



ISTA

Seed Quality Assurance



Bassersdorf, Switzerland
26.03.2020

Press Release

ISTA Annual Meeting 2020 goes virtual

The International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) had to cancel its Annual Meeting in Verona, Italy planned to be held on 25-28 May 2020. The change occurred due to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic.

As usual, ISTA Annual Meeting serves as a forum for ISTA Management, Technical Committees, Partners and relevant stakeholders from all over the globe to get together and take the opportunity to discuss up-to-date issues in their respective areas. Furthermore, it is during the annual meetings that changes to ISTA flagship publication, The International Rules for Seed Testing are voted, amended and approved during ISTA Ordinary General Meeting (OGM).

That is why ISTA has made a commitment to find solution to hold virtual the Ordinary General Meeting and has asked all participants to keep their calendars open for 28 May 2020.

In December 2018, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health 2020 (IYPH). This is a wonderful opportunity to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can have both positive environmental and social impact.

This year, to honour its commitment to Plant Health and the IYPH, ISTA was to kick off its annual meeting with a special one-day seminar on plant health. This seminar will now be held at the ISTA Annual Meeting 2021 in Cairo, Egypt.

Safeguarding seed health is crucial for plant health as seeds may be a pathway for the introduction and dissemination of pests in new geographic areas. Therefore, ISTA Seed Health Committee (SHC) has compiled a list on seed-borne diseases, focusing on non-vegetable species. ISTA pest list database is regularly updated and should serve as an important tool for national plant protection organisations (NPPOs) and their phytosanitary requirements.

CONTACT

Fabiola Rivera

Communications Specialist

International Seed Testing Association

Tel: +41 44 838 60 03

Email: fabiola.rivera@ista.ch

Email: www.seedtest.org

ABOUT ISTA

Founded in 1924, with the aim to develop and publish internationally agreed rules for seed sampling and testing, accredits laboratories, promotes research, provides international seed analysis certificates and training, and also disseminates knowledge in seed science and technology. ISTA members are over 85 countries/distinct economies worldwide and they work together to achieve their vision of 'Uniformity in seed quality evaluation worldwide'. This facilitates seed trading nationally and internationally, and also contributes to food security.

