



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

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

Field History: Land must be free from volunteer alfalfa before planting for at least 4 years to produce Foundation seed, for at least 3 years to produce Registered seed, and for at least 1 year to produce Certified seed. At least two years must elapse between destruction of indistinguishable varieties or varieties of dissimilar adaptation and establishment of the stand for the production of the certified class of seed. Dissimilar adaptation will be determined as a difference of four or more fall dormancy values between that of the previous variety and the variety being planted. Fall dormancy values will be determined from descriptions prepared by the breeder for accepted varieties. With Registered and Certified classes, the time interval between harvest and new planting must be one year if the previous crop year of alfalfa was the same variety, same or higher class, and passed field requirements for genetic purity. Alfalfa 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. For fields planted prior to January 1 the seedling application must be submitted within 60 days of planting. For fields planted between January 1 and July 1 the seedling application must be submitted within 15 days of planting. The seed crop application must be submitted by June 15 of each year in which seed is produced.

Field Standards:

Class of seed produced	Maximum permitted			Isolation Requirements ¹	
	Other Varieties ²	Sweet Clover	Red Clover	Less than 5 acres	More than 5 acres
Foundation	0.10%	None	None	900 ft.	600 ft.
Registered	0.25%	10 plants/acre	None	450 ft.	300 ft.
Certified	1.00%	10 plants/acre	--	165 ft.	165 ft.
Only 10 ft. isolation is required between seed fields of different classes but of the same variety.					
No white top, leafy spurge, nor Russian knapweed allowed in any class of seed.					

Special Requirement: CUF101 limited to one harvest – must be same year as planting.

Seed Standards: (Minimum Sample Size – 1,000 grams)

Factor	Foundation (White tag)	Registered (Purple tag)	Certified (Blue tag)
Pure seed, minimum	99.00%	99.00%	99.00%
Other crops, maximum	0.10%	0.10%	0.25%
Sweet Clover, maximum	None	45/lb.	90/lb.
Inert matter, maximum	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Weed seed, ^{3,4} maximum	0.10%	0.20%	0.25%
Weed seed, GROUP A ⁵ , singly or combined	45/lb.	45/lb.	45/lb.
Germination, including hard seed	85%	85%	85%

¹ See Section IV, D in the OSCS Handbook

² Includes off-type plants.

³ The presence of Dodder is not allowed in any class of seed. See Section IX, D4 in the OSCS Handbook.

⁴ None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V in the OSCS Handbook, nor St. Johnswort is allowed in any class of seed.

⁵ GROUP A – buckhorn plantain, docks, sheep sorrel and bedstraw