



# Conditions 2024

For service laboratories conducting quality tests on:

- (parts of) plants
- seeds
- soil



**ASLN**  
• *naktuinbouw*

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Appendix I - Bijlage II, als bedoeld in artikel 23 van de Landbouwkwaliteitsregeling 2007 (14 pages)

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## **Introduction**

Authorized Service Laboratories Naktuinbouw (ASLN) is an official authorization system of Naktuinbouw, based upon annual external audits by or on behalf of Bureau Authorizations and intended for service laboratories that carry out sampling and quality tests on seeds, soil and / or (parts of) plants. The test results of these ASLN authorized laboratories are accepted by Naktuinbouw, e.g. for inspections, Naktuinbouw Elite Ornamental Crops, Naktuinbouw Select Plant as well as Naktuinbouw Authorized Laboratories (NAL). The ASLN Conditions 2024 are an improved version of the EMT Conditions (2001) and the ASLN Conditions 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

When laboratories are working in compliance with the ASLN Conditions, it will give them the confidence that their clients will receive a reliable test result, reflecting the true quality of the seeds, soil and / or parts of plants.

The ASLN authorization of a laboratory is demonstrated through the ASLN certificate of authorization, with an appendix stating for which tests authorization has been granted by Bureau Authorizations. This is also displayed on the website of Naktuinbouw.

On its turn, an ASLN authorized laboratory is allowed to issue ASLN Laboratory reports with test results from tests for which authorization has been granted. The laboratory must carry out the test according either the Naktuinbouw standard protocol or a by Bureau Authorizations approved in house company protocol.

Sampling, testing and issuing ASLN Laboratory reports is only allowed for crops under the supervision of Naktuinbouw inspections: all species of floricultural (except the bulb crops as mentioned in 'Bijlage II. als bedoeld in artikel 23 van de Landbouwkwaliteitsregeling 2007', appendix I), arboricultural and vegetable crops. For other crops, it is not allowed to make any reference to ASLN and / or authorization by Bureau Authorizations then.

The ASLN Conditions 2024 are based upon for this purpose relevant criteria from:

- Earlier revisions of the ASLN Conditions
- Council directive 2000/29/EC
- EPPO PM 7/84:2007 Basic requirements for quality management in plant pest diagnosis laboratories
- EPPO PM 7/98:2014 Specific requirements for laboratories preparing accreditation for a plant pest diagnostic activity
- ISO 9001:2015 QMS – requirements
- ISO 17025:2005 General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories
- ISTA Laboratory Accreditation Standard version 6.1
- Guidelines for the company version 9

The ASLN Conditions 2024 are divided into the following standard modules: Quality management system requirements, Sampling requirements and Testing requirements. ASLN authorization can only be granted when a laboratory complies / deals with these three basic modules.

Determined by the Board of Naktuinbouw  
Roelofarendsveen, 15 December 2023

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## **NAKTUINBOUW MODULE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

### **1. Identity**

- 1.1. The participant must be legally identifiable (e.g. registered in a national chamber of commerce)

### **2. Scope**

- 2.1. The participant must mention its scope in the quality manual, and make clear what / which activities are carried out under authorization
- 2.2. The participant must keep this up to date

### **3. Quality management system (QMS)**

- 3.1. The participant must develop, define, document and implement a QMS as a means of ensuring that all activities that are brought under authorization demonstrably satisfy specified requirements / conditions
- 3.2. The participant must improve this QMS continuously whenever there is a reason to, based upon the principle of the Deming circle: plan – do – check – act

### **4. Quality manual**

- 4.1. The participant must have at least one quality manual
- 4.2. This quality manual can be either digital or a hard copy
- 4.3. This quality manual must contain at least:
  - Scope
  - Paragraphs from these Conditions that are excluded (only possible for: 17,18, 19, 20, 23 and / or 24)
  - QMS-documents (procedures, working instructions, protocols, format of forms), as required by the concerning scheme, or a reference to them
- 4.4. The quality manual and the QMS-documents must be written in Dutch or English:
  - If the participant wants to have some documents (like working instructions) in the local language as well, this is only allowed when the format, the content and the revision indication are the same as the English revision; in case of differences between both versions, the English version will prevail
  - If the participant wants to have some documents (like working instructions) in the local language only, then the participant must provide an interpreter during the audit
  - The above is not applicable for test protocols, sampling procedure/protocol and where relevant the procedure for issuing NAL Quality certificates or ASLN Laboratory reports, they must be written in Dutch or English at all times

### **5. Organization**

- 5.1 The participant must (where and when necessary) explicitly have obtained the required approval of authorities involved
- 5.2 The participant must have a quality manager (irrespective of title), directly responsible for the QMS (regarding e.g. building, implementing, monitoring and maintenance of the QMS), including reporting to a technical managing director about its functioning
- 5.3 The participant must define tasks, responsibilities and competences needed (including substitution for key personnel), for ensuring proper functioning and control of all processes
- 5.4 The participant must appoint a process owner for each process
- 5.5 The participant's staff must be informed clearly about the tasks and responsibilities assigned to them, by means of: procedures / working instructions / protocols, job descriptions, qualification / training / experience / craftsmanship and / or adequate supervision
- 5.6 The participant's staff must be demonstrably competent for the tasks and responsibilities assigned to them
- 5.7 Even if certain tasks have been outsourced, the participant is still responsible for these outsourced processes; the participant must ensure that these have been carried out in compliance with the requirements of the concerning scheme at all times
- 5.8 The participant must determine any product / process requirements needed for specific or intended use, legal or statutory requirements
- 5.9 The participant must be organized in such a way that the employees are not under any financial, commercial, or other kind of pressure that could influence the performance of the work of that what is brought under authorization (in relation to its scope)
- 5.10 Every influence on results, by people / organizations outside the participant, must be excluded

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- 5.11 The remuneration of employees involved in that what is brought under authorization (in relation to its scope), must not depend on the amount of work or the outcome of the work
- 5.12 The participant must refrain from activities that could endanger the trust in the independence of assessments and the integrity of its activities
- 5.13 In case of external service, the participant must deal with contract review, ensuring that only client requests are accepted when the participant knows the requirements / specifications and that she has the capability of meeting those requirements / specifications
- 5.14 In case of external service, the participant must deal with control of verification, storage and maintenance of all customer supplied products

## **6. Document control**

- 6.1 Documents must be controlled
- 6.2 Documents must be approved by a process owner, prior to use
- 6.3 Documents must be implemented
- 6.4 Each document must have a revision indication (either a date or a number)
- 6.5 Relevant external documents must be controlled / implemented either
- 6.6 Documents must be kept up to date
- 6.7 Unintended use of obsolete documents must be prevented
- 6.8 It must be clear which obsolete documents have to be kept (for how long and where) and that every obsolete document that is filed for legal purposes and / or to maintain knowledge, is identified in a suitable manner
- 6.9 Obsolete documents have to be discontinued in myNaktuinbouw

## **7. Control of records**

- 7.1 The participant must control all records
- 7.2 Records must be kept in such a way that the participant is able to demonstrate its compliance to the requirements of the concerning scheme, that critical control points in the process have been monitored and that the outcome of this has led to a process / product within specifications / requirements for at least 7 years
- 7.3 The participant must deal with access to, and identifying, collecting, indexing, archiving, storing, storing term, maintaining and disposal of records
- 7.4 The reliability of the quality records must be guaranteed
- 7.5 Where systems for electronic data processing are used, the reliability and stability of the system must be tested demonstrably and a backup has to be made within determined intervals
- 7.6 Data security must be ensured, including prevention or unauthorized access and unauthorized modification of data
- 7.7 All calculations and data transfer must be subjected to suitable inspection

## **8. Audits**

- 8.1 The participant must conduct internal audits to verify whether or not daily practices are in line with its QMS and the requirements of the concerning scheme
- 8.2 Internal audits:
  - 8.2.1 Must be planned in good time for all processes
  - 8.2.2 Must be completed for secondary processes once per 3 years
  - 8.2.3 Must be completed for primary processes annually (where relevant)
  - 8.2.4 Furthermore the planning must be based upon all relevant aspects (e.g. outcome of earlier audits, ring tests, process performance, possible changes, etc.)
  - 8.2.5 Must be planned in good time for possible Multi Location Module-sites (for sampling):
    - If there are no NCs established during the external audit (once per 3 years), then there is no obligation to conduct an internal audit for this site; but of course it remains the responsibility of the participant to decide upon this, based upon their view / information gathered during monitoring of the process
    - If there are NCs established during the external audit, Bureau Authorizations will then (given the weight and nature of the NCs) indicate to the participant whether it is required to conduct an internal audit in the next year
    - If an internal audit is required, the participant must determine, according to its own findings, whether it is necessary to conduct an internal audit in the following year
- 8.3 Internal auditors must be independent regarding the process which they have to audit

