



**Animal &
Plant Health
Agency**

Animal and Plant Health Agency
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SEED CERTIFICATION INFORMATION LETTER

SEED CERT 03/25
December 2025

To: Licensed Seed Companies, Licensed Seed Samplers, Licensed Crop Inspectors, Licensed Seed Testing Stations in England & Wales (by email only).

Cc: AIC, BSPB, NFU, NAAC, NIAB, PHSI, SASA, Scottish Government, Welsh Government and DAERA

INFORMATION ON ENGLAND AND WALES SEED CERTIFICATION FEE CHANGES

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to notify you of a number of planned changes to seed certification fees in England and Wales. These changes will take effect from 1 February 2026 and the new fees are set out in tables below.

It is UK Government policy to charge for many publicly provided goods and services. The standard approach is to set fees to recover the full costs of service delivery and to review these fees annually. This relieves the general taxpayer of costs, so that they are properly borne by users who benefit from a service. This allows for a more equitable distribution of public resources and enables lower public expenditure and borrowing.

Plant Varieties and Seeds services, including seed certification, operate in line with this principle of full cost recovery. Plant Varieties and Seeds fees are reviewed regularly and adjusted to ensure no under, or over, recovery of costs (Managing Public Money, HM Treasury, June 2025).

The changes set out below ensure that the full costs of the services provided are reflected in the fees. Seed certification fees will continue to be reviewed annually, with any required fees changes planned to be implemented in July 2026 and then April from 2027 onwards, to ensure fees remain reflective of service delivery costs. A wider review of seed certification fees in England and Wales is also currently underway to take account of wider changes to this service and details of this will be circulated in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Brown

Joint Head of Plant Varieties and Seeds, APHA

Table 1. Increases in **online** application fees.

	Existing Online Fee (£)	New Online Fee (£)	% Increase
CROP ENTRY FEE	Per Hectare	Per Hectare	
Licensed inspection (except early multiplication and late entered crops) (CS, C1, C2 and C3)	7.28	8.41	16
Official Inspections Pre-Basic, Basic, early multiplication and late entered crops	Per Hectare	Per Hectare	
Cereal, Pulses, Linseed and Herbage (One inspection) Note: There is a reduced fee when a PB or B crop is inspected by a Higher Licensed inspector under the temporary experiment (see separate line below)	97.01	112.08	16
Beet, Oilseed Rape, Mustard, Fodder Rape, Beet and Kale (Two inspections)	153.61	177.47	16
Hybrid rape (Three inspections)	210.20	242.87	16
Additional official inspection, all species	56.59	65.38	16
All Crops - Temporary Experiment - Inspection of Pre-Basic and Basic crops by Higher Licensed inspectors only	25.87	29.89	16
SEED LOT FEE	Per seed lot	Per seed lot	
Seed lot fee: final generation (this fee includes retests) 2H, 2L, CH, CL, C2 and C3 (when applicable)	54.98	63.52	16
Seed lot fee: multiplication seed lots PB, B, 1H, 1L, C1, C2 (this fee includes retests)	250.62	289.55	16

Table 2. Increases in **paper** application fees.

	Existing Paper Fee (£)	New Paper Fee (£)	% Increase
CROP ENTRY FEE	Per Hectare	Per Hectare	
Licensed inspection (except early multiplication and late entered crops) (CS, C1, C2 and C3)	8.89	10.27	16
Official Inspections Pre-Basic, Basic, early multiplication and late entered crops	Per Hectare	Per Hectare	
Cereal, Pulses, Linseed and Herbage (One inspection) Note: There is a reduced fee when a PB or B crop is inspected by a Higher Licensed inspector under the temporary experiment (see separate line below)	100.25	115.82	16
Beet, Oilseed Rape, Mustard, Fodder Rape, Beet and Kale (Two inspections)	156.84	181.20	16
Hybrid rape (Three inspections)	213.43	246.58	16
Additional official inspection, all species	56.59	65.38	16
All Crops - Temporary Experiment - Inspection of Pre-Basic and Basic crops by Higher Licensed inspectors only	25.87	29.89	16
SEED LOT FEE	Per seed lot	Per seed lot	
Seed lot fee: final generation (this fee includes retests) 2H, 2L, CH, CL, C2 and C3 (when applicable)	67.91	78.46	16
Seed lot fee: multiplication seed lots PB, B, 1H, 1L, C1, C2 (this fee includes retests)	266.79	308.23	16

Table 3. Increases in NIAB's Seed Testing, training and ISTA testing fees.

	Existing Fee (£)	New Fee (£)	% Increase
LSTS Annual Fee	2,386.83	2,549.48	6.8
Training and exam for new licensed samplers	746.60	788.17	5.6
Licensed seed analyst - Basic Proficiency Certificate	5,345.72	5,669.24	6.1
Licensed seed analyst - Additional testing categories	3,123.95	3,307.97	5.9
Licensed seed analyst - Laboratory Management	3,783.09	4,033.95	6.6
Orange International Certificate (OIC)	160.81	182.46	13.5
Blue International Certificate (BIC)	160.81	182.46	13.5