Global Seed Program

Working to provide access to quality seed, facilitating seed trade, and promoting the growth and development of the seed industry are important missions of the Seed Science Center’s Global Seed Program. In the past 12 years, center scientists have designed and conducted programs in over 70 countries around the world to achieve these goals.

Global Seed Program efforts include policy and regulatory harmonization in phytosanitary measures, plant variety protection, seed certification, and development of national seed laws. In addition, scientists working with the program have created 10 process management manuals that serve as definitive resource materials on seed and biosafety policies and regulation.

Program scientists are currently managing on-going projects in 30 countries. Recent activities have included the development of a Seed Enterprise Management Institute (SEMsIs) in Kenya, establishment of the West Africa Seed Alliance (WASA), and the harmonization of seed policy in the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Scientists also facilitate international training and workshops designed to enhance seed policy and to educate and provide assistance to stakeholders at all levels of the seed industry.

To learn more about the Global Seed Program at Iowa State University, contact jcortes@iastate.edu.

For More Information
For a complete listing of Seed Science Center faculty, staff, research, news, or publications, visit our Website at: www.seeds.iastate.edu

Training and Workshops
The Seed Science Center has been providing valuable training opportunities and workshops for seed industry professionals domestically for over 35 years. Held from April through August, the workshops focus on seed testing and cleaning, gravity separation, color sorting, and other topics of interest to those in the seed industry. Visit www.seeds.iastate.edu/seedtest/training/index.html for more information.

Scholarships
Each year the Seed Science Center partners with the Iowa Seed Association to provide graduate and undergraduate scholarships for students enrolled in the Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Scholarships are awarded to students that demonstrate exemplary character, high academic records, leadership skills, and promise for a career in the seed industry. To learn more, write seedsci@iastate.edu.

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The Seed Science Center at Iowa State University is a center of excellence nationally and internationally in seed research, education, technology transfer, and international seed programs. The center provides a focus for teaching, research, and extension programs on seed in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State and is a global leader in introducing science into policy to benefit world seed trade. Seed Science Center faculty members are committed to providing quality research and education to produce the next generation of leaders in the seed industry.

**Seed Testing Laboratory**

The Seed Science Center is home to the largest public seed testing laboratory in the world. For over 100 years, the laboratory has provided accurate and professional seed-testing services for members of the seed industry. The laboratory, which performs tests on as many as 40,000 seed samples annually, is recognized as a leader in seed health testing.

In addition to being ISO 9001:2008 and National Seed Health System Certified, the Iowa State University Seed Testing Laboratory is recognized as a member lab of the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) and has the capability to test over 300 pathogens for phytosanitary certification.

The Iowa State University Seed Testing Laboratory prides itself in offering the most up-to-date and comprehensive services available in the seed-testing industry. Certified seed technologists and analysts with over 157 years of collective experience routinely perform traditional seed tests (noxious weed exams, germination, purity, tetrazolium, accelerated aging, cultivar purity, and cold tests) as well as trait tests (herbicide bioassay, ELISA, PCR, and IEF). For more information about the Iowa State Seed Testing Laboratory visit [www.seeds.iastate.edu/seedtest](http://www.seeds.iastate.edu/seedtest).

**Distance Education Graduate Degree in Seed Technology and Business**

The Graduate Program in Seed Technology and Business is a master’s degree program developed to provide a unique opportunity for seed professionals to grow by gaining a better understanding of the science, technology, and management that is key to the seed industry. Students from 17 countries have taken part in this distance education program that is offered over the Internet and integrates coursework from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with that of the College of Business at Iowa State University. Available to students worldwide, course curriculum covers topics such as seed production and genetic improvement along with business administration courses. Graduate certificates in seed science and technology and seed business management are also offered. Visit [www.seedgrad.iastate.edu](http://www.seedgrad.iastate.edu) to learn more.

**Seed Science and Technology Research**

Scientists at Iowa State University have been conducting research on seed technology since 1890. Seed Science Center faculty members that specialize in seed physiology, seed pathology, and seed conditioning conduct cutting-edge research on sustainable agriculture, biotechnology, crop utilization, computer technologies, microbiology, toxicology, and molecular biology.

**DNA Testing and PCR Methodologies**

The DNA Seed Testing Lab at Iowa State University provides routine DNA seed testing services such as seed health testing, Low-Level Presence of genetic engineered plant materials in seed, and plant genotyping. The lab also offers a variety of special services by request including assay development and validation of PCR premixes and DNA sample preps, and it provides accurate and expert scientific advice for external customers. Group or one-on-one training is also available.

For more information about Seed Science Center DNA testing services, visit [www.seeds.iastate.edu/pages/dna.html](http://www.seeds.iastate.edu/pages/dna.html).