

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Turkey

Post: Ankara

Major Changes to Seed Import Regulations in Turkey

Report Categories:

Planting Seeds

Approved By:

Rachel Nelson

Prepared By:

Rachel Nelson, Agricultural Attaché

Report Highlights:

Exporters should be aware that Turkey recently changed its seed import regulations, causing major disruptions to vegetable seed shipments.

General Information:

On February 7, 2012 with no advanced notice to trading partners, Turkey changed its import requirements for vegetable seeds. Starting immediately, Turkey will only accept ISTA orange certificates or OECD seed certificates. National or federal seed analysis certificates are no longer accepted. As a result, there are certified seed consignments being held/rejected at Turkish ports of entry.

This abrupt change is causing major trade disruption for international seed companies at a time in which seed is immediately needed for planting. USDA and the U.S. seed industry are working to try to resolve the issue but in the meantime, exporters should be aware of this change in order to prevent rejected shipments.

Text of the previous import regulations:

Turkish: Sebze Tohumluklarının ithalatında OECD tohumluk sertifikası, ISTA sertifikası ve ulusal yada federal tohumluk laboratuvarlarından temin edilmiş tohumluk analiz sertifikası istenir.

Unofficial English translation: For the imports of vegetable seed it is required to submit an OECD seed certificate, an ISTA certificate or an analyze report from a national or federal laboratory.

Text of the new import regulations:

Turkish: Sebze tohumluklarının ithalatında OECD tohumluk sertifikası veya ISTA-Orange (Turuncu) sertifikası istenir.

Unofficial English translation: For the imports of vegetable seed it is required to submit an OECD seed certificate, or an ISTA – Orange certificate.