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- 8.4 Internal auditors must have attended an auditor training course, which:
- 8.4.1 Must last for four day parts at least
- 8.4.2 Must deal with:
- General information about the audit process
  - Drawing up an audit program
  - Conducting an audit
  - Interview techniques (dealing with personal communicative skills)
  - How to establish non conformities
  - Reporting
- 8.5 The results of internal and external audits must be recorded and reported to the process owner
- 8.6 In case of a non-conformity established during internal and external audits, there must be drawn up a CAR (see 10)

## **9. Complaints**

- 9.1 The participant must deal with written or verbal (internal and external) complaints
- 9.2 In the event of a connection between the complaint and the scope for the concerning scheme, the participant must draw up a CAR (see 10)

## **10. Corrective (and / or Preventive) Action Requests (CARs)**

- 10.1 The participant must deal with CARs adequately
- 10.2 This paragraph is applicable to various deficiencies, which become apparent e.g. by either observing / monitoring the process by staff, audits, calibration, ring tests, proficiency tests, clients and / or complaints
- 10.3 All CARs must be analyzed to determine the root cause (underlying problem)
- 10.4 The participant must determine an adequate corrective action to solve the underlying problem
- 10.5 The participant must implement this corrective action
- 10.6 The participant must be able to demonstrate evidence of this corrective action
- 10.7 The participant must verify the corrective action after an appropriate amount of time, to understand if the corrective action itself was sufficient / effective in relation to the underlying problem

## **11. Management responsibility**

- 11.1 Management must be able to demonstrate its commitment to comply with the requirements of the concerning scheme
- 11.2 The management must conduct a management review annually
- 11.3 The participant must determine, collect and analyse suitable data, in order to substantiate the suitability and efficacy of the QMS and its compliance to the requirements of the concerning scheme, to enable it to decide where improvements are necessary
- 11.4 The input for the management review must therefore provide information on the following points as a minimum:
- Outcome of internal and external audits
  - Outcome of job appraisals / need for training
  - Feedback from clients
  - Process performance and product conformity
  - Status of CARs
  - Follow-up on quality policy / objectives / measures / action points from previous management review(s)
  - Changes in / on the (environment of the) participant that will have an impact on the QMS
- 11.5 The output of the management review must indicate conclusions of the management regarding all input, including decisions and measures with regard to the improvement of the QMS (e.g. the need for extra training, means, etc.) by means of quality objectives
- 11.6 The management review must be demonstrable by means of minutes
- 11.7 The participant must present an overview of results / process performance / product conformity to the Bureau Authorizations on request

## **12. Human resources management**

- 12.1 The participant must ensure that suitable communication processes are established within and between the departments or functions in question
- 12.2 Staff must be demonstrably qualified (based upon suitable education, training and / or experience / craftsmanship)
- 12.3 The participant must identify whether there is a need for training

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12.4 The participant must provide training where necessary

### 13. Equipment, means, devices and reference materials

13.1. The participant must be equipped with (or have access to) appropriate equipment, means, devices and reference materials, required / necessary where and when needed

13.2. The participant must identify and keep a log of all equipment, means, devices and reference materials which may (even unintentionally) influence the quality and accuracy of results. This log makes reference to:

- A unique reference (name, identification, type, reference and / or serial number)
- The condition in which it was received (e.g. new, used, overhauled)
- The name of manufacturer / supplier
- The service contractor for maintenance and / or calibration
- The date of receipt and /or date of activation
- The current location
- The details of any maintenance and / or calibration carried out
- The history of all damage, overload, faults, modification or repairs, incorrect handling, when it produces doubtful results or when it is defective and it has been taken out of use

13.3. All equipment, means, devices and / or reference material which has been taken out of use:

- Must be clearly marked or stored at a designated location, until it has been repaired, calibrated and / or validation demonstrates that it is performing correctly again
- The participant must draw up a CAR (see 10)

13.4. The participant must (where relevant) for this equipment, means, devices and / or reference materials (in relation to intended use) ensure / manage / make demonstrable:

- Acceptance / release
- Appropriate use
- Appropriate disposal, to protect the participant's integrity / the environment
- Maintenance
- Specified requirements
- Storage

13.5 The participant must (where relevant) for these devices determine how and to ensure / manage / make demonstrable:

- Tolerances allowed by the participant itself (specs)
- Measuring capacity / accuracy (the accuracy of devices used must be one digit more than the lowest value where it is used for. Example: if you need to measure exactly 1 gram, this scale needs to be able to measure 0,1 grams, where it matters if the quantity measured is 1,0 or 0,9 grams).
- Monitoring indicated values (in relation to critical control points)
- Calibration of the device:
  - At by the participant prescribed intervals
  - With calibration instruments which are known to have a valid reference to (inter)nationally recognized standards; if such a reference is not applicable, the participant must provide sufficient evidence of conformity / accuracy of results
  - If the device is out of spec:
    - Adjustment of the device
    - Draw up a CAR (with the purpose of finding out what the impact is on the process where it has been used for, see 10)
- Calibration of the calibration instrument:
  - Deviation for the calibration instrument must be max 10% of the tolerances as determined for the device that needs to be calibrated. Examples:
    - If a scale does have tolerances of +/- 2 grams; the 'stones' itself used for calibration must have a max deviation of +/- 0,2 grams
    - If it is allowed that the temperature in a growth chamber may vary +/- 2°C, the thermometer or logger that is used for maintaining that temperature must be calibrated by a calibration instrument that itself is having a max deviation of +/- 0,2°C

- The requirement above is not applicable for the following devices:
    - The pH-meter, in case the device is calibrated by using calibration fluid, e.g. pH 4.01, pH 7.00 or pH 10.01. That what is on the market is okay and sufficient. Good practices are nevertheless important (e.g. preventing contamination of the calibration fluid by means of dirty sensors, storage in a dark place and application by proper temperatures).
    - (Real-Time) PCR instruments, in case the apparatus is calibrated through an appropriate calibration service (like CYCLERtest or instrument performance verification), which enables laboratories to assure its thermocyclers to perform according to specifications
  - For the execution of calibration, it is allowed to:
    - Subcontract calibration to a competent subcontractor that is accredited by an accreditation body (like a2La, COFRAC, DAkkS, ISRAC or Raad voor Accreditatie) to perform calibration services.
    - Do calibration internally, by the participant itself or by a non-accredited subcontractor. In that case, proper calibration instruments must be available, correct and accurate functioning must be demonstrable and only when good practices are used, such as:
      - Touching small stones: with a glove/tweezers
      - Repeatability and eccentric load: multiple measurements (measuring precision)
      - Calibration in the range of the intended use
      - Calibration of a pipette at proper temperatures (e.g. 20°C)
- Proof of calibration for the calibration instruments itself must be demonstrable

#### 14. Purchasing

- 14.1 The participant must ensure the facilities, services and materials used are fit for purpose
- 14.2 The participant must where applicable and relevant:
- Provide purchase details of the product (on batch level) and / or service, giving consideration to the requirements
  - Establish and introduce tests or other activities needed, to ensure that the products and / or service meet the requirements
  - Evaluate suppliers and select them on the basis of their capacity to satisfy the requirements of the delivery contract
- 14.3 The participant must:
- Define the type and degree of inspection of the product; this is dependent on the product, the influence that the supplied product has on the process where it will be used for and, in so far as applicable, on the reports of the quality audits and / or quality registrations and previous performance
  - Create and maintain quality registrations of accepted suppliers
  - Maintain a list of approved subcontractors

## **NAKTUINBOUW MODULE SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS ASLN**

### **15. General**

- 15.1 Leading thought must be that a good representative sample is essential for obtaining a good and reliable test result
- 15.2 The sampling procedure / protocol (and related documents) must be approved by Bureau Authorizations through myNaktuinbouw and deal with the relevant requirements of the concerning scheme
- 15.3 It must be ensured that sampling is not affected by any (preconceived) information, outside influences or improper pressure
- 15.4 Samples must be taken according a predefined schedule / assignment
- 15.5 Both the function drawing up the sampling schedule as well as the sampler can in no way be someone that has an interest in the outcome / result of the test
- 15.6 The participant must deal with receipt, handling, storage and appropriate disposal of samples, to protect the participant's integrity / the environment
- 15.7 The participant must decide how they want to deal with samples by indicating:
  - Whether they want to keep a sample
  - How big the sample needs to be
  - How long they want to keep the sample
- 15.8 At all stages of transport, storage, handling and preparation of samples, measures must be taken to prevent loss, damage and / or deterioration
- 15.9 In case the participant is not responsible for sample taking, but testing only (e.g. because the client has taken care of this), this must be indicated on the certificate, by adding:
  - *the test has been conducted on a sample that has been submitted by (or on behalf of) the client*
  - *the test has been conducted on a submitted sample*

