

Announcement

Federal Seed Act (FSA) Training Program for State Seed Control Officials

When: December 6-7, 2011

Where: USDA Seed Regulatory and Testing Division (SRTD) offices, Gastonia, NC

What topics will be covered?

A broad range of topics covered under the FSA and their relationship to State seed control programs.

Core topics to be discussed will include:

- An overview of the Federal Seed Act and the SRTD's accreditation programs,
- Information about submitting seed regulatory complaints to the SRTD,
- How investigations proceed when state officials submit seed regulatory complaints to the SRTD,
- How the various seed regulatory bodies can work together,
- A discussion of the Title V provision of the Plant Variety Protection Act as it pertains to the FSA,
- Additional topics as suggested by AASCO members, and
- There will also be opportunities for open discussions.

Who should attend?

Any State seed control official who wishes to seek current FSA and SRTD regulatory enforcement information, and particularly state seed control officials who have been recently hired/appointed.

Why attend?

This is an opportunity to learn in detail the benefits of the FSA/SRTB enforcement program when applied in cooperation with the State seed regulatory programs. The State seed regulatory programs essentially are in a position to take regulatory action against the seed, where the FSA/SRTB program can take action against the interstate shippers of the seed when deemed appropriate.

What is the cost?

There is no registration fee for the training program. In fact, AASCO will be providing travel scholarships to seed control officials who qualify.

Make plans now to attend this valuable training program.

Lodging Info: Comfort Suites Hotel has a block of 10 rooms for December 5-8, 2011 at the rate of \$77.00 plus taxes per night. Their phone number is 704 865-6688 and ref: USDA.

Directions: For I-85 North or South is exit 20 (New Hope Road) then right onto Remount Road.

Please complete the attached registration form.

If you would like to suggest a topic to be covered, please submit your idea(s) by November 18, 2011, to Dr. Richard Payne (Director) and or Roger Burton (Seed Marketing Specialist) of the SRTD.

Registration Form

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**USDA SRTD offices
Gastonia, NC**

**State
Agency/
Organization:**

Name:

Address:

Street address or P.O. Box

City

State

Zip

Email address

Phone

FAX

Please complete and return to USDA SRTD:

Dr. Richard Payne
Chief, Seed Regulatory and Testing Division
LS, AMS, USDA
801 Summit Crossing Place, Suite C
Gastonia, NC 28054