

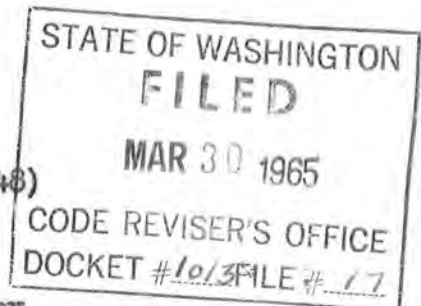
STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OLYMPIA

ORDER NO. 969

(Supersedes Orders 884, 917, and 948)

Effective May 1, 1965

GENERAL RULES FOR SEED CERTIFICATION



I, Cameron S. Adams, Acting Director of Agriculture of the State of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested in me under Chapter 15.48 RCW, after due notice as provided under Chapters 42.32 and 34.04 RCW, and a public hearing held in Yakima, Washington on March 15, 1965, do hereby promulgate the following regulations relating to the certification of agricultural seeds:

Regulation 1. General Seed Certification Standards.

Section 1. The purpose of seed certification is to maintain and make available sources of high quality seeds and propagating materials of superior plant varieties so grown and distributed as to insure genetic identity and genetic purity. The word seed or seeds as used in these standards shall be understood to include all propagating materials.

Section 2. Seed certification in the State of Washington is conducted by the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc., in cooperation with the Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Washington State University, and International Crop Improvement Association, Inc.

1. Certification of field peas, small grain, and sorghum shall be conducted by the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc., as per memorandum of agreement between the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc., dated August 19, 1953, vesting the authority with the Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc., as agent for the purpose of certifying certain crop seeds.
2. Certification of seeds other than field peas, small grain, and sorghum shall be conducted by the Seed Branch, State Department of Agriculture, Yakima, Washington.
3. The certification of horticultural plants or plant products shall be conducted by the Division of Horticulture, State Department of Agriculture, Olympia, Washington.

Section 3. Only those varieties approved by the Certification Advisory Board and accepted by the certifying agency shall be eligible for certification.

Section 4. The following classes of seed shall be recognized in seed certification:

1. Breeder seed is seed or vegetative propagating material directly controlled by the originating, or in certain cases, the sponsoring plant breeder, institution, or firm. Breeder seed supplies the source for the initial and recurring increase of foundation seed.
 2. Foundation (Elite) seed (Identified by White Tags) shall be first-generation seed increased from breeders seed or its equivalent. Production must be carefully supervised and approved by the certifying agency and/or the agricultural experiment station.
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3. Registered seed (Identified by Purple Tags) shall be the progeny of foundation seed that is so handled as to maintain satisfactory genetic identity and purity and that has been approved and certified by the certifying agency.
4. Certified seed (Identified by Blue Tags) shall be the progeny of foundation or registered seed that is so handled as to maintain satisfactory genetic identity and purity and that has been approved and certified by the certifying agency.

At the discretion of the certifying agency (when considered necessary to maintain adequate seed supplies), certified seed may be the progeny of certified seed if the genetic purity will not be altered by permitting such exception.

Section 5. All growers in the certification program shall:

1. Show that reasonable precaution has been taken to control contaminating crops and varieties, noxious weeds and seed-borne diseases.
2. Exercise precaution to prevent crop and lot mixture when harvesting.
3. Identify his crop with the assigned field number on each bag or box he delivers to the processor.
4. Have his seed cleaned at a processing plant which has been approved by the Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture.
5. Obtain approval of the certifying agency to raise more than one variety of the same crop.
6. Obtain approval of the certifying agency to ship seed for certification out-of-state for processing.