### **16. Sampler**

- 16.1 Must have adequate sampling expertise / techniques and the skills to apply these
- 16.2 Must be demonstrably trained at an approved institute:
  - 16.2.1 For (parts of) plants:
    - Naktuinbouw
    - And training from other institutes / companies that are approved by Bureau Authorizations
  - 16.2.2 For seeds:
    - ISTA
    - Naktuinbouw
    - NIAB (UK)
    - Nébih (H)
    - SGS Brookings (USA)
    - Semea / ASFIS (F)
    - And training from other institutes / companies that are approved by Bureau Authorizations
  - 16.2.3 For soil:
    - Naktuinbouw
    - And training from other institutes / companies that are approved by Bureau Authorizations
- 16.3 Attend refresher course
  - Must maintain his / her expertise / techniques and attend a refresher course at least once every 4 years,
  - It is allowed for participants to organize this in-company themselves.
  - Possible input (not obligatory / exhaustive):
    - To share experiences of samplers in a meeting; what do they face (method, material, instructions, daily practices, etc.) and where did it perhaps go wrong earlier?
    - To discuss possible non conformities from internal or external audits, adapted procedures, instructions or forms
    - To witness together a sampling being performed, and discuss what will be observed
- 16.4 The sampler can be assisted by a trainee, as long as the trainee is working under his / her supervision on the job; the sample administration must make demonstrable who the sampler was and who the trainee

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## 17. Multi location module (MLM)

- 17.1 This optional module is relevant and obligatory for laboratories to produce test results (communicated by means of NAL Quality certificates) on samples taken by a sampler who is not working under the supervision / control of the NAL authorized laboratory itself (e.g. because this sampler is working on remote facilities or in a different site abroad)
- 17.2 The laboratory must inform the Bureau Authorizations if they want to use this option
- 17.3 Each MLM-site must comply with all relevant requirements of the NAL Conditions

## 18. Sampling of (parts of) plants

- 18.1 Requisites:
- The correct sampling equipment must be available (e.g. gloves, knife, disinfection, clean bags)
  - The sampling equipment must be designed in such a way that it is possible to:
    - Sample and obtain a sample from every required type / piece of tissue
    - Clean it effectively afterwards (to avoid cross contamination)
- 18.2 It must be indicated and / or reference must be made regarding (along with the assignment):
- The maximum size of lot and / or plot per sample (if relevant)
  - The minimum / proportionate sample size (e.g. number of leaves / volume / weight)
  - The sampling intensity (e.g. minimum number of primary samples per sample, lot and / or plot)
  - The division of primary samples over the lot and / or plot (if relevant)
  - The required type / piece of tissue (e.g. stem, root, leaf) to be sampled
  - The required stage / age of this tissue
- 18.3 Regarding sampling:
- 18.3.1 Hygiene:
- The sampler must be able to draw a representative sample
  - The sampler must have a clean work environment, including sampling equipment
  - The sampler must avoid cross contamination between the several lots and / or plots which need to be sampled
- 18.3.2 Sampling method:
- The sampler must be able to draw every primary sample that is needed
  - The sampler must check all information on the assignment with information regarding the lot and / or plot, sample bag and circumstances in the field
  - The sampler must be able to draw a representative sample; every primary sample must be represented in the submitted sample equally
  - Every sample must be labelled with all relevant information
- 18.3.3 Irregularities:
- Irregularities (e.g. incorrect information) must be brought to the attention of a function which is appointed to manage such irregularities
- 18.3.4 There must be adequate administration, indicating or making a reference to the following information:
- The name and address and / or co-ordinates (e.g. client, location of the plot)
  - The drawing of the plot and / or a scheme indicating the relation between sample and lot and / or plot (tracking & tracing)
  - The assignment
  - The crop and variety
  - The lot and / or plot number
  - The lot and / or plot size
  - The number and identification of samples
  - The sample size
  - The relevant information / observations of the sampler
  - The initials of the sampler
  - The date of sampling
  - The tests which must be completed
  - The test result

## 19. Sampling of seeds

- 19.1 Requisites:

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- The correct / dedicated sampling equipment must be available (e.g. probes, triers, carts, bench, mixing equipment, clean bags)
  - The sampling equipment must be designed in such a way that it is possible to:
    - Sample and obtain seed from almost every place in the unit
    - Clean it effectively afterwards (to avoid cross contamination)
- 19.2 It must be indicated and / or reference must be made regarding (along with the assignment):
- 19.2.1 The maximum lot size per sample
- 19.2.2 The minimum / proportionate sample size (e.g. volume / weight)
- 19.2.3 The division of primary samples over the unit / lot
- 19.2.4 The sampling intensity:
- When a seed lot has been received from a third party (e.g. when bought or received from production):
    - Each unit needs to be sampled, with a minimum of one primary sample per unit
    - Furthermore the table underneath is applicable (because of the minimal number of primary samples to be taken for e.g. 1-4 units)
  - When a seed lot is known to be completely homogeneous (at least, regarding appearance), e.g. after thorough mixing during the pelleting process:
    - Taking of one primary sample per unit / batch is sufficient
  - When a seed lot has been received from another department / site of the company itself (e.g. after cleaning or enhancement and / or when ready for shipment to customer):
    - The minimum number of primary samples to be taken in relationship to the quantity of units / kilograms of the seed lot is indicated in the table underneath:

Units < 100 kg			Units ≥ 100 kg		
Number of units in the lot	Number of units to be sampled	Minimal number of primary samples	Lot size in kilograms	Number of primary samples	Min. number of primary samples
1 / 4	each unit	3 / unit	100 / 500	5	5
5 / 8	each unit	2 / unit	501 / 3.000	1 / 300 kg	5 - 10
9 / 15	each unit	1 / unit	3.001 / 20.000	1 / 500 kg	10 - 40
16 / 30	15	15	≥ 20.001	1 / 700 kg	40
31 / 59	20	20			
≥ 60	30	30			

- From seed lots in up to 15 units, the same number of primary samples must be taken from each unit for all the units that are selected for sampling
  - Small units:
    - When it involves seed lots in small units (under 15 kg capacity), the units (e.g. 20 units of 5 kg or 100 units of 1 kg) can be combined into one compound unit, which altogether must not exceed 100 kg
    - When it concerns seed mats, tapes, small packets or reels, the units can be combined into one compound unit, which must not exceed 2 million seeds
    - For each compound unit, sampling must be carried out as indicated in the table above (e.g. for a compound unit existing out of 20 units of 5 kg, at least 3 primary samples must be taken).
- 19.3 Regarding sampling:
- 19.3.1 Hygiene:
- The sampler must be able to draw a representative sample
  - The sampler must have a clean working place (regarding sampling equipment) and
  - The sampler must avoid cross contamination between the several lots that need to be sampled

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- 19.3.2 Sampling method:
- The sampler must be able to draw each primary sample that is needed
  - The labels / information on every unit must be visible to the sampler
  - The sampler must check all information on the assignment with info on the unit and sample bag
  - The sampler must be able to draw a representative sample:
    - To avoid systematic errors, the sampler must change the place of sampling between the different units regularly (e.g. different layers; near the wall / in the centre; different angles)
    - Every unit must be represented in the submitted sample equally
    - The primary samples collected must be mixed thoroughly before taking a submitted sample out of the composite sample
  - Every sample must be labelled with relevant information
- 19.3.3 Irregularities:
- Irregularities (e.g. incorrect information, seed does not seem to be homogeneous) must be brought to the attention of a function that is appointed to deal with such irregularities
  - If there are irregularities, table 19.2 is still applicable, but all units must be sampled
- 19.3.4 There must be an adequate administration, indicating or making a reference to the following information:
- The origin (producer / supplier) of the seeds
  - The date of arrival
  - The crop
  - The variety
  - The lot number
  - The lot size
  - The relation between sample and seed lot (tracking & tracing)
  - The lot quality (stage of processing)
  - The number of units
  - The weight of the sample or number of seeds
  - The relevant information / things the sampler noticed (e.g. when the lot appears not to be homogeneous, wet seeds, noxious weeds, etc.)
  - The initials of the sampler
  - The date of sampling
  - The tests which must be completed
  - The test result

## 20. Sampling of soil

### 20.1 Requisites:

- The correct / dedicated sampling equipment must be available (e.g. probe, clean bags, as well as clean boots)
- The sampling equipment must be designed in such a way that it is possible to:
  - sample and obtain a sample from every required place
  - Clean it effectively afterwards (to avoid cross contamination)

### 20.2 It must be indicated and / or reference must be made regarding (along with the assignment):

- The division of primary samples over the plot
- The maximum plot size per (sub) sample: see table
- The minimum volume / weight obtained must be enough to test the submitted sample according the approved protocol or at least 1.2 litre
- The sampling intensity (e.g. minimum number of primary samples per area): see table
- Which layers must be represented in the sample (the depth of the stitches): see table
- The possible constraints, e.g.:
  - Sampling limited to a determined period only: see table
  - When it is that the collected sample will not be submitted as a whole, it must be mixed thoroughly, before taking the portion out of it that will be submitted
  - If sampling is performed for multiple tests at the same time, all requirements for individual sampling and tests have to be fulfilled. Samples have to be thoroughly mixed before testing.

