



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 small grain.

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

Field History: For **Foundation Seed** - Land must not have been seeded to, grown and/or harvested for a small grain variety of the same kind (for example, wheat to wheat) for two years; land must be 3 years out of triticale prior to producing a Foundation class of wheat. A seedling inspection is required for the Foundation fields. Exception: the previous crop was of the same variety and passed certification field standards for varietal purity at the Foundation class. For **Registered & Certified Seed** - Land must not have been seeded to, grown and/or harvested for a small grain of the same kind (for example, wheat to wheat) for at least 12 months. Where an indistinguishable variety of small grain of the same kind was grown between the previous 12 and 24 month period, a seedling inspection is necessary on all new cereal plantings (for example, Stephens to ORCF-101 wheat). If the previous crop was of the same variety and passed certification field standards for varietal purity at the same or higher generation, then the above time intervals are not necessary. Where a distinguishable variety of small grain of the same kind was grown between the previous 12 and 24 month period, no seedling inspection is necessary on new plantings of cereals (for example, Yamhill to Stephens wheat). Small grains must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

Application and Field Inspections: Application for seedling inspection must be submitted within **45 days of planting (or earlier, if row closure is expected to occur rapidly)**. **Application for crop inspection must be submitted by June 15**. Crop inspection will be completed after plant and head maturity show specific variety distinguishing characteristics, but inspection timing will be subject to Seed Certification discretion. Stock seed documentation shall be either: (1) all original certification tags, (2) one original certification tag for each lot and a copy of the sales invoice [showing the receiver, variety and crop, poundage, lot number(s), generation, and date of sale], or (3) Certificate of Final Certification. Volunteer fields are not eligible for seed certification.

Field Standards, Seedling Inspection (when required):

Factor	Maximum permitted in each class		
	Foundation	Registered	Certified
Other varieties total ¹	None	0.01%	0.03%

Field Standards, Crop Inspection:

Factor	Maximum permitted in each class		
	Foundation	Registered	Certified
Other varieties total ¹	None	0.02% (1/5,000)	0.05% (1/2,000)
Other small grains ^{2,3} (incl. wild oats)	None	0.01% (1/10,000)	0.02% (1/5,000)
Chemically controllable cereal smuts ⁴	0.01% (1/10,000)	0.01% (1/10,000)	0.10% (1/1,000)
Non-controllable cereal smuts	None	None	None
Prohibited weeds (<i>Lack of evidence of control will be cause for rejection</i>)			

¹ Includes off-type plants. Phenotypic variants may be specified in a variety description by the variety originator/maintainer, and would not be counted as part of the tolerance for other varieties.

² No cereal rye allowed in or out of count during seed crop inspection, except in the Certified class of triticale and then not to exceed 1:20,000; further, no re-inspection is allowed in the Foundation class of small grains.

³ No triticale allowed in "other small grains" in or out of the inspection count in any class of small grain; further, no re-inspection is allowed in the Foundation class of wheat.

⁴ For a list of chemically controllable cereal smuts, see Pacific Northwest Plant Disease Control Handbook.

Special Requirements:

