
From: Jane Pierson
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 9:32 AM
To: Helen Phillips
Subject: HB 197 - 100lb maximum limitation

From: Carter, Robert T (DNR) <robert.carter@alaska.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 9:01 AM
To: Elizabeth Rexford <Elizabeth.Rexford@akleg.gov>
Cc: King, Ed M (DNR) <ed.king@alaska.gov>; Keyes, Arthur J (DNR) <arthur.keyes@alaska.gov>
Subject: RE: HB 197 - 100lb maximum limitation

Good Morning Elizabeth,

To answer your question on limitation

A limitation on the quantity (pounds) per lot of noncommercial seed offered or shared is necessary to continue to give the Department the ability to protect Alaska's agricultural industries and native plant populations from the spread of unwanted invasive and nonnative species. In addition, the quantity limitation will help prevent circumvention of the already existing commercial seed regulations that not only protect against invasive species but from fraud or deception against the end user of such agricultural seed. An example of such circumvention without limitations could be; a producer grows and harvests a few thousand pounds of seed with intent to sell. After following current regulations to get the required testing done to meet state and federal labeling laws, he or she realizes that the seed lot does not meet the minimum standards containing too many restricted noxious weed seeds. Knowing this the producer then gives this seed away to others under the limitless noncommercial seed sharing legislation in order to get rid of the seed, spreading the weeds around Alaska to unknowing recipients of said seed. The ability to track commercial seed and its purity is done through testing and labeling of each product offered for sale, if it can be disposed of without being offered for sale intrastate distribution of invasive species could cause harm to agricultural producers both commercial and non.

The 100 pound recommendation is suggested by calculating the general broadcast planting recommendation for a noncommercial planting of a cover crop used to improve one's soil health or produce a crop such as oats or barley for one acre of feed or forage. This general planting rate and recommended limit should meet the needs of any noncommercial end user. If that limit may cause difficulties for donations of larger quantities of seed to say community seed libraries or a nonprofit educational farm, an exemption could easily be written in to Sec 03.20.130. This exemption could say; any single lot of seed for noncommercial sharing that exceeds 100 pounds shall be tested and free of any prohibited noxious invasive weeds prior to giving or receiving in accordance with 11 AAC Chapter 34.

Hopefully this helps you understand our recommendation for having a limitation without creating a heavy regulatory burden on all Alaskans participating in noncommercial seed activities.

If you have any other questions please let us know, Have a great day, Rob

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From: Elizabeth Rexford [<mailto:Elizabeth.Rexford@akleg.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 1:51 PM
To: Carter, Robert T (DNR) <robert.carter@alaska.gov>
Subject: HB 197 - 100lb maximum limitation

Good Afternoon Rob,

Can you elaborate on why and how you believe 100lbs is a necessary limitation?

Kindest Regards,
Elizabeth Rexford
Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Johnston
House District 28

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