

Herbage Crop Inspectors Training & Examinations 2026

Initial - Part I & II

The initial training course for prospective herbage seed crop inspectors will be held on **24th February 2026**.

Intensive training is provided by experts in herbage variety identification, aided by demonstrators who are experienced official crop inspectors. The course is designed to provide the appropriate training for candidates sitting the Part I examination for an APHA Herbage Crop Inspector's Licence, Category 'L' which is held on the final day of the course.

When: Online - 24th February 2026

In Plot - 7th May 2026

Fees: Pt I & II training = £344.00

Pt I & II APHA Examinations = £219.00

Total = **£563.00**

Contact: cert.training@niab.com

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To qualify for a full licence, candidates must pass the Part II examination in the same calendar year as the Part I. In 2026, candidates can attend the Part II exam on **7th May 2026**. Further training will be available in the morning before the examination.

Training on this course will be given by Niab staff, experienced in the certification and inspection of grasses and herbage legume crops. The training course will concentrate on the botany, classification and identification of grasses and herbage legumes, and will also cover the theory and practice of crop inspection. Features of the retest course include:

- Detailed instructions of crop inspection techniques
- Comprehensive literature
- Identification of major grass crop species and weed grasses
- NIAB Certificate of Proficiency indicating PASS, MERIT or DISTINCTION for those who reach the required standard.

It is a requirement under the Seeds Marketing Regulations 2011 that a person applying for a crop inspector's licence has "completed an appropriate training course relating to the inspection of seed crops of that species and category".

Candidates should note paragraph 5 of the Crop Inspector's Licence. This states that a crop inspector may charge a reasonable fee for making an inspection but otherwise shall not derive any private gain in carrying out his/her functions.

Cancellations received up to 14 days before the course are refundable, less a £80 administration charge. After that, cancellations are subject to the entire course fee (but substitutions can be made at any time). **(Fees cannot be carried over to the following year under any circumstance).**

To book your place, please [click here](#) to fill in our registration form. Please note, this form is for both Retests and Initials. Once we have received your form and registered you onto the course, Niab's finance department will then send an invoice.

Applications will not be accepted after 03/02/2026.

Contact: Cert Training

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