

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OLYMPIA

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STATE OF WASHINGTON

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RULES AND STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION OF MINT ROOT STOCKS

I, Joe Dwyer, Director of Agriculture, State of Washington, by virtue of the authority vested in me under Chapter 15.16 (Revised Code of Washington), after due notice and public hearing held in Othello, Washington, May 7, 1962, (pursuant to RCW 43.32.010 and 34.03.020), do hereby promulgate the following Rules and Standards for the certification of mint root stock (peppermint Mentha Piperita L. and spearmint Mentha Spicata L.):

Regulation 1. Application and Inspection Fees

- (a) Application fee \$40.00 for one (1) acre or less; \$5.00 for each additional acre. The total fee for mint certification will be \$40.00 for (1) acre or less and \$10.00 per acre for each additional acre or fraction thereof. Final fees shall be due and payable upon completion of the last field inspection. Fees will not be refunded unless notice of withdrawal is given in writing before the first inspection is made.
- (b) Applications must reach the Division of Horticulture, Department of Agriculture, Olympia, by May 1. After this date there will be an additional fee of \$5.00. Applications will not be accepted later than June 1.
- (c) Harvest inspection will be made at the regular platform rate.

Regulation 2. Requirements for Production of Foundation and Registered Root Stock

- (a) Land Requirements: Land to be eligible must not, (1) have grown mint or other vegetatively propagated crops such as potatoes, hops, etc., and (2) be owned or controlled by a person or group of persons when the same equipment is used.
- (b) Isolation Requirements: A field to be eligible must be at least 5,000 feet from fields infested with Verticillium Wilt of mint, 1,000 feet from any mint field unless of equal standards, and it can not be included in a farm operational unit which has a wilt infested field or grown on a farm which has previously grown uncertified mint.
- (c) Miscellaneous Requirements:
  - (1) Soil borne insects and nematodes must be controlled with methods approved by the Department.
  - (2) Land must be free of noxious weeds including mint species of types other than that being certified.
  - (3) Evidence of rouging without permission of the Department may give cause for rejection of fields. When directed by the Department, growers must dig and immediately destroy all low yielding and unhealthy appearing, not true to type, abnormal plants.

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- (4) Hay from registered planting stock fields may be harvested for oil provided that all harvesting equipment is sterilized by steam cleaning, or other approved methods under the supervision of a representative of the Department.
  - (5) The cooked hay is to be destroyed by burning.
  - (6) Sanitation methods must be approved by the Department.
  - (7) Irrigation water to be used on the planting stock fields and the drainage on such fields must be approved by the Department.
  - (8) Harvesting equipment must be sterilized, by steam cleaning, or other approved methods between each lot or farm.
- (d) Plant Requirements: Fields must be planted with pure, living root stock of Breeder's or Foundation planting stock. Fields to be entered as registered planting stock, will be eligible for two successive registered planting stock root crops and additional certified plant stock root crops if the other provisions of this program have been met.

#### Regulation 3. Certified Root Stock

- (a) Land Requirements: To be eligible a field must be on land which has not grown uncertified mint.
- (b) Plant Requirements: Field must be planted with pure, living root stock of Breeder's, Foundation, or Registered planting stock.
- (c) Miscellaneous Requirements Pertaining to Planting: Registered stock will apply to Certified planting stock.

#### Regulation 4. Field Inspections

At least three inspections and as many more as are deemed necessary by the Department shall be made each year; the first one from June 15 to July and the second one prior to the harvest of mint hay. It is the duty of the grower, before cutting the mint hay, to notify the certifying Department so the proper inspection can be made. Certification may be denied if mint is harvested from a field before proper inspection has been completed.

A third inspection of mint root planting stock must be at the time of harvest in the presence of an Inspector of the Department.

Regulation 5. Foundation, Registered, and Certified Mint Root Stocks must meet the following field standards:

Pests & Diseases	Tolerance for:		
	Foundation Planting Stock	Registered Planting Stock	Certified Plant Stock
Mint flea beetle ( <u>Longitarsus waterhousei</u> Kutschera)	0	0	1%
Root knot nematode ( <u>Meloidogyne</u> spp.)	0	0	0
Verticillium Wilt ( <u>Verticillium albo-atrum</u> Reinke & Berth.)	0	0	0
Mint rust ( <u>Puccinia methae</u> Pers.)	0	0	1%
Other pests and diseases	1/10 1%	1%	1%

Any portion of a certified field not meeting the above field standards may be delimited if, in the judgement of the Department it will not jeopardize the remainder.

Regulation 6. Washington Standards for Certified Mint Root Stock (Peppermint and Spearmint)


- (a) WASHINGTON No. 1 shall consist of lots of mint rhizomes of similar varietal characteristics, (1) which are fresh, (2) firm, (3) moist, (4) free of mold and (5) free of detectable dangerous insects, nematodes, diseases and other pests.
- (b) Tolerances: In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and packing, not more than a combined total of 5 percent, by count, of the rhizomes in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of the above grade.
- (c) Application of Tolerances: The tolerances for the standards are on a "load" basis.
- (d) Digging and Storing: Mint roots are to be dug and stored in such a manner that they will retain a fresh condition.
- (e) Definition of Terms: As used in Regulation 6.
  - (1) "Similar varietal characteristics" means that plants have the same general character of growth.
  - (2) "Fresh" means that the rhizomes are not excessively wilted or otherwise damaged.
  - (3) "Firm" means that the rhizomes are not soft or spongy although they may yield to slight pressure.
  - (4) "Moist" means that the rhizomes are reasonably turgid and not dried to a degree that would affect normal growth.
  - (5) "Free from detectable dangerous insect pests, nematodes or disease" means that no tolerance will be permitted for dangerous insects or other destructive insects or detectable diseases that affect the mint crop.

- (6) "Free from damage caused by mold" means that plants must be free from mold or decay. Root stocks slightly affected by surface mold will be allowed.

Regulation 7.

- (a). Only lots of mint root stock meeting all the provisions of this Order will be identified by an appropriate certificate issued by the Department.
- (b) Warranty clause: The Department of Agriculture assumes no responsibility of any undesirable condition not readily discernable by inspection methods used by the Department nor as to condition subsequent to inspection by the Department.

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

  
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JOE DWYER  
Director of Agriculture  
State of Washington

Signed at Olympia, Washington

Date: June 4, 1962