

Taking sub-samples for moisture content:

- Before taking the sub-sample, mix the sample by either stirring the sample in its container with a spoon or place the opening of the original container against the opening of a similar container and pour the seed back and forth between the two containers.
- Take a minimum of three sub-samples with a spoon from different positions and combine them to a submitted sample size of 100g.
- The seed may not be exposed to the air during sample reduction for more than 30 seconds.



Figure 1a: Approved moisture bag, filled with seed, air removed, and sealed with tape.



Figure 1b: Improper sample for moisture, not enough seed and air not removed from bag.

Acceptable Containers:

Re-sealable plastic bags—Ziploc[®], Glad[®], Whirlpak[®] freezer bags

Airtight containers

Hermetically sealed containers

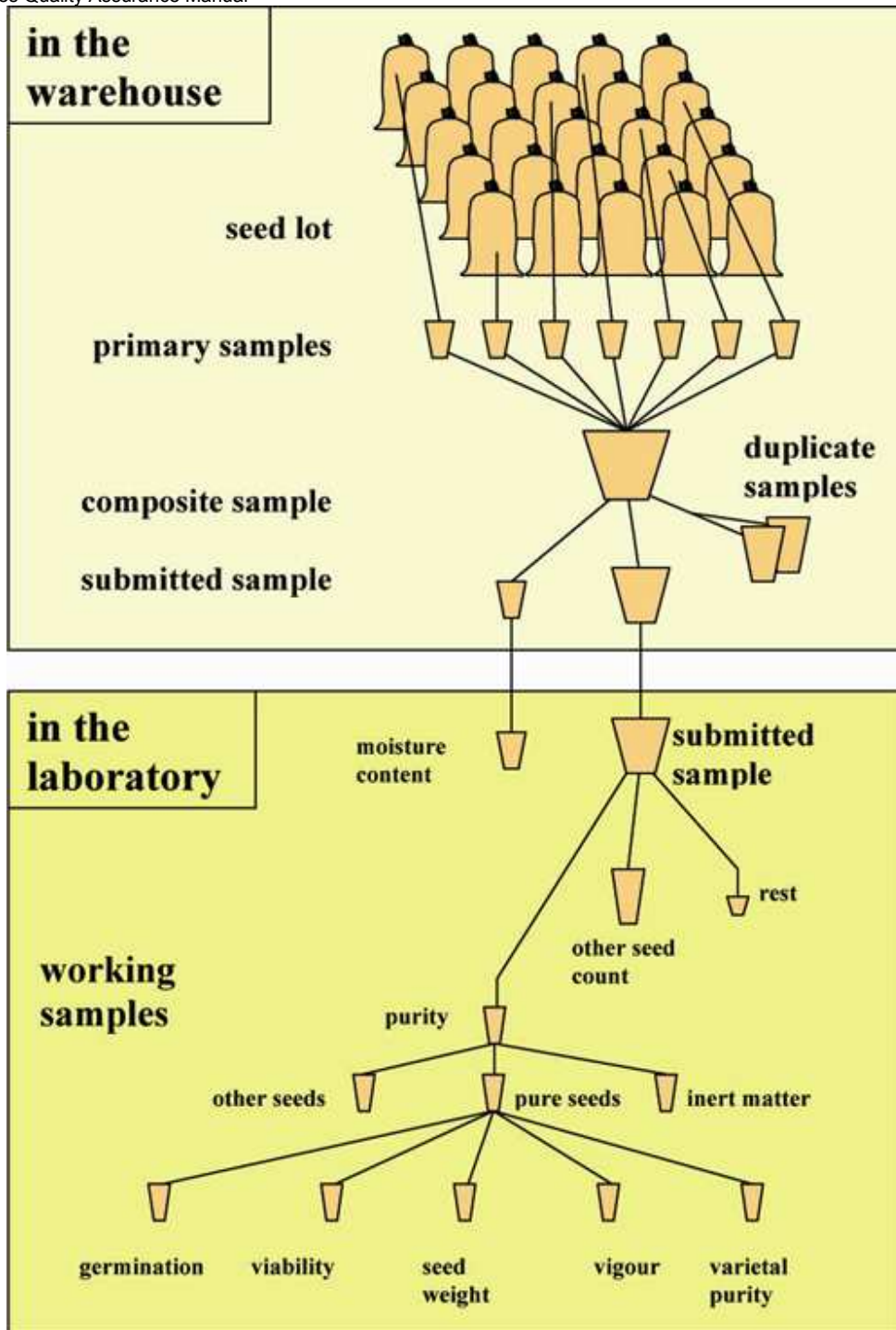
*SGS can provide approved sampling containers upon request.

1. Place sample in acceptable container that is an appropriate size for the sample.
 - ◆ The sample should fill as much of the container as possible.
2. Remove all excess air.
 - ◆ If using a rigid container it must be *completely* full.
3. Close the container tightly and secure closure with tape.
 - ◆ For plastic bags fold the top of the bag over twice then tape around the top.
4. Samples should be shipped for testing immediately. Take into account when you sample will arrive at the testing laboratory (i.e. avoid sampling/shipping that would arrive at the lab on a weekend/holiday).

WJI # 3.3.199.1

Mid-West Seed Services Quality Assurance Manual

ISTA Moisture Sampling



When submitting ISTA samples that require other tests in addition to moisture determinations it is recommended to package a duplicate moisture sample as shown above.

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