

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

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# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

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HOUSE.

No. 262.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED  
AND NINETY-SEVEN

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AN ACT to regulate the sale of Agricultural Seeds.

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in  
Legislature assembled, as follows:*

Section 1. Every lot of seeds of agricultural plants,  
2 whether in bulk or in package, containing one pound or  
3 more, and including the seeds of cereals, grasses, forage  
4 plants, vegetables, and garden plants, but not including  
5 those of trees, shrubs and ornamental plants, which is sold,  
6 offered or exposed for sale for seed by any person or per-  
7 sons in Maine, shall be accompanied by a written or printed  
8 guarantee of its percentage of purity (freedom from foreign

9 matter) and germination; provided, that mixtures may be  
10 sold as such when the percentages of the various constitu-  
11 ents are stated.

Sect. 2. Dealers may base their guarantees upon tests  
2 conducted by themselves, their agents, or by the director of  
3 the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station; provided that  
4 such tests shall be made under such conditions as the said  
5 director may prescribe.

Sect. 3. The results of all tests of seeds made by said  
2 director shall be published by him in the bulletins or reports  
3 of the Experiment Station, together with the names of the  
4 person or persons from whom the samples of seeds were  
5 obtained. The said director shall also publish equitable  
6 standards of purity and germination together with such  
7 other information concerning agricultural seeds as may be  
8 of public benefit.

Sect. 4. Any person or persons who shall sell, offer or  
2 expose for sale in this State agricultural seeds without com-  
3 plying with the requirements of sections one and two of  
4 this act, shall, on conviction in a court of competent jurisdic-  
5 tion, be fined not to exceed one hundred dollars for the  
6 first offense, and not to exceed two hundred dollars for each  
7 subsequent offense.

Sect. 5. Any person or persons who shall with intention  
2 to deceive wrongly mark or label any package or bag con-  
3 taining garden or vegetable seeds or any other agricultural  
4 seeds, not including those of trees, shrubs, and ornamental

5 plants, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction  
6 in a court of competent jurisdiction shall be fined not to  
7 exceed one hundred dollars for the first offense and not to  
8 exceed two hundred dollars for each subsequent offense.

Sect. 6. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any  
2 person or persons growing or selling cereals and other  
3 seeds for food.

Sect. 7. Whenever the director of the Maine Agricultural  
2 Experiment Station becomes cognizant of the violation of  
3 any of the provisions of this act, he shall report such viola-  
4 tion to the secretary of the board of agriculture, and said  
5 secretary shall prosecute the party or parties thus reported.

Sect. 8. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act  
2 are hereby repealed.

Sect. 9. This act shall take effect September 1, 1897.

STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
March 10, 1897.

Reported by Mr. BRIGGS of Auburn, from Committee on Agriculture  
and ordered printed under joint rules.

**W. S. COTTON**, *Clerk*.