-11. Connecticut grades for lawn seed mixtures

(a) Conn. grade AA or Conn. gold seal, grade AA shall contain: (1) Not less than seventy-five per cent net weight of pure seed from Group I, except that, if a mixture in this grade is to be sold for a special purpose, such as seeding shady places, steep banks, etc., it shall contain at least seventy-five per cent of seed of grasses reasonably adapted for that particular use. In such cases, seed from Group II may be substituted for seed from Group I; (2) not more than nineteen per cent net weight of pure seed for Group III (Red Top or annual rye grass only may be used as a nurse grass in this grade.); (3) not more than five and six-tenths per cent by weight of inert matter; (4) not more than four-tenths of one per cent by weight of weed seed.

(b) Connecticut grade A or Connecticut blue seal grade A shall contain: (1) Not less than sixty-five per cent net weight of pure seed from Group I, except that, if a mixture in this

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

§22-59-13

grade is to be sold for a special purpose, such as seeding shady places, steep banks, etc., it shall contain at least sixty-five per cent of seed of grasses reasonably adapted for that particular use. In such cases, seed from Group II may be substituted for seed from Group I; (2) not more than twenty-nine per cent net weight of pure seed from Group III; (3) not more than five and six-tenths per cent by weight of inert matter; (4) not more than four-tenths of one per cent by weight of weed seed.

(c) Connecticut grade B or Connecticut red seal grade B shall contain: (1) Not less than fifty per cent net weight of pure seed from Group I, except that, if a mixture in this grade is to be sold for a special purpose, such as seeding shady places, steep banks, etc., it shall contain at least fifty per cent of seed of grasses reasonably adapted for that particular use. In such cases, seeds from Group II may be substituted for seed from Group I; (2) not more than forty per cent net weight of pure seed from Group III; (3) not more than nine and one-tenth per cent by weight of inert matter; (4) not more than nine-tenths of one per cent by weight of weed seed.

Sec. 22-59-12. General requirements for officially graded lawn grass mixtures

(a) Lawn grass mixtures shall contain no filler grasses.

(b) When the inert matter and/or weed seed is less than the maximum allowance for these grades, additional seed from Group III may be added to make up that discrepancy.

(c) Any lot of lawn seed mixture found on sale labeled as a Conn. graded mixture or otherwise represented as such which fails to meet specifications shall be deemed to be misbranded and its sale prohibited.

Sec. 22-59-13. Labeling and sealing of containers

(a) Graded lawn seed grass mixtures labeled as such shall be sold in sealed containers (pasteboard containers, sealed bags, sealed cans, etc.).

(b) The latitude of variation or tolerance on samples tested for germination and purity shall be in accordance with the following, except that there will be no tolerance on germination for graded mixtures:

(1) Purity percentages. In the determination of the tolerance for the percentage of the distinguishable kind, type or variety (pure seed), weed seeds, other crop seeds and inert matter, the sample shall be first considered as made up of two parts: (A) The percentage of the component (pure seed, weed seed, crop seed or inert matter, as the case may be) being considered, and (B) the difference between that percentage and one hundred. The number represented by (A) is then multiplied by the number represented by (B) and the product is divided by one hundred. The resulting number is then multiplied by 0.2 (2/10) and the resulting product added to 0.2 or 0.6 as indicated in the following formulae:

$$\text{Pure seed tolerance} = 0.6 / \left\{ \frac{0.2 \times a \times b}{100} \right\}$$

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

§22-59-14

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Weed seeds, other} \\ \text{Crop seeds and inert} \\ \text{matter tolerance} \end{array} = 0.2 / \left\{ \begin{array}{c} 0.2 \times a \times b \\ 100 \end{array} \right\}$$

(2) Germination. The following tolerances are applicable to the percentage of germination and also to the sum of the germination plus the hard seed:

Found by test:	Tolerance
96 or over	5
90 or over but less than 96	6
80 or over but less than 90	7
70 or over but less than 80	8
60 or over but less than 70	9
Less than 60	10

(c) Violation of any of the above provisions will result in cancellation of the certificate of registry and withdrawal of the registry number.

Sec. 22-59-14. Labeling of lawn seed mixture

“Fine Textured” kinds of grasses for the purposes of labeling, under section 22-56 of the 1969 supplement to the general statutes, is amended as follows:

Bent Grasses:

- Agrostis tenuis (Colonial)
- Agrostis palustris (Creeping)
- Agrostis canina (Velvet)

Bluegrasses:

- Poa trivialis (Rough Bluegrass)
- Poa pratensis (Kentucky)
- Poa nemoralis (Wood)
- Poa compressa (Canada)

Fescues:

- Festuca rubra var commutata (Chewings)
- Festuca rubra (Red)
- Festuca ovina (Sheep)

Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies

TITLE 22. Agriculture. Domestic Animals

Commissioner of Agriculture and Natural Resources

§22-59-14

Perennial Rye Grasses: Lolium perenne L. (varieties NK-100, Norlea, Pelo, and Manhattan).

“Coarse Kinds”(including legumes and ground covers) shall be all kinds not named above.

(Effective September 23, 1969)