



Announcement

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Keep treated seeds from entering the U.S. grain, oilseeds supply; keep out of bins

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Growers and grain and oilseed handlers should be extra cautious not to store treated seeds in grain bins or other locations where it could get mixed with commodity crops.

“Treated seeds in commodity shipments are a multi-commodity problem and warrant the attention of the entire supply chain,” said Gary Martin, North American Export Grain Association. “With food safety scares at the forefront of public and official concern, our exports are subject to increased scrutiny in many markets.

“Treated seeds have gained increased attention from many import control officials and are a sure way of increasing the costs and reducing the competitiveness of our grains and oilseeds export market.”

Few concerns can be as damaging to supplier reputation for quality and safety of ag products as the presence of seed treatment compounds in commodities intended for use in food and feed, he said.

This is an industry-wide effort and everyone needs to do their part to comply with the U.S. law and prevent treated seeds from entering the commodity supply. Exports for U.S. grains, feeds and oilseeds are valued at nearly \$50 billion, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Foreign Agricultural Service.

The American Seed Trade Association in support of the North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA) encourages seed producers to do their part and make sure they don’t put treated seeds in the same grain bin or truck as commodity crops without prior cleaning.

“It is important that the entire supply chain be vigilant in mitigating the rare circumstances when pesticide treated seed are mixed in with grain shipments,” said Andy LaVigne, ASTA president and CEO. “We ask that you maintain high standards in how treated seed is handled in order to prevent it from entering the supply chain.”

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