



CERTIFICATION STANDARDS  
**FLAX**  
*(Linum usitatissimum)*  
 Revised February 21, 1997

**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 Flax standards.

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

**Field History:** Land must not have grown or been seeded to another variety of Flax during the previous three years, unless the previous crop was of the same variety and class, and certified. When the field is being planted back to the same Flax variety and the variety was certified, the time interval may be eliminated. Flax 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. Application for seedling inspections must be submitted within 60 days of planting. Spring flax fields must be signed up within 15 days of planting. Application for field inspection must be submitted by April 15 or 15 days after planting for fields planted after April 15.

**Field Standards<sup>1</sup>:**

Class of seed produced	Maximum other varieties permitted <sup>2</sup>	Isolation requirements
Foundation	0.02%	90 ft.
Registered	0.05%	--- <sup>3</sup>
Certified	0.10%	--- <sup>3</sup>

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

Factor	Foundation (White tag)	Registered (Purple tag)	Certified (Blue tag)
Pure seed, minimum	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%
Other varieties, maximum	0.05%	0.10%	0.20%
Other crop, maximum	0.10%	0.15%	0.30%
Total other crop, including other varieties, maximum	0.15%	0.25%	0.50%
Inert matter, maximum	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Weed seed <sup>4</sup>	0.25%	0.25%	0.25%
Germination, minimum	90%	90%	90%

<sup>1</sup> Any flax disease rendering the seed undesirable for planting shall be cause for rejection.

<sup>2</sup> Other varieties include off-type plants that can be differentiated from variety inspected by flower color, rust, or other plant characters.

<sup>3</sup> Isolation to determine field boundaries and prevent mechanical mixing is required.

<sup>4</sup> None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V, General Standards in the OSCS Handbook, nor any St. Johnswort, Buckhorn plantain, Docks, Sheep sorrel and Bedstraw allowed in any class of seed.