INTRODUCTION

The presentations in this report are given to set the stage for discussion within and among the executive boards and general memberships of AOSA and SCST. They come out of the work of the AOSAISCST Collaboration Committee established in June, 1995 by the AOSA executive board and subsequently endorsed by the SCST executive board. Although the committee feels this work is of utmost importance, that the issues raised are very critical to the successful future of both associations, and that these issues need serious action in the foreseeable future, it is stressed that any particular formulation of thoughts at this time are presented purely as a starting point for discussion.

Change is all Around US

We hear about and experience change in our world all the time.
The CAST (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) leadership training seminar attended last October by the AOSA executive officers and SCST president help focus these changes in relation to professional societies.

- Government and industry are reinventing themselves is response to changes.
    - o Smaller staffs.
    - o More contracting out of work.
    - o Role of government is being reexamined.
- Jobs are of shorter tenure.
- Information can and does flow to us at a tremendous rate and volume.
- Technology is advancing rapidly.
    - o Requires continuous learning to stay effective.
    - o The way we do our jobs will be changing.
- Changes can be stressful on the individual to:
    - o Keep up wl information and technology.
    - o Deal with the uncertainties of em.p lo-y ment
    - o Work longer hours and do more with less.

Our societies are experiencing external demands and the effects of change.

- Loss of AOSA member laboratories.
- Loss of government funded seed research.
- Globalization of the seed industry.
- The rise of the need for new services beyond traditional seed analysis (e.g. Seed health initiative.)
- World wide rise of quality assurance standards.

There is an overall maturation/evolution of the seed industry that requires AOSA and SCST to take **a** look at everything they do.

- To look for greater efficiencies of operation.
- To look for the most relevant and useful ways to respond to the changes in the market place.

Brief History

YEAR

2000

1995 ISTA opens up membership
Transgenic plants

1990

PCR & genetic mapping
1990AOAC opens voting to all members
AA chamber on market
1985 AOSA Analyst accreditation exam
Commercial protein electrophoresis

1980

ELISA testing
1971 New ISTA constitution, AOSA out

1970

Refrigerated Germinators
1965 UPOV agreement
1963 Miles Tolerance Handbook

1960

Seed blower method in Rules
1952 AASCO formed
1951 AOSA & ISTA Rules harmonized

1950

1944 CSAAC formed

1940

1939 Federal Seed Act
AOSA prints own Rules
Hybrid corn introduced
1931 ISTA issues international certificates

1930

1928 1st ISTA Rules
1924 ISTA & FIS formed
1922 ACSA (SCST) formed, CSTA
1921 AOSA Lab Certification cmt. (5 pts.)

1920

1919 International Crop Improvement Association Formed (AOSCA)
1918 1st AOSA Rules - printed by USDA

1910

1908 AOSA formed
1906 1st c**o**mpany lab in US
1906 International Seed Congress in Germany

1900

1897 Maine establishes Seed Law
1896 Association of American Agricultural Colleges & Experiment Stations establish seed testing standing committee

1890

1885 Nobbe's Science of Agricultural Seed
1884 AOAC formed (fertilizer testing)
1883 American Seed Trade Association formed

1880

1876 CT Ag experiment station founds first US seed lab
1876 Nobbe's Handbook of Seed Science
1875 1st joint seed testing rules in Europe

1870

1869 - Nobbe starts ist seed lab in Germany

Future Trends Affecting the Two Associations

- Maturation of the seed testing profession
- State and Federal governments are down-sizing government operations.
- Large seed companies are buying out smaller companies.
- Seed analysts, as professionals, have the ability to move from one job to another within and between the two associations.
- Global marketing of seed requires that all analysts be members of a seed testing association which is recognized world wide.
- Quality assurance requires that all laboratories be accredited in order to conduct seed tests for sale of seed world wide.
- Less seed testing research being conducted in official and commercial laboratories
- Greater concern about the health of the seed
- New and innovative tests require more capital outlay for equipment and technical training.
- Greater need to educate the end users about seed test results
- More stringent safety regulations concerning the use of chemicals applied on the seed or chemicals used to do quality evaluations.
- Greater demands on analysts time, requires better communication among seed analysts.
- Consumers are becoming more informed and are requesting performance indicator tests such as seed counts, crop and weed examinations, seed health evaluations, sod quality and vigor tests.
- Consumers are requesting tests from someone other then the company selling the seed