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	Ditylenchus dipsaci and/or Sclerotium cepivorum	Longidorus spp. and/or Xiphinema spp.	Other nematodes (e.g. Meloidogyne spp., Pratylenchus spp., Trichodorus spp., Rotylenchus spp., Paratylenchus spp.)	Verticillium dahliae
Maximum plot size per sample	2.000 m <sup>2</sup>	2.000 m <sup>2</sup>	20.000 m <sup>2</sup>	20.000 m <sup>2</sup>
Minimum number of primary samples (stitches) per sample	60 (1 stitch/max 33,3 m <sup>2</sup> )	60 (1 stitch/max 33,3 m <sup>2</sup> )	60 (1 stitch/max 333 m <sup>2</sup> )	60 (1 stitch/max 333 m <sup>2</sup> )
Depth of stitches	0-25 cm	10-35 cm	0-25 cm	0-25 cm
Sampling period	- Previous crop onion: sampling allowed from 1 January – 1 April - Previous crop beet: sampling allowed from 4 (four) weeks after harvest - Other previous crops: sampling allowed from 1 October – 1 April	- After disinfection of soil: wait until 6 weeks after disinfection - After tillage: wait one week - Preferred periods: September-October and February-May	After disinfection of soil: wait until 6 weeks after disinfection	After disinfection of soil: wait until 6 weeks after disinfection

### 20.3 Regarding sampling:

#### 20.3.1 Hygiene:

- The sampler must be able to draw a representative sample
- The sampler must have a clean work environment, including sampling equipment
- The sampler must avoid cross contamination between the several plots which need to be sampled

#### 20.3.2 Sampling method:

- The sampler must be able to take every primary sample that is needed
- The sampler must check all information on the assignment with information regarding the plot, sample bag and circumstances in the field
- The sampler must be able to take a representative sample
  - Every primary sample (stich) must be represented in the submitted sample equally
  - The collected primary samples must be mixed thoroughly before pulling a submitted sample out of the composite sample (unless the composite sample is the submitted sample)
- Every sample must be labelled with relevant information

#### 20.3.3 Irregularities:

- Irregularities (e.g. incorrect information) must be brought to the attention of a function which is appointed to manage such irregularities

#### 20.3.4 There must be an adequate administration, indicating or making a reference to the following information:

- The name and address and / or co-ordinates (e.g. client, location of the plot)
- The drawing of the plot indicating:
  - GPS (x-y co-ordinates) or of equal merit / relevant co-ordination points (ditches, bushes, farms, roads, neighbour crops, lot code, etc.)
  - Crop where the sampling is intended for
  - Direction of the north

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- 'Fixed point' (from where the first sample starts)
- Nature of debris of previous crop, where relevant
- Relation between sample and plot (for tracking & tracing)
- The assignment
- The plot number
- The plot size
- The number and identification of samples
- The volume / weight of the sample
- The relevant information / observations from the sampler
- The initials of the sampler
- The date of sampling
- The tests which must be completed
- The test result

## **NAKTUINBOUW MODULE TESTING REQUIREMENTS ASLN**

### **21. Facilities**

- 21.1 The environment where the test is conducted must ensure that the results of the tests are reliable and that there is no negative influence on the required accuracy (of both measurements and testing itself)
- 21.2 If necessary, the participant must organize that testing facilities have additional protection against extraordinary conditions, such as extreme temperature, dust, moisture, steam, vibration, DNA-fragments, electromagnetic disturbance or interference, and must be maintained appropriately with specific attention to hygiene issues in order to prevent cross-contamination
- 21.3 Access to and use of all testing facilities must be controlled
- 21.4 The participant must offer sufficient space for the employees carrying out the work to make practical and accurate movements and also provide adequate health and safety provisions
- 21.5 The facilities must be equipped with appropriate instruments and power sources required for the tests

### **22. Applied protocols and testing**

- 22.1 The participant must have suitable documents for the use and operation of all relevant equipment for handling and preparing samples (if applicable) and for accepted testing techniques according to the scope
- 22.2 The participant must carry out the test according to by Bureau Authorizations approved protocols (either the Naktuinbouw standard protocol or an in house company method / protocol)
- 22.3 New (or changes in earlier approved) in house company methods / protocols must be assessed and approved by Bureau Authorizations through myNaktuinbouw, prior to issuing ASLN Laboratory reports based upon results obtained with these methods / protocols
- 22.4 When the participant is of the opinion that the already approved method / protocol (the one that is in force) is no longer fit for purpose and must be replaced by a next revision immediately, the following steps must be taken:
  - The participant must inform Bureau Authorizations about this intention, indicating the reason why
  - Bureau Authorizations will consult her expert for a quick scan a.s.a.p.
  - Bureau Authorizations will inform the participant whether this request can be approved provisionally (if that provisional consent cannot be given, no claim can be set here)
  - If this next revision has been approved provisionally, the participant can start issuing ASLN Laboratory reports if needed
  - The next revision will be studied more carefully by our expert later on, and the participant will be informed about the outcome (as usual)
  - When the new revision will be approved, everything is OK. But when the new revision cannot be approved, the results that are obtained with the new revision in the meantime cannot be regarded as valid anymore, so they must be withdrawn
- 22.5 The in house company method/protocol must indicate at least:
  - Scope (pathogen / crop / matrix (seed, leaf, etc.) / test)
  - Indication of the applied technique / method (plating, PCR, ELISA, UPT, germination (light / dark, temperature), etc.)
  - Meaning of abbreviations
  - Execution of the test (providing clarity (or making a reference to) where relevant for: used equipment, usage of equipment, (sub-) sample size, the making of a working- or subsample, weighing, purifying, drying, back weighing, fractions (unharmful impurities, other seeds, pure seeds, etc.), counting days, grinding, spin (in g), number of isolates, primer sequences, kits (type and supplier), antibodies (supplier), reagents, buffer composition, medium composition, positive-/negative controls, warnings, etc.)
  - Decision scheme describing the criteria to define the test result (extinction / Ct threshold, reaction of controls standard (normal, abnormal, not germinated), calculation of results, closing / repeating, etc.)
  - Reference to literature (where relevant)
  - In case of revisions: a log indicating the changes to all former versions. All changes to the last accepted version have to be marked in the text, or the revision log must be complete in all details (except changes in formatting)

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- 22.6 For approval: if the participant has chosen for a structure in modules, all relevant modules have to be sent to Bureau Authorizations for making an appropriate evaluation possible. Documents describing the execution of the test as well as the decision scheme need to be included and need to be evaluated. Documents describing supporting processes (e.g. preparation of buffers or antibiotics, qualification matrix of personnel) can be included for clarification of a protocol, but do not need protocol review in itself.
- 22.7 For approval:
- 22.7.1 For seed analysis:
- For new protocols: supporting data demonstrating the reliability and reproducibility of the method is required. Supporting data can consist of a comparison between the old and new situation, reproducibility of the method and/or the experiments performed in the development of the method. For previously approved protocols which have been up-dated:
    - If it involves a major change (such as changes in light, temperature or moisture conditions, laboratory facilities, substrate, crop or seed treatment): supporting data is required
    - If it involves a minor change: supporting data is not required
    - If it involves a textual change or editorial without consequences for the test result: the protocol is sent to Bureau Authorizations, but no further review is necessary
- 22.7.2 For seed / soil / plant health testing:
- For new protocols: a validation file is required
  - For previously approved protocols which have been up-dated:
    - If it involves a minor change: a comparison / experiment in which the old and new situation are compared with each other is sufficient
    - If it involves a major change (e.g. when changing media): a validation file is required
    - If it involves a textual change or editorial without consequences for the test result: the protocol is sent to Bureau Authorizations, but no further review is necessary.
- 22.7.3 A validation file consists of:
- Validation protocol
  - Validation report
  - Data dossier (raw data)
- 22.7.4 The participant must determine the requirements for the testing protocol (e.g. minimal sensitivity, specificity), prior to validation
- 22.7.5 Validation consists of determination of the relevant performance criteria as described in EPPO Standard PM 7/98:
- Analytical sensitivity
  - Analytical specificity: inclusivity
  - Analytical specificity: exclusivity
  - Selectivity
  - Repeatability
  - Reproducibility
  - Robustness
- 22.7.6 The validation report consists of:
- The testing protocol which has been validated
  - Scope
  - Relevant performance characteristics (together with a plausible explanation when certain performance characteristics have not been applied)
  - Conclusion whether:
    - The requirements have been met
    - The protocol is fit for its purpose
- 22.8 The participant must identify the need for and if necessary apply statistical techniques required for determining, managing and verifying test results
- 22.9 There must be adequate planning, including the priority of tests, availability of staff and facilities/equipment, to ensure that the testing is carried out under controlled conditions

