



Seed Sector Review

- Has recognized that change is a continual process and the seed industry is in desperate need of a mechanism to manage change.
- Has resulted in a number of recommendations to enhance and streamline the entire seed regulatory framework.

SEED SECTOR REVIEW

an industry led, industry wide assessment of the seed sector



The Emerging Vision: Four Key Result Areas



- The report identifies four key result areas representing what the sector needs to achieve, or help shape, to create the conditions for domestic and international competitiveness.

Key Result Area #1: Regulatory Flexibility and Timeliness

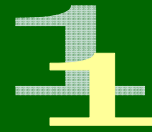


Recommendation #1:

Establishment of a permanent consultative body that will provide:

- advice on policy;
- a mechanism for industry consultation and advice on priorities, as well as proposals for regulatory and procedural change; and
- a forum for industry/government dialogue on priority issues that involve varied stakeholder interests.

Key Result Area #1: Regulatory Flexibility and Timeliness



Recommendation #2:

To restructure variety registration to create a more flexible system of registration information requirements based on crop kind.



Key Result Area #1: Regulatory Flexibility and Timeliness



Recommendation #3:

To streamline the current body of regulations in order to transfer some of the technical standards from regulation into administrative manuals.



Key Results Area #2: Bio-Based Environment for Science & Innovation



- Review noted the role of intellectual property in stimulating innovation.
- Favours a move to update PBR legislation to become compliant with UPOV '91, which includes protection of farmers' rights to save seed for their own use.



Key Results Area #3: Profitability in the Sector



- An increase in the use of certified seed in all crop kinds is part of a positive move that will likely lead to a narrowing of the price spread between certified and common seed, as well as growth in the higher value aspects of the grain system.
- However, the Advisory Committee did not support mandatory certified seed use.
- Recognizes the need to work with CFIA & CGC to explore alternatives to KVD.

Key Results Area #4: Consumer Acceptance & Confidence

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- Ongoing communication is essential.
 - Issues such as GMOs, benefits of new traits, and the safety checks within the regulatory system must be emphasized.
- Science-based, risk management decision process supported by world-class regulatory professionals, is a pre-requisite.
- Support for the government's labelling approach of mandatory for 'safety' and voluntary for 'non-safety' factors.

Much More to be Done

- The permanent consultative body will take up the recommendations of the final report as both an action plan and an inventory of areas for future development and discussion.

