

Euroseeds SVO WG Product Specifications

Q & A on Precision Seed Product Specification

The product specifications for germination and varietal purity of precision seeds are based upon Euroseeds recommended specifications. They are not intended to be absolute minimum standards for delivery: If the tests of [company X] indicate a lower quality than provided in these specifications, [company X] will inform prospective seed users. These product specifications aim to inform professional seed users of the quality to be expected, in order to enable an informed choice.

Below are anticipated Questions that the Euroseeds Working Group Production Specification has proposed Answers to the user of the Product Specifications.

If your question is not answered please contact the Euroseeds Secretariat

1. Why is there a Euroseeds Product Specification for Precision Seed?

These specifications have been developed as an industry standard to provide users with clarity regarding the minimum quality expectations.

2. Can I deliver Precision Seed that does not meet the Euroseeds Product Specifications for precision seeds?

The Euroseeds Product Specifications provides recommendations on specifications for minimum standards to be met for Precision Seed. However, if a company intends to deliver precision seed that does not meet the Euroseeds Product Specifications, they should inform the seed users that their seed is of lower quality than provided in the Euroseeds Product Specifications.

3. For specific segments where I cannot market Precision Seed, what can I do best?

When you cannot market seed as Precision Seed for specific segments, just market without mentioning "Precision Seed".

4. Do I need to publish the Euroseeds Product Specifications on my website?

It is recommended to publish the Euroseeds Product Specifications on your company website. It is important to communicate the product specifications to your customers for them to be aware of their existence.

5. Can I change the text of the Euroseeds Product Specifications to match our company style?

It is recommended not to modify the agreed text in the Euroseeds Product Specifications, since it is meant to be a standard document. However, companies are free to remove crops that are not part of their portfolio from the variety purity and germination lists.

6. If a company sells seeds with a specific company quality label, can they add the related specifications to the one for precision seeds in e.g. on their website?

Companies can sell seeds with specific company quality label(s) and can also add references to the Euroseeds Product Specifications on their websites. It is recommended not to modify the agreed text in the Euroseeds Product Specifications, since it is meant to be a standard document.

If a company markets Precision Seed with or without its own label, it should respect the minimum requirements as proposed by Euroseeds.

7. Do we have to mention 'Precision Seed' on our packaging, invoice and/or packing list?

If a company is utilizing the recommended minimum standards set out in the Euroseeds Product Specifications for vegetable precision seeds, it is advisable to mention the term 'Precision Seed' on the packaging, invoice and / or packing list. In that way, by actively using the term "Precision Seed," the customer is informed that the seed in the package relates to precision seed and what they can expect as minimum percentages for germination and varietal purity.

8. How does the Euroseeds Product Specifications compare with the European Union (EU) Marketing Directive (2002/55 EC)??

The Euroseeds Product Specifications are an industry standard based on practical industry experience and often set higher standards than what is legally mandated. It is, however, not fixed in any legislation.

9. My customers expect 100% usable plants from our seeds. Are the Euroseeds Product Specifications relevant for my company?

Managing customer expectations is crucial. With the Euroseeds Product Specifications, the minimum quality that the customer can expect is communicated and, in many cases, the final quality delivered will be higher. Nevertheless, the requirements in the Euroseeds Product Specifications are intended as minimum requirements.

10. Does Euroseeds Product Specifications apply outside of Europe as well?

In principle, the definition was developed for the EU region, however, the Euroseeds Product Specifications can also be used outside the EU. In case it is used, it is advisable to provide users with clarity by communicating the definitions.



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