- 22.10 At all stages of storage, handling and preparation of samples measures must be taken to prevent damage and/or deterioration that would make results invalid
- 22.11 Anonymity of samples must be ensured as far as possible in order to prevent any influence on the results. The participant must ensure that evaluation of tests can be done without information about the background (origin, complaints, etc.) only, e.g. by coding, in order to avoid preoccupation that could influence test results (to ensure impartiality)
- 22.12 If the test shows abnormalities and / or deviates from what is expected, management must be informed and appropriate action undertaken, possibly leading to a CAR (see 10)
- 22.13 The results of testing (of the samples) are compared with the original sampling schedule, for inspection of completeness of sampling and analysis
- 22.14 The lab technician evaluating the test must not have any interest in the outcome or result of the test
- 22.15 There must be full traceability at all stages in the process (e.g. from receiving and sampling of the seed lot, handling samples, storage of samples, the conducting of all tests, all test evaluations and all ASLN Laboratory reports issued)
- 22.16 It is not allowed to test a sample from a plot that has been tested before in the same year

### **23. Subcontracting**

- 23.1 If an ASLN participant wishes to subcontract a test to Naktuinbouw Laboratories, with the intention to issue an ASLN Laboratory report based upon a test result obtained from Naktuinbouw Laboratories, this is allowed.
- 23.2 If an ASLN participant wishes to subcontract a test to another ASLN or NAL participant, with the intention to issue an ASLN Laboratory report based upon a test result obtained from the other ASLN or NAL participant, this is allowed as long as the other ASLN or NAL participant has the test in their scope of authorization.
- 23.3 If an ASLN participant subcontracts a test to another laboratory, with the intention to issue an ASLN Laboratory report based upon a test result obtained from this subcontracted laboratory this is allowed when the subcontracted laboratory has an accreditation for NEN-EN-ISO 17025. Condition 5.8 is applicable.  
This subcontracted laboratory must:
  - 23.3.1 Have the subcontracted test in their scope of accreditation.
  - 23.3.2 Have the proof of accreditation and results from relevant audits available for Bureau Authorizations.
  - 23.3.3 Have the protocol for the concerning test and its revisions approved by Bureau Authorizations. The protocol must be written in Dutch or English.
  - 23.3.4 Take part in proficiency testing between laboratories for the concerning test when organized by Bureau Authorizations and inform the ASLN participant when a minor or major is issued. Condition 25.3 is applicable.
 The ASLN participant must:
  - 23.3.5 Inform Bureau Authorizations about the test and subcontracted laboratory it will use, independent from incidental or structural subcontracting.
- 23.4 When the above is satisfied, it is allowed to issue an ASLN Laboratory report based upon a test result obtained from this subcontractor (including Naktuinbouw or another ASLN or NAL participant), provided that on the Laboratory report is stated: 'test result obtained from an approved subcontractor'. When the subcontractor belongs to the same holding such additional information on the ASLN Laboratory report is not obligatory.

### **24. ASLN Laboratory reports**

- 24.1 Bureau Authorizations must approve the procedure (and related documents) for issuing ASLN Laboratory reports through myNaktuinbouw, before ASLN Laboratory reports can be issued
- 24.2 The participant can only issue ASLN Laboratory reports if:
  - 24.2.1 The sample is taken in compliance with the ASLN Conditions, including 15.9
  - 24.2.2 The test result is based upon fully completed tests compliant with the ASLN Conditions
  - 24.2.3 The test has been carried out according to approved protocols for which the participant is authorized
- 24.3 When the participant receives a major (due to the results of a proficiency test), the authorization for the relevant test is temporarily withdrawn, in such cases it is no longer permitted to issue a ASLN Laboratory report for this test, until written permission is given by Bureau Authorizations, showing explicitly that authorization for the test has been granted again

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- 24.4 The ASLN Laboratory report must at least contain the following information:
- The participant's name and address and / or trade mark of the ASLN authorized participant (reference to other brand names is not allowed)
  - A clear identification / reference to the subject that has been tested
  - Test result
    - Germination and UPT: written in integers
    - Purity:
      - a. report with one decimal
      - b. report traces (written as TR) in case percentage is between 0.00 and 0.05% and add description of kind of inert matter or other seeds
    - Seed count: in kg or grams
  - The initials of the person responsible for the content
  - The date of issue
  - It is allowed to make a reference to ASLN authorization
  - It is allowed to give additional information (e.g. of the client, whether the seed has been treated, etc.)
- 24.5 An ASLN Laboratory report cannot contain any advice or recommendation (even when based upon the test result)
- 24.6 In the event a test result issued with the ASLN Laboratory report is incorrect, the ASLN Laboratory report must be retrieved from the recipient and replaced with a new ASLN Laboratory report with the correct test result
- 24.7 In the event when authorization is withdrawn with a retrospective effect (even when temporary), the participant must determine if a recall or informing clients is necessary
- 24.8 If the participant wishes to issue an ASLN Laboratory report with a test result for germination:
- There have to be tested 400 seeds as a minimum
  - The result between repetitions must not exceed the allowed deviation as indicated in internationally accepted tolerance tables

## 25. Monitoring test quality

The participant must ensure the quality of test results over time.

### 25.1 Test

- 25.1.1 The participant must draw up a program for monitoring test quality and register the results of this monitoring.
- 25.1.2 At least one of the following must be implemented (except when released of this condition by Bureau Authorizations, in cases where this is not relevant):
- positive and negative controls must used with all replicate tests
  - testing of blind samples with known infection/germination levels
  - replicate testing of the same sample with the same method

### 25.2 Internal ring test

- 25.2.1 The participant must draw up a program for internal ring tests, to demonstrate the individual expertise of the lab technicians regarding evaluation of the concerning tests. Internal ring tests should be inherent to the end result, should guarantee reproducibility and focus on the variable part of assay
- 25.2.2 The participant must make a program for 3 years, based upon the scope
- 25.2.3 For seed analysis and seed/plant health we have categories. Each test within the participant's scope for seed analysis will belong to one of the categories as mentioned under 25.2.4, for seed/plant health to one of the categories as mentioned under 25.2.5 and for soil to one of the categories as mentioned under 25.2.6:
- Each category that is relevant for their scope for ASLN must be completed at least annually
  - Each test that is within their scope for ASLN must be completed at least once per three years
- 25.2.4 Categories for seed analysis; examples per category are an indication and not exhaustive:
- Category A: Physical purity, Determination of other seeds
  - Category B: Thousand seed weight, moisture
  - Category 1 Germination/UPT Allium

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- Category 2 Germination/UPT Anethum, Apium, Beta, Borago, Brassica, Capsicum, Cichorium, Coriandrum, Cucumis, Daucus, Foeniculum, Fragaria, Helianthus, Lactuca, Pastinaca, Petroselinum, Raphanus, Scorzonera, Solanum, Spinacia, Thymus
  - Category 3 Germination/UPT Asparagus
  - Category 4 Germination/UPT Freesia
  - Category 5 Germination/UPT Ginkgo, Juniperus, Thuja
  - Category 6 Germination/UPT Lathyrus
  - Category 7 Germination/UPT Phaseolus
  - Category 8 Germination/UPT Phaseolus coccineus, Pisum, Vicia
  - Category 9 Germination/UPT Zea
- 25.2.5 Categories for seed / plant health:
- 25.2.5.1 Categories for bacteria:
- Dilution plating and identification of suspected colonies
  - Grow out (sweat box or green house)
  - Molecular assays (BioPCR /seed extract PCR)
  - Other
- 25.2.5.2 Categories for viruses / viroids:
- ELISA
  - Bio assay
  - Molecular assays (RT-PCR )
  - Other
- 25.2.5.3 Categories for fungi:
- Agar plating
  - Blotter
  - Grow out
  - Other
- 25.2.6 Categories for soil:
- Nematodes
  - Fungi
  - Other
- 25.2.7 This program for internal ring tests must be based upon other relevant aspects as well, including e.g. outcome of earlier internal ring tests, proficiency tests, relevant CARs and process performance / product conformity
- 25.2.8 Each lab technician that is responsible for evaluation of those tests is obliged to participate in the internal ring tests
- 25.2.9 If in a certain case obliged participation is not possible (for any reason whatsoever), the participant must consider and determine in each case whether the concerning employee can be maintained as an evaluator for the concerning test (one of the considerations must be whether it is necessary to have the results confirmed by another lab technician)
- 25.2.10 Before the internal ring test can be started, criteria must be set, dealing with e.g. (when and where relevant):
- The object that needs to be recognized
  - The percentage of the object that needs to be found
  - The allowed deviation between the lab technicians from average and which relevant table will be used to determine this
  - It is also possible that 'average' will be determined after the test and after discussion with participants
- 25.2.11 When deviation between participants is larger than acceptable, the participant must draw up a CAR (see 10)
- 25.3 External proficiency tests
- 25.3.1 Each participant is obliged to take part in external proficiency tests (or testing of a blind sample) when organized by Bureau Authorizations, for those tests that are within their scope for ASLN
- 25.3.2 Participation in other proficiency tests is encouraged
- 25.3.3 In the event of a minor or major, the participant must:
- Draw up a CAR (see 10)

