

ESTABLISHING CROP HISTORY OF PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

CERTIFIED GENERATION ONLY

FOR

OREGON SEED CERTIFICATION

APRIL 13, 1989

BACKGROUND: Nearly 100 percent of the Perennial Ryegrass certified in the USA is produced under the Oregon Seed Certification Program. Oregon is looked to as a quality seed producing area and maintaining the varietal purity in Oregon's Certification Program is of great importance. Within the Oregon Seed Certification Program, there were 134 varieties eligible for certification of which 107 varieties had active production for 64,815 acres being Certified in 1988.

With the need to find experienced growers to produce quality seed, proper land history to meet Oregon Seed Certification Standards is becoming more difficult to meet. The provisions for establishing crop history for perennial ryegrass under the Oregon Seed Certification Program allows for growers to change varieties and to begin to establish a crop history for future Certification.

CURRENT FIELD HISTORY REQUIREMENTS: To produce Certified (generation) seed, land must not have grown or been seeded to any other variety of Perennial Ryegrass during the previous two years unless of the same variety, class and Certified. Perennial Ryegrass must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

MODIFICATION OF CROP HISTORY: Under the following guidelines, a seed grower may change from one variety of Perennial Ryegrass to a new variety that they would like to Certify in the future with the following provisions:

Example of Field History for Perennial Ryegrass

1985 -- Variety A Perennial Ryegrass
1986 -- Variety A Perennial Ryegrass
1987 -- Variety B Perennial Ryegrass (Start of New History-Seedling Required) **STEP ONE**
1988 -- Variety B Perennial Ryegrass
1989 -- Variety B Perennial Ryegrass (Replanted-Seedling required, and Eligible history for Certification if guidelines met) **STEP TWO**

STEP ONE -- When changing varieties of Perennial Ryegrass without any time break, the following guidelines must be met to determine level of volunteer contamination and to begin establishing crop history.

1. New variety must be planted with appropriate seed stock (foundation or Registered seed stock).
2. Normal seedling application must be filed at county Extension office for CROP HISTORY ESTABLISHMENT (fee required).

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3. Seedling field will be inspected for level of volunteer. Seedling field must have no more than 8% volunteer at this inspection. Seedling fields exceeding this 8% level must begin the process of Crop history establishment from the beginning again.

STEP TWO -- Where Crop History Establishment has been successful under the guidelines under Step One, a seed grower may Replant their field to the same variety after two years production and this crop could be eligible for Certification if the following guidelines are met:

1. Replanting variety must be planted with appropriate seed stock (foundation or Registered seed stock).
2. Normal seedling application must be filed at county Extension office after planting.
3. Seedling field will be inspected for level of volunteer contamination. Seedling field must have no more than 25% volunteer at this inspection (combine trails). Seedling fields exceeding this limit are rejected, and must be replanted to meet potential seed certification standards.

RATIONAL FOR STEP ONE AND STEP TWO

STEP ONE

It is important to get good control of volunteer during the first change-over of varieties. Therefore the 8% figure is used for Step One.

STEP TWO

The Step Two figure of 25% is consistent with the allowable volunteer that the Seed Certification office is permitting for fields being replanted to the same variety for Certification.