

ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
SUSPENDING THE GERMINATION TEST REQUIREMENT SET FORTH IN
AGRICULTURE ARTICLE, § 9-210(a)(1)

Pursuant to Governor Hogan's March 12, 2020 Order, allowing the head of each unit of State government to suspend the effect of a time expiration, period of time, or other time of an act described in State law, on this second of April, 2020, I hereby ORDER that:

1. The requirement set forth in Agriculture Article, § 9-210(a)(1) that "the test to determine the percentage of germination required by §§ 9-207, 9-208, and 9-209 [of this Article] is completed within 9 months, or 15 months for cool season lawn and turf grass seed as determined by the Secretary, exclusive of the month in which the test is completed, immediately prior to sale, exposure or offer for sale, or transportation" is suspended for the following seed:

All seed with test dates due to expire during the months of April, May, and June of 2020 that is now in the State and in the inventory of Maryland seed wholesalers and retailers (including Maryland certified seed, Maryland interagency certified turfgrass seed, Maryland interagency turfgrass mixes, Maryland sod eligible mixes, SHA turfgrass mixes, and SHA temporary mixes) may continue to be sold in Maryland until this Order is rescinded.

2. Unless rescinded beforehand, this Order shall continue until no later than the 30th day after the state of emergency is rescinded by the Governor.

In issuing this Order, I have determined that this suspension does not endanger the public health, welfare, or safety of the people of Maryland.



Joseph Bartenfelder, Secretary
Maryland Department of Agriculture

April 2, 2020