- Inform Bureau Authorizations about the outcome of this within two months (minor) or two weeks (major)

25.3.4 In the event of a major:

- The authorization for the concerning test will be withdrawn temporarily
- Until resolved, it is not possible for the participant to issue ASLN Laboratory reports for this test on any possibly affected seed lot, or state otherwise that possibly affected seed lots are healthy
- The participant must determine if a recall or informing clients is necessary
- Bureau Authorizations will inform within two weeks after receiving the corrective action if authorization for this test can be granted again

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **26. Definitions / references**

#### 26.1 Abbreviations:

- ASLN: Authorized Service Laboratories Naktuinbouw
- CAR: Corrective Action Request
- DAFF: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- ELISA: Enzyme-Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay
- EN: Europese Norm (European Standard)
- EPPO: European Plant Protection Organization
- ISHI: International Seed Health Initiative
- ISO: International Standardization Organization
- ISTA: International Seed Testing Association
- MLM: Multi Location Module
- Naktuinbouw: Netherlands Inspection Service for Horticulture
- NAL: Naktuinbouw Authorized Laboratories
- NC: Non Conformity
- NEN: Nederlandse Norm (Dutch Standard)
- PCR: Polymerase Chain Reaction
- PT: Proficiency Test
- QMS: Quality Management System
- UPT: Usable Plant / Plug Test, sown in substrate (sand, peat or rock wool) and grown in a greenhouse or growth chamber, in which the first real leaves of the cotyledons are examined

#### 26.2 QMS

- Scope: the total of all tests for which ASLN authorization has been granted, as stated on the ASLN authenticated register of tests
- Procedure: a document (can be either digital or a hard copy, either in a flowchart or in wording) indicating the flow (of a part) of the laboratory's process, along with the responsibilities and remarks (reference to documents, relevant time frames) per process step. Answering the question who does what, where and when. Also about the competencies and responsibilities for the relevant tasks / process steps. It is relevant to distinguish:
  - The responsible function for a process step (e.g. initiating, coordinating, delegating work to competent employees, compliance with requirements/procedure, etc.)
  - The function involved in completing the task/process step (responsible for their work)
  - The function which must be consulted during a process step
- Work instruction: a document (can be either digital or a hard copy) that describes how a specific part of the laboratory's process must be executed, when there is a risk that absence of this can lead to significant variation and that the process will not be adequately controlled.
- Process owner: the individual (function, employee or manager) responsible for control of the process (e.g. initiation, flow, appointing staff, training).
- MyNaktuinbouw: online tool through website Naktuinbouw for protocol review
- Critical control point:
  - A specific step (in a procedure, instruction or protocol) for which the laboratory has determined that control is critical to the outcome of the process
  - That therefore needs to be monitored, in order to reduce, eliminate or prevent the possibility that it will not be controlled
  - Applicable and relevant
- Protocol: a document which describes how a test needs to be conducted, by indicating the consecutive steps and also (where necessary) the different roles / responsibilities; in case the participant has divided a test into distinctive parts (modules), the protocol must indicate how this all together is build up; this must be in line with requirement 22.5 / definition 27.2
- Primary process: the chain of activities (like for ASLN: sampling and testing) that must be carried out in order to be able to deliver a result / product to an internal or external

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customer; this must be seen in relation to the scope of the concerning scheme / existence of a business (like for ASLN: a test result; for a seed company: a bag of seeds)

- Secondary process: all other activities that are supporting the primary process (like: calibration, document control, internal auditing, training of staff)

### 26.3 Equipment, means, devices and reference materials

- Accuracy: measure of statistical bias (how close or far off a given set of measurements (observations or readings) are to their true value) with a description of systematic errors
- Adjustment: adjusting the device within appropriate tolerances, ensuring the metrological performance, and making it fit for purpose (again)
- Calibration:
  - Determining the value of the deviation of a device from a calibration instrument
  - Where it consists of:
    - Applying test loads to the device under specified conditions
    - Determining the error and/or variation of the indication and
    - Evaluating the uncertainty of measurement to be attributed to the ASLN test results
- Calibration instrument:
  - The standard, known to have a valid reference to (inter)nationally recognized standards (if possible or feasible) and
  - The means intended to conduct calibration of a device; this is understood to mean both a material measure as well as a measuring device
- Deviation: difference between the calibration instrument (e.g. regarding indicated temperature, wavelength, dispensed volume or the control weight used) and the corresponding settings or reading on the device that needs to be calibrated, including possible systematic and random errors
- Device: apparatus / device / equipment / instrument / machine used in a process under NAL authorization, which needs to operate within certain tolerances to enable a controlled process and therefore needs to be calibrated at certain intervals
- Precision: measure of statistical variability (how close measurements are together) with a description of random errors
- Tolerances: permissible deviation from a certain temperature, wavelength, volume or weight, because the permissible deviation does not or hardly affect the outcome of the intended use / concerning test
- Uncertainties: uncertainties as determined by publication reference EA-4 02 from the European co-operation for accreditation; in short: addition of possible systematic and random errors

### 26.4 Sampling and testing

- Batch of seeds: an amount of seeds, produced within one process step all at one time (like: cleaning, grading, enhancing) / delivered, and which can be considered as one relatively homogeneous unit / quantity of seeds
- Test: method (from A – Z, see ASLN Condition 22.5), laid down in an unambiguous protocol (so written that an appropriately qualified person can perform the complete test), for which authorization has been granted:
  - seed analysis:
    - germination (see NAL Quality score): crop / method
    - moisture
    - physical purity
    - other seeds
    - thousand seed weight / seed count
  - seed health determination: pathogen / crop
  - plant health determination: pathogen / crop

### 26.5 Monitoring test quality

- ASLN Proficiency testing: a test of skill and an evaluation of the capability of an ASLN authorized laboratory to achieve a correct test result for the tests for which it is authorized, by a system to objectively compare the laboratory's results with other laboratories' results by an independent organization (e.g. Bureau Authorizations). The main objective being the establishment of trueness. This is achieved by using the

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laboratory's personnel, materials, equipment, environmental conditions and quality management system, through the analysis of (to the participating laboratory) unknown specimens, prepared and distributed by an external source (e.g. Bureau Authorizations). An 'external check', a third line control.

- Internal ring test: a test to see to what extent all lab technicians within a laboratory (that are 'mature' and responsible regarding evaluation of a test) are coming to more or less similar test results when evaluating the same sample. An 'internal check', a second line control.
- Blind sample: a sample from a lot that has been tested in an earlier stage, and that is brought to the laboratory (again) on purpose, to see whether the laboratory comes to the same / expected test result. This can be organized internally (→ second line control) or externally (→ third line control). Constraint: the blind sample must fit in the routine flow of testing, so that a lab technician does not have a clue that he / she is dealing with a blind (!) sample.
- Major: notification by Bureau Authorizations to a participant whose results in a ASLN proficiency test demonstrate an underperformance based on statistical analysis.
- Minor: notification by Bureau Authorizations to a participant whose results in a ASLN proficiency test indicate a (minor) deviation based on statistical analysis.

