



CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
BERSEEM CLOVER
(Trifolium alexandrium)
 Revised February 12, 2013

Certification Standards: The general standards for seed certification found in the Oregon Seed Certification Service Handbook (OSCS) are basic to all crops, and together with the following specific regulations constitute the certified Berseem Clover standards.

Varieties Certified: Varieties and classes eligible for planting may be found in the OSCS Handbook.

Field History: Land planted with Breeder seed to produce Foundation seed must be free of clover for at least six years (three of which have been cultivated). To produce Certified seed, land must have been free of Berseem clover for at least three years (the time interval may be shortened one year if one cultivated crop or clean fallow intervened). Berseem clover must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

Field Inspections: Include a seedling and a seed crop inspection. The seedling application must be submitted within 60 days of planting and a seed crop application must be submitted by June 15 of each year in which seed is produced.

Field Standards:

Class of seed produced	Maximum other varieties permitted ¹	Isolation requirements ²	
		Less than 5 acres	More than 5 acres
Foundation ³	None	1320 ft.	1320 ft.
Certified ³	0.5%	330 ft.	165 ft.
Between classes of same variety	10 feet		

Seed Standards: (Minimum Sample Size – 1/2 Pound)

Factor	Foundation (White tag)	Certified (Blue tag)
Pure seed, minimum	99.00%	99.00%
Other crops, maximum	0.10%	0.25%
Inert matter, maximum	0.50%	0.50%
Weed seed ⁴ , maximum	0.10%	0.20%
Weeds, Group A ⁵ , singly or combined	45/lb.	45/lb.
Germination (including hard seed)	85%	85%

¹ Includes off-type plants.

² See Section IV D, General Standards in the OSCS Handbook.

³ An OSU Seed Lab Orobanchae exam is required if Small broomrape is found in a certification field inspection. Two samples are to be submitted in separate containers: one for the Orobanchae exam, the other for standard purity and viability testing.

⁴ None of the prohibited weeds listed in section V, General Standards in the OSCS Handbook, nor any St. Johnswort or Small broomrape allowed in any class of seed.

⁵ Group A – Bedstraw, Buckhorn plantain, Dock, Sheep sorrel, Wild carrot, Giant bristlegrass (Foxtail)