

## **APHIS-PPQ Policy Change: Certification of Canadian Produced Seed**

August 28, 2007

### **Background**

All propagative material imported into the United States is required to have a phytosanitary certificate (PC) from the country of exportation, except for Canadian produced seed. Seed produced in Canada and reexported from the United States has experienced entry problems when shipped to a third country because of the absence of a Canadian PC. To facilitate the United States' trade of Canadian produced seed, the following options are available for certifying Canadian produced seed being reexported from the United States.

NOTE: this does not apply to seed reexported from Canada; this only pertains to seed grown in Canada.

### **Option 1**

Option 1 will provide the greatest assurance that a commodity meets an importing country's requirements. Therefore, exporters should be encouraged to provide the required documentation to allow certification under this option. Consignments not certified under Option 1 may be rejected and Export Services (ES) may not be able to assist the exporter.

1. The seed will be certified using a Phytosanitary Certificate (PPQ 577). Canada will be listed as the country of origin.
2. The exporter must present the Authorized Certification Official (ACO) with the importing country's phytosanitary requirements for Canadian produced seed. The requirements must be in the form of official communication from either the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the importing country or Canada.
3. The official communication presented by the exporter may be used for certification purposes for 6 months from the date of the document, unless the document states otherwise. Exporters should be cautioned that it is advisable that they obtain confirmation of a country's import requirements each time they export because import requirements can change at any time.
4. If the importing country requires one of the following phytosanitary actions the seed may be certified once the requirement(s) has been met. The phytosanitary action must be conducted in the United States. **Phytosanitary actions taken in Canada can not be listed on a United States' PC nor used as the basis for issuing a United States' PC.**
  - a. Laboratory analysis or testing: must be conducted by a United States' authorized laboratory.
  - b. Treatment: must meet policy and procedures as stated in the Export Certification Manual.

5. If the country requires phytosanitary actions/measures, other than those listed under point 4, the consignment can not be certified.
6. Consignment must be inspected.
7. If an exporter presents import requirements and it is determined that the requirements can not be met, the consignment can not be certified under either Option 1 or Option 2.

### **Option 2**

Option 2 can be used if the exporter **can not obtain the import requirements** of the importing country. The exporter should be cautioned that the consignment may not meet the phytosanitary requirements of the importing country, may be rejected, and that ES may not be able to assist them if a shipment is held or rejected.

1. The seed will be certified using a Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (PPQ 579) as per the Export Certification Manual. Canada will be listed as the country of origin.
2. Additional declarations pertaining to phytosanitary actions are not permitted.
3. Additional declaration that, "The shipment met the entry requirements of the United States."
4. Consignment must be inspected.