## 27. Revision history (ASLN Conditions 2024 compared to ASLN Conditions 2023)

We made the following changes through the document:

- 'Bureau TIS Naktuinbouw' is replaced by 'Bureau Authorizations'
- 'Yellow card' is replaced by 'minor'
- 'Red card' is replaced by 'major'
- 'CAR' is followed by 'see 10'
- Approval and keeping all relevant protocols / procedures through myNaktuinbouw

We made the following specific changes (marked yellow or strikethrough):

- Introduction 1st sentence: Their laboratories carry out **sampling and** quality tests on seeds and / or (parts of) plants.
- Introduction 5th paragraph: **Sampling, testing** and issuing NAL Quality certificates is only allowed for crops under the supervision of Naktuinbouw inspections: all species of floricultural (except the bulb crops as mentioned in **'Bijlage II. als bedoeld in artikel 23 van de Landbouwkwaliteitsregeling 2007'**, appendix I), arboricultural and vegetable crops. For other crops, it is not allowed to make any reference to NAL and / or authorization by Bureau Authorizations then.
- Introduction last sentence deleted, but kept in 4.3: ~~The laboratory can exclude some of the paragraphs (only possible for: 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24 and / or 26).~~
- 4.4:
  - If the participant wants to have some documents (like working instructions) in the local language only, then the participant must provide an ~~independent~~ interpreter during the audit
  - The above is not applicable for **test** protocols, **sampling procedure/protocol and where relevant the procedure for issuing NAL Quality certificates or ASLN laboratory reports**, they must be written in Dutch or English at all times.
- 5.2 deleted: ~~The participant must in case of confirmation of detection of a Quarantine-organism, demonstrably inform the National Plant Protection Organization (unless national legislation is different from this obligation)~~
- **22.5 last bullet: In case of revisions: a log indicating the changes to all former versions. All changes to the last accepted version have to be marked in the text, or the revision log must be complete in all details (except changes in formatting)**
- 24.2.1 deleted: ~~This reflects a test result on a sample from a crop that is under the supervision of Naktuinbouw inspections in the Netherlands, including all varieties of:~~
  - ~~Arboricultural crops~~
  - ~~Floricultural crops (except the bulb crops as mentioned in 'Landbouwkwaliteitsbesluit bloembollen' from 6 September 1999, see appendix I)~~
  - ~~Vegetable crops~~
- New 24.2.1: **The sample is taken in compliance with the ASLN Conditions**
- 25.3:  
External proficiency tests

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25.3.3 In the event of a **minor** or **major** **in a proficiency test or post-control**, the participant must:

- Draw up a CAR (see 10)
- Inform Bureau Authorizations about the outcome of this **within two months (minor) or two weeks (major)**

25.3.4 In the event of a major:

- The authorization for the concerning test will be withdrawn temporarily
- Until resolved, it is not possible for the participant to issue ASLN Laboratory reports for this test **on any possibly affected seed lot, or state otherwise that possibly affected seed lots are healthy**
- ~~The participant must block all seeds lots which are or could be affected, at least one year prior to the red card being issued (unless it is evident that the cause of the problem did occur from a later date on)~~
- The participant must determine if a recall or informing clients is necessary
- Bureau Authorizations will inform **within two weeks after receiving the corrective action** if authorization for this test can be granted again

- 27.1: Updated abbreviations
- 27.2: Definition 'myNaktuinbouw' added
- 27.5: Definition red card/yellow card changed into major/minor  
Major: notification by Bureau Authorizations to a participant whose results in a ASLN proficiency test demonstrate an underperformance based on statistical analysis.  
Minor: notification by Bureau Authorizations to a participant whose results in a ASLN proficiency test indicate a (minor) deviation based on statistical analysis.

**Bijlage II. Als bedoeld in artikel 23 van de Landbouwkwaliteitsregeling 2007**

I	II
Bravoa	Agavaceae
Polianthes	Agavaceae
Pseudobravoa	Agavaceae
Allium	Alliaceae
Ancrumia	Alliaceae
Androstephium	Alliaceae
Bessera	Alliaceae
Bloomeria	Alliaceae
Brodiaea	Alliaceae
Caloscordum	Alliaceae
Dandya	Alliaceae
Dichelostemma	Alliaceae
Erinna	Alliaceae
Garaventia	Alliaceae
Gethyum	Alliaceae
Gilliesia	Alliaceae
Ipheion	Alliaceae
Latace	Alliaceae
Leucocoryne	Alliaceae
Miersia	Alliaceae
Milla	Alliaceae
Milula	Alliaceae
Muilla	Alliaceae
Nectaroscordum	Alliaceae

Nothoscordum	Alliaceae
Petronymphe	Alliaceae
Solaria	Alliaceae
Speea	Alliaceae
Trichlora	Alliaceae
Tristagma	Alliaceae
Triteleia	Alliaceae
Triteleiopsis	Alliaceae
Tulbaghia	Alliaceae
<hr/>	
Amaryllis	Amaryllidaceae
Ammocharis	Amaryllidaceae
Apodolirion	Amaryllidaceae
Bokkeveldia	Amaryllidaceae
Boophone	Amaryllidaceae
Braxireon	Amaryllidaceae
Brunsvigia	Amaryllidaceae
Caliphruria	Amaryllidaceae
Calostemma	Amaryllidaceae
Carpolyza	Amaryllidaceae
Castellanoa	Amaryllidaceae
Champmanolirion	Amaryllidaceae
Chlidanthus	Amaryllidaceae
Clivia	Amaryllidaceae
Crinum	Amaryllidaceae
Cryptostephanus	Amaryllidaceae
Cybistetes	Amaryllidaceae
Cyrtanthus	Amaryllidaceae
Elisena	Amaryllidaceae

Eucharis	Amaryllidaceae
Eucrosia	Amaryllidaceae
Eustephia	Amaryllidaceae
Famatina	Amaryllidaceae
Galanthus	Amaryllidaceae
Gemmaria	Amaryllidaceae
Gethyllis	Amaryllidaceae
Griffinia	Amaryllidaceae
Habranthus	Amaryllidaceae
Haemanthus	Amaryllidaceae
Hannonia	Amaryllidaceae
Haylockia	Amaryllidaceae
Hessea	Amaryllidaceae
Hieronymiella	Amaryllidaceae
Hippeastrum	Amaryllidaceae
Hyline	Amaryllidaceae
Hymenocallis	Amaryllidaceae
Ismene	Amaryllidaceae
Lapiedra	Amaryllidaceae
Leucojum	Amaryllidaceae
Lycoris	Amaryllidaceae
Mathieua	Amaryllidaceae
Namaquanula	Amaryllidaceae
Narcissus	Amaryllidaceae
Pamianthe	Amaryllidaceae
Pancratium	Amaryllidaceae
Paramongaia	Amaryllidaceae
Phaedranassa	Amaryllidaceae
Placea	Amaryllidaceae

Plagiolirion	Amaryllidaceae
Proiphys	Amaryllidaceae
Pseudostenomesson	Amaryllidaceae
Pyrolirion	Amaryllidaceae
Rauhia	Amaryllidaceae
Rhodophiala	Amaryllidaceae
Scadoxus	Amaryllidaceae
Sprekelia	Amaryllidaceae
Stenomesson	Amaryllidaceae
Sternbergia	Amaryllidaceae
Strumaria	Amaryllidaceae
Tedingea	Amaryllidaceae
Traubia	Amaryllidaceae
Ungernia	Amaryllidaceae
Urceolina	Amaryllidaceae
Vagaria	Amaryllidaceae
Vallota	Amaryllidaceae
Zephyranthes	Amaryllidaceae
Aphyllanthes	Aphyllanthaceae
Amorphophallus	Araceae
Arisaema	Araceae
Arum	Araceae
Biarum	Araceae
Dracontium	Araceae
Dracunculus	Araceae
Helicodiceros	Araceae
Pinellia	Araceae

Sauromatum	Araceae
Zantedeschia	Araceae
Asphodelus	Asphodelaceae
Bulbine	Asphodelaceae
Bulbinella	Asphodelaceae
Eremurus	Asphodelaceae
Hemiphylacus	Asphodelaceae
Jodrellia	Asphodelaceae
Paradisea	Asphodelaceae
Simethis	Asphodelaceae
Trachyandra	Asphodelaceae
Dahlia	Asteraceae
Begonia tuberhybrida	Begoniaceae
Blanfordia	Blanfordiaceae
Canna	Cannaceae
Androcymbium	Colchicaceae
Baeometra	Colchicaceae
Bulbocodium	Colchicaceae
Burchardia	Colchicaceae
Camptorrhiza	Colchicaceae
Colchicum	Colchicaceae
Gloriosa	Colchicaceae
Hexacyrtis	Colchicaceae

