



August 23, 2019

Don Robison  
Seed Administrator  
Office of Indiana State Chemist & Seed Commissioner  
Via email: drobiso@purdue.edu

Regarding: Proposed Rule, LSA Document #18-443 - Amends 360 IAC 1-1-5, concerning noxious weed seeds and prohibitions, to remove weeds no longer economically harmful. Amends 360 IAC 1-1-6, concerning noxious weed seeds and restrictions, to add new economically harmful weeds to the list.

The American Seed Trade Association (ASTA) is writing this letter to support the proposed rule currently under consideration by the Indiana State Seed Commissioner to amend the state's weed seed regulations.

Founded in 1883, ASTA is one of the oldest trade organizations in the United States. Its membership consists of almost 800 companies involved in seed production and distribution, plant breeding, and related industries. ASTA is a diverse organization. It represents all types of seed companies and technologies – seed from alfalfa to zucchini, technologies from organic to biotechnology, and companies from “mom and pop” to multinationals. It works on behalf of all of its members at the state, national, and international levels. In other words, ASTA represents every seed company that would be affected by the proposed legislation, and it works in cooperation with the rest of agribusiness and consumers, whom the proposed legislation would also benefit.

ASTA appreciates the opportunity to comment and the consideration of input regarding the noxious weed seed issues in the state. It is significant that the seed industry was included in the discussion to work toward a solution to this complex issue. We believe the proposed rule adequately addresses the objective, with minimal impact on the seed industry, and ultimately benefits agricultural producers in Indiana.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pat T. Miller  
Director, State Affairs

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