



**ISTA Standard Proficiency Test Programme Plan 2026-2028, update 15.04.2026**

Round	Species	Test round scope	Crop group	Crop group
PT26-1	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i>	PUR, OSD, GER, OIC***	5 and 8 *	Other Agricultural Crops & Flowers
PT26-2	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> <i>subsp. vulgare</i>	PUR, OSD, GER, MOI, TSW, MIX	2	Cereals
PT26-3	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i> **	PUR, OSD, GER, TZ	1	Grasses
PT27-1	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	GER, VIG (conductivity), MOI	4	Pulses
PT27-1	<i>Salvia</i> sp.	GER	5, 6 and 8 *	Other Agricultural Crops, Vegetables & Flowers
PT27-2	<i>Trifolium incarnatum</i>	PUR, OSD, GER, TZ	3	Small legume
PT27-3	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	GER, TZ, MIX	5 and 8 *	Other Agricultural Crops & Flowers
PT27-3	<i>Glycine max</i>	GER, VIG (radicle emergence), MOI, OIC***	4	Pulses
PT28-1	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	PUR, OSD, GER	6 and 8 *	Vegetables & Flowers
PT28-1	<i>Moringa</i> sp. **	GER, TZ	7	Forest
PT28-2	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	PUR, OSD, GER, MOI, TSW, OIC***	3	Small Legume
PT28-3	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	PUR, OSD, GER, TZ	1	Grasses
PT28-3	<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> <i>subsp. bicolor</i>	GER, MOI, MIX	2	Cereals

\* For species that belong to two crop groups Laboratories accredited for either of the crop groups will be obligatory participants

\*\* *Moringa* sp. is currently not in the ISTA Rules; it will be part of the PT Programme Plan if accepted

\*\* *Lolium perenne* is replaced with *Lolium multiflorum*

\*\*\* Rounds PT26-1, PT27-3 and PT28-2 will also include an exercise on completing the ISTA Orange Certificate; completion of the Certificate is voluntary for all participants and as such not rated.

**Legend:**

PUR_OSD	Purity including Other Seed Determination
GER	Germination
MOI	Moisture
TZ	Tetrazolium Test
TSW	Thousand Seed Weight
VIG	Vigour Test
OIC	Reporting on an ISTA Orange International Seed Lot Certificate
MIX	Seed mixture training exercise organised by the PUR Committee, not subjected to ratings

**Samples distribution time:**

Rounds per year	1 <sup>st</sup> round of each year	2 <sup>nd</sup> round of each year	3 <sup>rd</sup> round of each year
Expected shipment to participants	1 April	1 August	1 December
Results reporting deadline	1 July	1 November	1 March

**Note:** Non-members wishing to participate in a PT round needs to inform the ISTA Secretariat one year ahead of a PT round of their interest that enough samples can be prepared.