Iphigenia	Colchicaceae
Littonia	Colchicaceae
Merendera	Colchicaceae
Neodregea	Colchicaceae
Onixotis	Colchicaceae
Ornithoglossum	Colchicaceae
Sandersonia	Colchicaceae
Wurmbea	Colchicaceae
Cyanastrum	Cyanastraceae
Eriospermum	Eriospermaceae
Albuca	Hyacinthaceae
Alrawia	Hyacinthaceae
Amphisiphon	Hyacinthaceae
Androsiphon	Hyacinthaceae
Bellevalia	Hyacinthaceae
Bowiea	Hyacinthaceae
Brimeura	Hyacinthaceae
Camassia	Hyacinthaceae
Chionodoxa	Hyacinthaceae
Chlorogalum	Hyacinthaceae
Daubenya	Hyacinthaceae
Dipcadi	Hyacinthaceae
Drimia	Hyacinthaceae
Drimiopsis	Hyacinthaceae
Eucomis	Hyacinthaceae
Fortunatia	Hyacinthaceae

Galtonia	Hyacinthaceae
Hastingsia	Hyacinthaceae
Hesperocallis	Hyacinthaceae
Hyacinthella	Hyacinthaceae
Hyacinthoides	Hyacinthaceae
Hyacinthus	Hyacinthaceae
Lachenalia	Hyacinthaceae
Ledebouria	Hyacinthaceae
Leopoldia	Hyacinthaceae
Litanthus	Hyacinthaceae
Massonia	Hyacinthaceae
Muscari	Hyacinthaceae
Muscarimia	Hyacinthaceae
Neopatersonia	Hyacinthaceae
Ornithogalum	Hyacinthaceae
Polyxena	Hyacinthaceae
Pseudogaltonia	Hyacinthaceae
Pseudomuscari	Hyacinthaceae
Puschkinia	Hyacinthaceae
Rhadamanthus	Hyacinthaceae
Rhodocodon	Hyacinthaceae
Schizobasis	Hyacinthaceae
Schoenolirion	Hyacinthaceae
Scilla	Hyacinthaceae
Sypharissa	Hyacinthaceae
Thuranthos	Hyacinthaceae
Urginea	Hyacinthaceae
Veltheimia	Hyacinthaceae
Whiteheadia	Hyacinthaceae

Curculigo	Hypoxidaceae
Empodium	Hypoxidaceae
Hypoxidia	Hypoxidaceae
Hypoxis	Hypoxidaceae
Molineria	Hypoxidaceae
Pauridia	Hypoxidaceae
Rhodohypoxis	Hypoxidaceae
Saniella	Hypoxidaceae
Spiloxene	Hypoxidaceae
Ainea	Iridaceae
Alophia	Iridaceae
Anapalina	Iridaceae
Anomatheca	Iridaceae
Antholyza	Iridaceae
Aristea	Iridaceae
Babiana	Iridaceae
Barnardiella	Iridaceae
Belamcanda	Iridaceae
Bobartia	Iridaceae
Calydorea	Iridaceae
Cardenanthus	Iridaceae
Chasmanthe	Iridaceae
Cipura	Iridaceae
Cobana	Iridaceae
Crocosmia	Iridaceae
Crocus	Iridaceae
Cypella	Iridaceae

Devia	Iridaceae
Dierama	Iridaceae
Dietes	Iridaceae
Diplarrhena	Iridaceae
Duthiastrum	Iridaceae
Eleutherine	Iridaceae
Ennealophus	Iridaceae
Eurynotia	Iridaceae
Ferraria	Iridaceae
Fosteria	Iridaceae
Galaxia	Iridaceae
Geissorhiza	Iridaceae
Gelasine	Iridaceae
Geosiris	Iridaceae
Gladiolus	Iridaceae
Gynandriris	Iridaceae
Herbertia	Iridaceae
Hermodactylus	Iridaceae
Hesperantha	Iridaceae
Hesperoxiphion	Iridaceae
Hexaglottis	Iridaceae
Homeria	Iridaceae
Iris excl. I.germanica, I.kaempferi, I.ensata, I.pumila, I.foetidissima, I.laevigata, I.sibirica, I.japonica (incl. I.Chinensis), I.chryso-	Iridaceae
graphes, I.halophila (I.spuria ssp halophila) en I.spuria	
Isophysis	Iridaceae
Ixia	Iridaceae
Kelissa	Iridaceae
Klattia	Iridaceae
Lapeirousia	Iridaceae

Larentia	Iridaceae
Lethia	Iridaceae
Libertia	Iridaceae
Mastigostyla	Iridaceae
Melasphaerula	Iridaceae
Micranthus	Iridaceae
Moraea	Iridaceae
Nemastylis	Iridaceae
Neomarica	Iridaceae
Nivenia	Iridaceae
Olsynium	Iridaceae
Onira	Iridaceae
Orthrosanthus	Iridaceae
Pardanthopsis	Iridaceae
Patersonia	Iridaceae
Phalocallis	Iridaceae
Pillansia	Iridaceae
Pseudotrimezia	Iridaceae
Radinosiphon	Iridaceae
Rheome	Iridaceae
Rigidella	Iridaceae
Roggeveldia	Iridaceae
Romulea	Iridaceae
Savannosiphon	Iridaceae
Schizostylis	Iridaceae
Sessilanthera	Iridaceae
Sessilistigma	Iridaceae
Solenomelus	Iridaceae
Sparaxis	Iridaceae

Sphenostigma	Iridaceae
Syringodea	Iridaceae
Tapeinia	Iridaceae
Thereianthus	Iridaceae
Tigridia	Iridaceae
Trimezia	Iridaceae
Tritonia	Iridaceae
Tritoniopsis	Iridaceae
Watsonia	Iridaceae
Witsenia	Iridaceae
Zygotritonia	Iridaceae
Ixiolirion	Ixioliriaceae
Calochortus	Liliaceae
Cardiocrinum	Liliaceae
Erythronium	Liliaceae
Fritillaria	Liliaceae
Gagea	Liliaceae
Korolkowia	Liliaceae
Lilium	Liliaceae
Lloydia	Liliaceae
Nomocharis	Liliaceae
Notholirion	Liliaceae
Tulipa	Liliaceae
Zigadenus	Melanthiaceae
Mirabilis	Nyctaginaceae

Oxalis	Oxalidaceae
Cyclamen excl. <i>C. persicum</i> cultivars	Primulaceae
Anemone apennina	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. blanda</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. coronaria</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. cylindrica</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. flaccida</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. fulgens</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. ranunculoides</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>A. trifolia</i>	Ranunculaceae
Eranthis	Ranunculaceae
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>R. asiaticus</i>	Ranunculaceae
<i>R. millefoliatus</i>	Ranunculaceae
Conanthera	Tecophilaeaceae
Cyanella	Tecophilaeaceae
Odontostomum	Tecophilaeaceae
Tecophilaea	Tecophilaeaceae
Walleria	Tecophilaeaceae
Zephyra	Tecophilaeaceae
Abolboda	Xyridaceae
Achlyphila	Xyridaceae
Aratitiopea	Xyridaceae
Orectanthe	Xyridaceae

Xyris	Xyridaceae
Aframomum	Zingiberaceae
Alpinia	Zingiberaceae
Amomum	Zingiberaceae
Aulotandra	Zingiberaceae
Boesenbergia	Zingiberaceae
Burbridgea	Zingiberaceae
Camptandra	Zingiberaceae
Caulokaempferia	Zingiberaceae
Cautleya	Zingiberaceae
Curcuma	Zingiberaceae
Curcumorpha	Zingiberaceae
Cyphostigma	Zingiberaceae
Elettaria	Zingiberaceae
Elettariopsis	Zingiberaceae
Etlingera	Zingiberaceae
Gagnepainia	Zingiberaceae
Geocharis	Zingiberaceae
Geostachys	Zingiberaceae
Globba	Zingiberaceae
Haniffia	Zingiberaceae
Haplochorema	Zingiberaceae
Hedychium	Zingiberaceae
Hemiorchis	Zingiberaceae
Hitchenia	Zingiberaceae
Hornstedtia	Zingiberaceae
Kaempferia	Zingiberaceae
Leptosolena	Zingiberaceae

Mantisia	Zingiberaceae
Nanochilus	Zingiberaceae
Paracautleya	Zingiberaceae
Parakeampferia	Zingiberaceae
Plagiostachys	Zingiberaceae
Pleuranthodium	Zingiberaceae
Pommereschea	Zingiberaceae
Pyrgophyllum	Zingiberaceae
Renealmia	Zingiberaceae
Rhynchanthus	Zingiberaceae
Riedelia	Zingiberaceae
Roscoea	Zingiberaceae
Scaphochlamys	Zingiberaceae
Siliquamomum	Zingiberaceae
Siphonochilus	Zingiberaceae
Stadiochilus	Zingiberaceae
Stahlianthus	Zingiberaceae
Vanoverberghia	Zingiberaceae
Zingiber	Zingiberaceae