

FAST, ACCURATE RESULTS EVERY TIME



TZ Testing Technology

The ability to accurately assess seed quality is of paramount importance to any seed producer. In the turf grass industry, Tetrazolium (TZ) testing is an essential tool for managing seed inventories because it can be used to rapidly make decisions about shipping and selling seed lots.

What does a TZ test tell us?

Is the seed alive? A viable seed has all essential parts of the embryo intact and functional.

Has the seed been damaged? The TZ test can detect seed damage caused by insects, conditioning, or some other factor.

Is the seed dormant? If seed has not germinated at the end of a germination test, TZ testing can be used to confirm that the seed is still alive and capable of germinating under the right conditions.

Caution: A TZ test may not detect all types of abnormalities in a seed lot. Hence, a germination test should always be used for labeling seed.

How does it work?

Seeds are planted and allowed to imbibe water so that cells are activated. BDI's skilled analysts carefully dissect the seed to expose all parts of the embryo.

Dissected seeds are soaked in a dilute TZ solution. Living cells that are actively respiring react with the chemical and turn red.

BDI's experienced analysts examine the critical areas of the embryo including the root, shoot and nutritive tissue to determine if the seed is viable.

What are the benefits of TZ testing?

Turf grass producers don't need to wait 14-21 days to determine seed quality, TZ testing provides results on seed quality in 24 to 48 hours.

The tests are valuable in supplementing germination test results, determining dormancy in seed lots, and diagnosing causes of seed deterioration. TZ testing provides seed company managers with an additional tool for managing seed inventories.

Why test with BioDiagnostics?

With years of experience in seed testing you can be sure you will receive the highest quality test results. For fast, accurate testing, trust the trained experts at BioDiagnostics.

Call 715-426-0246 or visit us on the web at www.biodiagnostics.net.

