

Minister  
of Agriculture and  
Agri-Food



Ministre  
de l'Agriculture et de  
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G5

Quote: 263155

May 19, 2021

Mr. Corey Beck  
Chair  
Provincial Agricultural Service Board Committee  
PO Bag 100  
Didsbury AB T0M 0W0

Dear Mr. Beck,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Agricultural Service Board's resolution to test seed grain for *Fusarium* after cleaning. It is important to hear from associations representing producers about the challenges they face, such as issues of food safety, which are of great concern. I regret the delay in this response.

As you may know, Canadian farmers and seed producers rely on efficient and flexible *Seeds Regulations* that help prevent fraud and ensure the traceability, quality, and safety of Canada's seed supply, which is the basis for all agricultural production. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has launched seed regulatory modernization, a multi-year, structured and comprehensive review of the seed regulatory framework. The goal of the modernization is to improve consistency, reduce complexity, and provide flexibility for seed systems to keep pace with advancements in industry as well as bolster consumer protection.

Seed regulatory modernization is an excellent forum to introduce seed testing and labelling issues for discussion, such as the one identified in resolution 5-21. There will be many opportunities for agricultural associations to provide input.

You can provide direct input on seed regulatory modernization to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency by emailing [cfia.seedregmod-modregsem.acia@canada.ca](mailto:cfia.seedregmod-modregsem.acia@canada.ca).

Again, thank you for writing on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Bibeau'.

The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, PC, MP