Section 6. The seed processors shall:

1. Notify the Seed Branch, State Department of Agriculture, of their intent to process seed for certification.
2. Request the Seed Branch to inspect their plant to determine if they can be approved to process seed for certification. Upon approval their name shall be added to the list of approved processing plants.
3. Handle all seed for certification in a manner so as to prevent mixture of lots clearly identifying each lot with a lot number.
4. Show evidence of clean maintenance. Installations shall be easily accessible for cleaning and inspection and all equipment must be thoroughly cleaned between lots.
5. Obtain approval from the certifying agency for handling seed for certification in bulk.
6. Dispose of screenings in compliance with the Washington State Seed Law.
7. Obtain approval from the certifying agency to ship seed for certification out-of-state for processing.
8. Have his permit to process seed for certification rescinded should a subsequent inspection reveal that the processing of seed for certification is not being handled in the manner prescribed when the approval was granted and the operator fails to take corrective measures. The name of this establishment will then be removed from the list of approved processors, and the growers of seed for certification

notified of the same.

Section 7. A representative sample of each lot of seed for certification shall be obtained by the certifying agency for laboratory analysis. The entire lot must be cleaned and in condition for sale at the time of sampling.

Section 8. Analysis of seed samples and definitions of analytical terms shall be in accordance with the rules of the Association of Official Seed Analysts as interpreted by the State and Federal Seed Laws.

Section 9. Certification tags, labels, and seals must be obtained from the certifying agency and must be attached to seed containers under the supervision of or by a representative of the certifying agency.

1. All seed for certification shall be packaged in clean, new containers of uniform weight when tagged and sealed.
2. Methods of sealing will depend upon the type of containers used and method of handling.
3. Certified seed bulk sale certificates may be used in lieu of tags with the approval of the certifying agency.

Section 10. Responsibility for any obligations, other than those concerned with certification, arising from the sale or shipment of seed which has been certified rests with the grower or subsequent handler making the sale or shipment.

Section 11. The certifying agency shall have authority to reject from certification any lot of seed not meeting the rules established by these regulations.

Section 12. The certifying agency reserves the right to refuse certification on any lot of seed if, in the opinion of the certifying agency, the color, appearance or condition of the seed might be detrimental to the certification program.

Section 13. Seed that fails to meet certification requirements because of genetic purity is not eligible for tagging. At the discretion of the certifying agency, seed that fails to meet certification requirements on factors other than genetic purity may be designated "sub-standard". The certification tag or labels attached to such seed shall clearly show the respects in which the seed is substandard.

Section 14. Person or company found guilty of violation or misuse or abuse of these rules and regulations shall be subject to prosecution under the Washington State Seed Law.

1. Proof of violation may result in removal of privileges of certifying, dealing in or handling certified seeds for at least one season.

Section 15. See Rules for Certification for specific crops to be certified for additional rules for that crop.

Section 16. Crops approved for certification for which rules are not in effect may be certified under the latest Minimum Rules for Seed Certification published by the International Crop Improvement Association. Fees for such certification shall be the most applicable fees in effect.

Section 17. The following weeds shall be considered Prohibited Noxious Weeds for the purpose of seed certification:

<u>English or Common</u>	<u>Botanical or Scientific Name</u>
Austrian field cress	Roripa austriaca
Bindweed (wild morning glory)	Convolvulus arvensis Convolvulus sepium
Blue flowering lettuce	Lactuca pulchella
Camelthorn	Alhagi camelorum
Canada thistle	Cirsium arvense

Common barberry bushes (rust-susceptible species of barberry and mahonia)

Dalmation toadflax

Dodder

Leafy spurge

Johnson grass

Perennial peppergrass

Perennial sow thistle

Quackgrass

Russian knapweed

Sorghum alnum

Tansy ragwort

White horse nettle (Silver-leaf nightshade)

White-top (hoary cress)

Yellow-flowering skeleton weed

Yellow toadflax (butter-and-eggs)

Berberis spp. Mahonia spp.

Linaria dalmatica

Cuscuta spp.

Euphorbia esula

Sorghum halepense

Lepidium latifolium

Sonchus arvensis

Agropyron repens

Centaurea repens (C. Picris)

Sorghum alnum

Senecio jacobaea

Solanum elaeagnifolium

Cardaria Draba Cardaria Draba var. repens

Cardaria pubescens

Chondrilla juncea L.

