

Providing the seed sector with a marque of excellence



SEED TREATMENT
ASSURANCE SCHEME



What is **ESTA**?

- Quality assurance scheme for the application of seed treatments, that include Plant Protection Products, and treated seed
- Provides guidance for the handling and use of treated seed
- It ensures seed treatments are used professionally and safely applied
- The seed treatment and resulting seed meet the required standards
- **ESTA** certified companies accurately and directly treat seed with plant protection products (PPP), resulting in quality treated seed and is beneficial for the environment
- Independently audited and can be jointly audited with **TASCC** (Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops) to minimise cost



The voluntary standard of good practice addresses the entire seed supply chain, from seed cleaning to the seed in the field, resulting in quality products for the end user.

Benefits of **ESTA**

Seed treatments help to secure crop quality, safety and yield whilst using the minimum amount of pesticides.

1



Assurance
of top quality
seed treatment
application

2



Independent
auditing to assure
customers and
the public

3



Provides added
confidence
for decision
makers when
granting future
seed treatment
approvals

4



Marque of a
professional seed
treatment
facility, using
best techniques
available to
protect operators
and the
environment

5



Acts as one voice
for the whole
seed treatment
industry, supports
lobbying to
government and
Europe

Aim of the **UK ESTA** Working Group

- To promote professional, responsible and sustainable seed treatment
- To be aware of and promote industry developments
- Promote best and safe practice for the customer and the environment
- Drive quality improvements
- Raise the profile of **ESTA** by engagement with government bodies, Euroseeds and regulators

How does it work?

- The standard is based on a quality management system to include specifications, training and HACCP
- The standard also requires the use of a HACCP (Hazard, Analysis, and Critical Control Point) which is a widely adopted form of risk assessment
- All records must be maintained as the standard is auditable
- It can be audited as a standalone audit or in conjunction with TASCC (Trade Assurance Scheme for Combinable Crops)

Why **ESTA**?

- Seed treatments can secure crop quality, safety and yield using the minimum amount of pesticides
- The seed industry has decided to act in creating a voluntary EU standard of good practice which addresses the entire seed supply chain, from seed cleaning to the seed in the field, resulting in quality products for the end user
- It is important that the industry is seen to lead the way in its responsibility for the customer and the environment
- Certified treatment facilities may use the **ESTA** logo on their products to demonstrate compliance

