

INDUSTRY ISSUES	STANDARDS
<p><b>SEED HARVESTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø <i>Accurate identification of species</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Appropriate harvest techniques</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Contamination in the field by weed species</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Appropriate post harvest-handling techniques</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Use experienced personnel ie, botanist and herbarium staff where practical. Presence of at least one skilled collector in any team.</li> <li>Ø Taking of voucher specimens where applicable.</li> <li>Ø Use experienced licensed personnel.</li> <li>Ø Collect to license requirements.</li>   <li>Ø Ensure minimal impact on ecological resources.</li> <li>Ø Maintain genetic integrity of seed lots through separation of provenance, accurate records and collection data (refer to Flora Bank Guidelines).</li> <li>Ø Use harvest techniques that avoid the collection of weed species.</li>   <li>Ø Target populations for collection that are known to have minimal weed infestation.</li> <li>Ø Vacuum harvesting techniques are only to be used in weed free areas or on readily identifiable species which can easily be cleaned down to pure samples.</li>   <li>Ø Ensure collected material is kept dry and cool between collection and return of material for drying and processing.</li> <li>Ø Monitor material to avoid deterioration from excess moisture, humidity and insect predation.</li> <li>Ø Use appropriate bags for seed storage in the field such as calico, hessian, woven wool bales and paper.</li> <li>Ø Refer to Florabank Guidelines 5 &amp; 6 for basic collection methods.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SEED PROCESSING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø <i>Appropriate maturing and drying conditions</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Contamination of seed lots</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Physical quality of seed</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Spread seeds in well aerated, cool and dry environment as soon as possible.</li> <li>Ø Avoid intense heat (eg plastic tunnels during summer).</li> <li>Ø Monitor material regularly to avoid deterioration, contamination and predation.</li>   <li>Ø Ensure all processing equipment is cleaned after each seed lot.</li> <li>Ø Ensure a clean processing environment to avoid contamination of seed lots.</li> <li>Ø Maintain an accurate batch labelling system.</li>   <li>Ø Remove dead seeds where possible.</li> <li>Ø Perform a cut-test on each batch to determine potential viability.</li> </ul>

<p><b>SEED STORAGE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø <i>Provision of appropriate storage conditions</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Use cool, dry storage areas and air-conditioning if necessary.</li> <li>Ø Consider the use of freezers for longer-term storage and insect control.</li> <li>Ø Use appropriate measures to ensure seed batches are kept insect free. This may include the use of carbon dioxide, freezing and other low toxicity preparations.</li> <li>Ø Seed should be stored to suit the expected length of time for which it will be held.</li> <li>Ø Refer to Florabank Guideline 3 and also 'Guidelines – Native Seed Storage for Revegetation'.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SEED MARKETING &amp; SUPPLY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø <i>Seed standard classification</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Seed labelling</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Physical seed purity</i></li>   <li>Ø <i>Provenance</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Where proven viability or germinability is required, an independent test must be carried out.</li>   <li>Ø Minimum labelling standard should include: unique batch number, genus, species, quantity and location of collection (nearest town). Label should identify whether seed is from wild or cultivated populations.</li> <li>Ø Hand written labels are unacceptable for commercial purposes.</li>   <li>Ø Seed purity needs to be stated when quoting to ensure client is able to properly assess pricing.</li> <li>Ø Distinction should be made between pure seed, seed with chaff and seed with chaff and foreign matter.</li>   <li>Ø Provenance must match the stated client requirements.</li> <li>Ø Refer to Florabank 'Guidelines – Keeping Records On Native Seed'</li> </ul>
<p><b>PAYMENT OF CONTRACTORS &amp; STAFF</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Free or volunteer labour should not be utilised in the collection of seed for commercial sale, other than for approved training purposes.</li> <li>Ø All collection staff should be paid award wage as per state and federal legislation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>SEED ORCHARDS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ø Seed orchards are appropriate for bulking individual species of known provenance.</li> <li>Ø Ensure genetic integrity is maintained in orchard situations.</li> <li>Ø Seed from seed orchards should be labelled as such.</li> <li>Ø Refer to Florabank Guideline 7.</li> </ul>

**References:**

Wildlife Conservation Act (1950)

Florabank Guidelines: <http://www.florabank.org.au/>