

## CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FLAX

(*Linum usitatissimum*) Revised February 23, 2023

**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 flax.

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. For Registered and Certified classes, these requirements are waived if the previous crop year of flax was of the same variety, same or higher class, and passed certification field requirements for genetic purity. 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 permitted Other Varieties <sup>2</sup>	Isolation Requirements
Foundation	0.02%	90 ft.
Registered	0.05%	3
Certified	0.10%	3

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V in the OSCS Handbook, nor any St. Johnswort, buckhorn plantain, docks, sheep sorrel or bedstraw allowed in any class of seed.