

Vegetable seed dos and don'ts

A quick reminder for operators



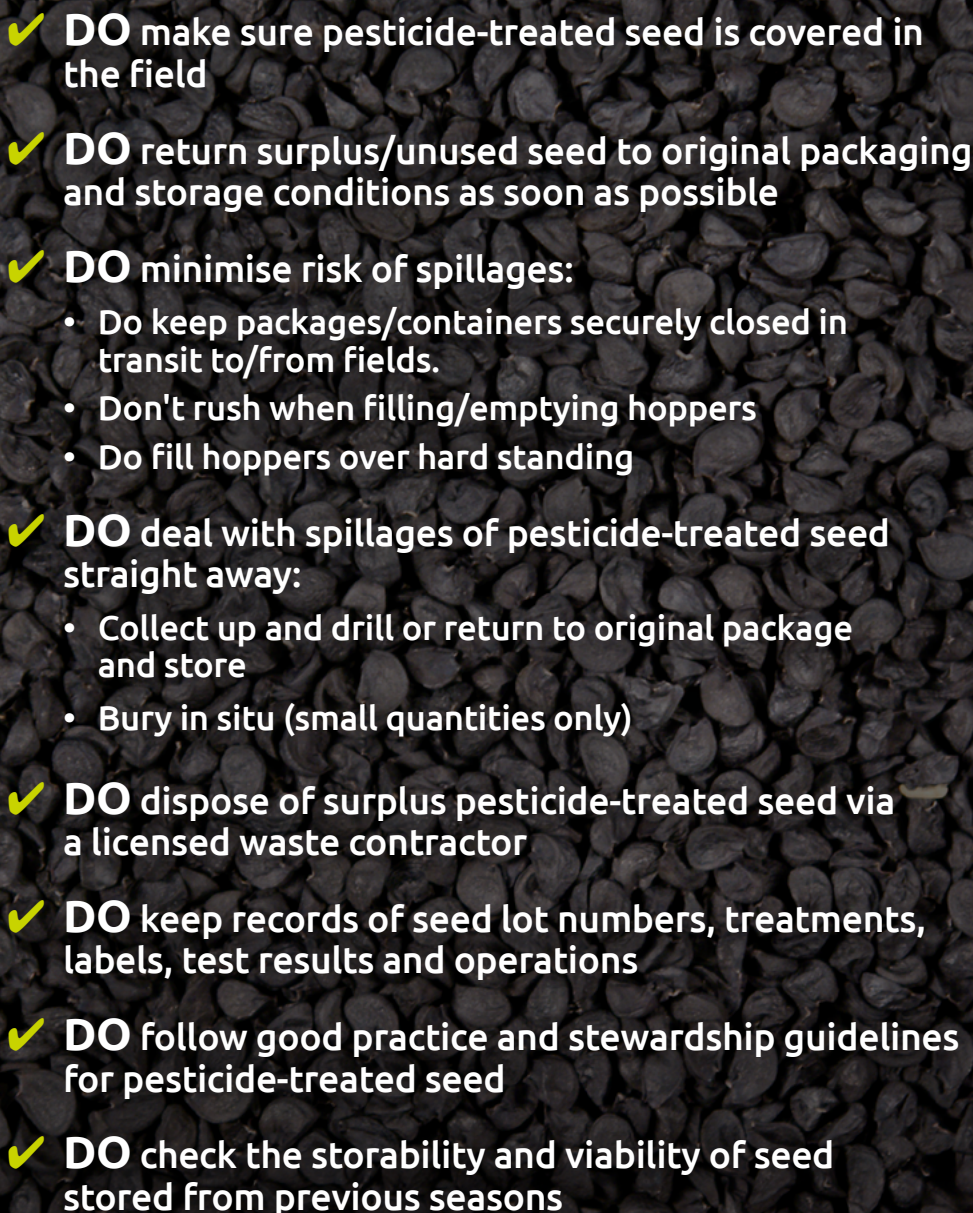
- ✓ **DO** store seed in cool ($<10^{\circ}\text{C}$), dry ($<50\%$ RH) stable conditions
- ✓ **DO** store pesticide-treated seed securely, in original packaging, with appropriate hazard and handling warnings
- ✗ **DON'T** leave seed in direct sunlight, and avoid temperature extremes
- ✗ **DON'T** leave seed in unattended vehicles or tractor cabs
- ✓ **DO** handle seed gently
- ✓ **DO** read the label before using pesticide treated seed
- ✓ **DO** carry out a risk assessment and take appropriate precautions when handling pesticide-treated seed
- ✗ **DON'T** open sealed packs until just before sowing
- ✓ **DO** sow or drill primed seed as soon as possible after receipt
- ✓ **DO** calculate drilling rates and calibrate drills based on actual germination level of the seed lot

See over the page for more dos and don'ts



Vegetable seed is expensive – look after it!

HORTICULTURE

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- ✓ **DO** make sure pesticide-treated seed is covered in the field
 - ✓ **DO** return surplus/unused seed to original packaging and storage conditions as soon as possible
 - ✓ **DO** minimise risk of spillages:
 - Do keep packages/containers securely closed in transit to/from fields.
 - Don't rush when filling/emptying hoppers
 - Do fill hoppers over hard standing
 - ✓ **DO** deal with spillages of pesticide-treated seed straight away:
 - Collect up and drill or return to original package and store
 - Bury in situ (small quantities only)
 - ✓ **DO** dispose of surplus pesticide-treated seed via a licensed waste contractor
 - ✓ **DO** keep records of seed lot numbers, treatments, labels, test results and operations
 - ✓ **DO** follow good practice and stewardship guidelines for pesticide-treated seed
 - ✓ **DO** check the storability and viability of seed stored from previous seasons

These guidelines are based on information in AHDB Horticulture factsheet 03/18 **Vegetable Seed Quality, Storage and Handling**, compiled by Steven Roberts, Plant Health Solutions, which should be consulted for more detailed information.

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