Linaria vulgaris

Section 18. The following weeds shall be considered Objectionable Weeds for the purpose of seed certification:

<u>English or Common Name</u>	<u>Botanical or Scientific Name</u>
Alkali mallow	Sida hederacea
Charlock (wild mustard)	Brassica kaber
Corncockle	Agrostemma githago
Docks	Rumex spp.
Fanweed	Thlaspi arvense
Halogeton	Halogeton glomeratus
Perennial groundcherry	Physalis longifolia and Physalis subglabrata
Perennial nutgrass (nut sedge)	Cyperus rotundus
Perennial rag weed	Ambrosia psilostachya
Plantains	Plantago spp.
Poverty weed (deathweed)	Iva axillaris
Puncturevine	Tribulus terrestris
Sheep sorrel (red sorrel)	Rumex acetosella
St. Johnswort (Klamath-weed)	Hyericum perforatum
Wild garlic (wild onion)	Allium vineale
Wild oats	Avena fatua
Yellow star-thistle	Centaurea solstitialis

Regulation 2. Procedure to follow for certification:

Section 1. Persons who wish to participate in this program must submit applications for seed certification in accordance with the requirements of these regulations and specific rules for each crop. The responsibility for payment of all fees rests with the applicant. (Applications are available from certified seed processors, county agent, or Seed Branch - Department of Agriculture).

1. Seedling applications (applications for new planting of alfalfa, clover and grasses) are to be submitted as follows:
 - a. Separate applications must be submitted for each crop.
 - b. Applications are due with a \$10 application fee within 60 days after planting. Applications may be accepted up to 6 months after planting, however, late applications (those received more than 60 days after planting) are assessed a \$10 late application fee.
 - c. Attach official tags from seed stock planted or other verification of seed stock use.

- d. Additional fees are not required when it is necessary for a grower to reseed due to failure to get a stand. The grower should advise the certifying agency the date of reseeding, and submit proof of seed stock used to reseed. Reseeding must be done within one year of original planting date.
2. Annual crops, (beans, peas, grain): A producing application must be submitted each year a grower plans to produce seed for certification.
 - a. A separate application is required for each crop.
 - b. Attach official tags from seed stock planted or other verification of seed stock used.
3. Perennial crops, (alfalfa, clover, grass): After a stand is established, a renewal application must be submitted each year that a grower plans to produce seed for certification.

Refer to rules for certification for the specific crop you plan to certify for due dates and fees.

Section 2. Field inspections shall be made as follows:

1. A seedling field shall be inspected at the most appropriate time after receipt of seedling application. The inspection will be repeated prior to harvest in case the field produces seed that same season.
2. Field inspections shall be made each year that a crop of certified seed is to be produced while the crop is in blossom or when factors affecting certification are most evident.
3. A field will not be eligible for certification unless a field inspection has been made.
4. The unit of certification will be the entire field standing at the time of inspection. A portion of a field may be certified if the area to be certified is clearly defined.
5. A field producing Foundation or Registered seed that warrants a rejection because of noxious weeds may be reclassified to Certified Blue Tag class if upon reinspection these fields meet Certified Blue Tag standards.
6. If a field is rejected, the grower may apply for reinspection after the cause for rejection has been corrected. No more than two reinspections will be granted each field. See specific crop rules for reinspection fee.

Section 3. When harvesting, use clean equipment and take all precautions to prevent mixture. The field number must be put on all containers to insure identity when delivered to the cleaning plant.


Section 4. The applicant may withdraw a field from certification by notifying the certifying agency before the field is inspected. The acreage fee only is refundable.

Section 5. Upon completion of the cleaning process at the cleaning plant, a representative of the certifying agency will obtain a sample of the seed for the purpose of making a purity and germination analysis at the Seed Laboratory.

Section 6. When the purity and germination tests are completed and the seed is found to meet the required standards, certification tags shall be sealed

to each bag with the official certification seal.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the regulations promulgated by the Department of Agriculture.


Cameron S. Adams
Acting Director of Agriculture
State of Washington

Signed at Olympia, Washington

Date: _____