

Arkansas State Plant Board

Procedure for Liberty Link Rice Seed Testing

The following points describe steps required by the Arkansas State Plant Board regulation on LL rice.

The accuracy of these steps has been confirmed with the ASPB.

Whether you want to test your own saved seed or you are a seedsman or seed dealer testing seed for sale, the steps are the same.

1. The grower, seedsman, or seed dealer will contact the Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB) and schedule a Plant Board Inspector to draw samples from each lot of seed. All testing must be completed by April 1, 2007, so it may be a good idea to call right away to reserve an early appointment and avoid the crunch. The number to call is 501-225-1598.
2. The Inspector will take, or will witness the taking of, a representative sample of each lot of seed, and will maintain custody of the samples until they are sealed and ready for shipping for analysis, along with the completed Arkansas State Plant Board sample submission form.
3. The grower, seedsman, or seed dealer will select a lab from the list provided by the Plant Board Inspector, and will ship the sealed samples to the lab of their choice.
4. The lab must test according to the 35S-bar method, using a limit of detection of 0.01%. This means that the test must be able to detect the presence of 0.01% LLRice with 95% confidence.
5. Test results are reported back to the grower, seedsman, or seed dealer, with a copy of results sent to the Arkansas State Plant Board for their database. The ASPB sample submission form will contain this specification, which the grower, seedsman, or seed dealer would signed off on, authorizing the lab to send test results to the ASPB.
6. Testing records must be retained. The grower, seedsman, or seed dealer must retain sample submission forms, testing reports, and other related records for review by the Arkansas State Plant Board. Also, a copy of test results must be supplied to each seed purchaser. Alternatively, the ASPB may issue a document for each seed lot, indicating no presence was found within the testing limits, which the seed-seller would copy and distribute to seed purchasers.

Testing labs will vary in price, speed with which they complete the analysis (turn-around time), and level of expertise.

