

# ISTA Flower Seed Committee - FSC

Presenter: Sarah Dammen, Chair FSC

Location: Calgary, Canada

Date: June 23, 2026



# Flower Seed Testing Committee

## FSC Composition 2026

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Sarah Dammen (Chair)                   | USA            |
| 2. Meriam Dekalo Keren (Vice-Chair)       | Israel         |
| 3. Rachael Davies                         | United Kingdom |
| 4. Erik van Egmond                        | Netherlands    |
| 5. Alessandra Barbante                    | Italy          |
| 6. Stefanie Krämer                        | Germany        |
| 7. Maria Marin                            | Croatia        |
| 8. Lucele Pretorius                       | South Africa   |
| 9. Shizka Takeuchi                        | Japan          |
| 10. Sandhya Kalyanappa                    | India          |
| 11. Sylvie Ducournau                      | France         |
| 12. Angelique Juret                       | France (new)   |
| 13. Didier Demilly (ECOM Liaison Officer) | France         |
| 14. Claid Mujaju (ECOM Liaison Officer)   | Zimbabwe       |

Room for more  
members

# Flower Seed Testing Committee

- **Membership Updates**

- Retiring from the FSC

- Sylvie Ducournau

- Thank you for your 28 years of commitment to flower seed testing and your many contributions to the ISTA Flower Seed Committee.

- New Member

- Angelique Juret – voted in as a new member March 2026. She is from France.



# Flower Seed Testing Committee

**Method Validation Study** – performed by Shizka Takeuchi from Japan

- Begonia semperflorens

- Add 25°C as a temperature option, along with 20°C and 20<=>30°C
- Project being lead by Shizka Takeuchi from Japan
- Seed was sent out to participants
- All but one lab has reported results
- As soon as Shizka sends me the data, I will work with the Statistical Committee to get the data analyzed.



# Flower Seed Testing Committee

## Survey on Flower Seed Testing

- Alessandra Barbante from Italy, along with Flower Seed Committee, compiled questions for a survey to be sent out to members about flower seed testing.
- We will work with ISTA to send these questions out later this fall.
- If you have an interest in testing flower species, please let Alessandra or myself know.

# Flower Seed Testing Committee

- ISTA Handbook on Flower Seed Testing update
  - Angelique Juret from France has worked on 13 species of flowers and completed them for addition to the ISTA Handbook on Flower Seed Testing.
  - She has identified 8 more species to work on in the coming year.

Flower Species Pages Complete in 2025	Flower species pages proposed in 2026
Myosotis	Cleome hassleriana
Nemesia	Consolida
Nemophila	Digitalis
Nicotiana	Echium
Nigella	Kalanchoe
Oenothera	Linaria
Penstemon	Mimosa pudica
Phlox	Mimulus
Primula	
Rhodanthe	
Saponaria	
Scabiosa	

# Flower Seed Testing Committee

- 1 Proficiency Test round every 3 years
- Workshop, seminar
- Answers to questions received from the ISTA community
  - 2-3 questions a year
- Cooperation with other TCOMs (GER, PUR, TEZ, BSC, PTC, RUL)

# Flower Seed Testing Committee

- **Seed Counts on Flower Species**

- Lucele Pretorius from South Africa added a working excel sheet on Flower Seed Teams Account to add thousand seed weight data as we do counts on flower species received in our labs.

- The working sheet has 26 different species included thus far.

- If you have seed count data for flowers and want to share with the committee, let me know.

# Flower Seed Testing Committee

- Cooperation with AOSA Flower Seed Committee
  - Update from AOSA-SCST Flower Seed Committee (Sarah Dammen, USA)
    - Committee discussed germination methods on Digitalis spp.

Digitalis spp.	Temp	First count days	Final count days	Other requirements
AOSA	20-30C	None	7	Light
ISTA	20↔30C, 20C	4-7	14	Prechill

- AOSA Committee member found that Digitalis spp needs longer than 7 days germination
- Discussions are active on determining what we need to do to change the AOSA Rules to align with the ISTA rules.

**Thank you!**

