



Invitation to the ISTA/FAO Training Course on Seed Quality Testing



Date: March 27th – 31st, 2006 (5 days)

Location: Ghana Seed Inspection Division
Plant Protection and Regular Services
Directorate
Accra, Ghana



Local Organiser: Mr. Lambert Lansagri Delimini

The **International Seed Testing Association (ISTA)** and the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** have a great pleasure to announce the ISTA/FAO Training Course on Seed Quality Testing. This Training Course is for seed testing analysts from selected countries of the African region, namely ECOWAS countries and Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The aim of the course is to provide hand-on experience to technicians and seed testing technologists, and straightened cooperation and information exchange in the field of seed testing in the region. The training course will include lectures and practical work.

Considering the above, participants should be actual technicians, with at least a basic knowledge or experience in seed testing.

Kindly note that funds can be secured for 20 participants, covering accommodation for 4 nights, food during the course period and travel expenses. Travel expenses of a maximum of US\$400 will be reimbursed upon participants' arrival to the course venue. Participants are advised to keep their travel tickets in order to facilitate reimbursement. Furthermore, each participant will upon arrival receive US\$50 contribution towards miscellaneous expenses.

The course is limited to 20 participants! Seed analysts can apply for the participation with the attached **registration form and a short curriculum vitae** about their working experiences and technical duties which they performed in their laboratory. Please send the registration form as soon as possible, but latest by **February 15th 2006** to the ISTA Secretariat. For further information please do not hesitate to contact the ISTA Secretariat.

ISTA Secretariat
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8303 Bassersdorf, Switzerland
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Lecturer:

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Local organiser:

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Plant Protection and Regulatory
Services Directorate
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Considered Workshop Content:

The workshop shall provide general information and hand-on experience in various techniques for seed quality testing. These will cover:

- Laboratory Sampling
- Purity Testing, Seed identification
- Calculation and reporting of results
- Identification of special species (*Avena, Vicia, Lathyrus, Rumex, Silene*)
- Seed Collections, Systematics, use of the GRIN System, Literature
- Preparation for Germination testing in the laboratory
- Germination Testing and evaluation
- Germination, evaluation of abnormal seedlings in mono- and di-cotyledons
- Use of tolerance tables, calculation and reporting of hard and fresh seed
- Tetrazolium testing for the determination of un-germinated seed
- Viability, Germination and Vigour
- The ISTA Accreditation Standard, Quality Assurance in the laboratory: staff and equipment

Considered species to be tested:

- *Oryza, Zea, Glycine*
- *Arachis, Vigna, Brassica*
- *Cucumis, Lycopersicon*

Contact person from ISTA for registration:

Branislava Opra, M.Sc.
ISTA, Head of Membership Department
e-mail: branislava.opra@ista.ch

Contact person from FAO:

Mr. Larinde Michael
FAO, Seed and Plant Genetic Resources Service, Capacity Building
e-mail: michael.larinde@fao.org

Registration Form
**ISTA/FAO Training Course
on Seed Quality**
March 27th – 31st, 2006 in Accra, GHANA

I am interested in participating this ISTA/FAO Training Course and wish to apply:

Title

Name First name

Position

Technical duties performed

Company/Institution

Street/PO Box

Address

Postal code City Country

Phone # Fax #

E-mail

Travel expenses to

Accra & return

Accommodation in Accra will be needed: yes no

Curriculum vitae is enclosed.

Thank you for answering below questions for us. It will help us in organising the course as well as in developing and promoting technical capacity building activities in this area. (Please use an extra sheet if needed.)

1) What are your expectations from this course?
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2) Have you participated in similar Training Courses before? Which are they?
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3) What are the technical activities carried out in your institute/centre?
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4) What instruments do you have for seed testing?
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5) Do you participate in any national, regional or international collaborations or networks?
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Please send back this form and your curriculum vitae to:

ISTA Secretariat
Zürichstrasse 50
8303 Bassersdorf, Switzerland
email: ista.office@ista.ch
Fax: +41 44 838 6001