- A.** An extremely weedy field, regardless of type of weeds present, will be rejected. In Foundation fields, no seed may be allowed to form of species listed either as 'Prohibited in all Oregon Certified Seeds' (see Sec. V, this Handbook) or listed as prohibited in the small grains seed standards. Other provisions in the small grain standards regarding cereal rye, jointed goatgrass and skeletonweed take precedence.
- B.** Isolation (wheat, oat, or barley – self-pollinating cereal crops) – (1) Adjacent fields of different cereal crop kinds, or different classes of the same variety, must be isolated by a distance adequate to prevent mechanical mixing. (2) Adjacent fields of different varieties of the same kind must be isolated 90 feet for Foundation production, or 10 feet for Registered or Certified production.
- C.** Isolation (cereal rye) — All classes of rye must be isolated 660 feet from other varieties of rye. Fields of the same variety but of a different generation must be isolated by a distance of 25 percent of that listed between varieties.
- D.** Isolation (triticale) — Foundation class must be isolated 90 feet from other varieties of triticale, Registered and Certified, 10 feet. Fields of the same variety but different generations must be isolated by a mechanical break. Triticale must be isolated 10 feet from all other small grains.
- E.** Mechanical separation, genetic isolation zones, and other excluded areas of a seed field must be designated by physical markings placed in the field that are easily observed and readily recognized to be designating a boundary. See also: <https://seedcert.oregonstate.edu/sites/seedcert.oregonstate.edu/files/pdfs/smallgrainsisolation.pdf>
- F.** Evidence of seed-borne disease at the time of field inspection or presence of seed-borne disease in the seed lot may constitute basis for rejection, reclassification or recommendation for seed treatment. Evidence of ergot found during field inspection will be noted in the inspection report.
- G.** If chemically controllable seed borne diseases are noted upon field inspection or laboratory examination, appropriate seed treatment, to be determined by Seed Certification Office is required.
- H.** Transfer of seed may be documented using one of several shipping certificates available at the OSCS website:
- (1) **Field Transfer Certificate**, to move in-the-dirt seed from farm storage to an out-of-state warehouse.
 - (2) **Transfer of Presampled Seed Certificate**, to move seed (usually for planting), prior to availability of an OSU Seed Lab test number.
 - (3) **Transfer of Seed Pending Final Certification**, to move seed following availability of the test number and prior to completion of testing.
 - (4) **Certificate of Final Certification**, to move seed following completion of testing and setting eligibility for tagging. Previously prepared documents for Transfer of Presampled Seed and for Transfer of Seed Pending Final Certification can be finalized with a Certificate of Final Certification. Seed previously documented with a Certificate of Final Certification for transfer from one approved warehouse to another for further distribution, can be further documented with Certificates of Final Certification. Seed is not officially and finally certified until it has been tagged, or documented by a Certificate of Final Certification.
- I.** No re-inspection is allowed if jointed goatgrass, and/or its hybrids, or skeletonweed is found in the seedling, seed crop, or seed test inspection.
- J.** Reseeding with another variety or lower generation within a field applied for certification will necessitate that the boundaries of the certified portion be redrawn to completely exclude reseeded areas. Application for a seedling inspection is required to verify that the certified portion is free of contamination from the reseeded and properly isolated from the reseeded areas(s).
- K.** Bagged Foundation or Registered cereal seed must be in new bags; bagged Certified class seed must be in new or cleaned used bags.
- L.** Additional Certification Requirements (ACR) – The developer/owner/maintainer of a variety may request a requirement (e.g., herbicide resistance trait test) additional to certification standards for purity and viability. A proposed ACR shall be submitted to the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies for review and approval; individual seed certifying agencies may accept or decline to administer an ACR. Contact the OSCS office for specifics regarding ACR's currently being administered. An ACR shall be completed prior to issuance of a certificate (tag) of final certification.
- M.** Seed from a field in another state, that is contracted by an Oregon Seed Certification Service client, and has passed field inspection for certification and moved to Oregon with a transfer/shipping certificate from the state of origin, may be commingled with an Oregon seed lot of the same variety with OSCS field blend approval; a fee will apply. Additional testing for noxious weed seeds (500 grams per million pounds, or part thereof) is required. The commingled lot must meet Oregon requirements for final certification. This provision is allowed only at warehouses that have an approved, operating automatic sampler.

Seed Standards: (Minimum Submitted Sample Size -- 2 Pounds. All wheat seed lots will be tested for seeds per pound and reported on the OSU Report of Seed Analysis. Treated cereal seed will not be accepted by the OSU Seed Laboratory for purity testing.) *No Retests Permitted.*

Factor ¹	Foundation ² (White tag)	Registered (Purple tag)	Certified (Blue tag)
Pure seed, minimum	98.00%	98.00%	98.00%
Other crops ^{3,4} , excluding other cereals, maximum	None	0.03%	0.05%
Inert matter, maximum	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
Weed seed ⁴ , maximum	0.01%	0.01%	0.03%
Off-type ⁵ and/or other cereal ⁶ , maximum (determined on 500 g.)	None	2/lb.	4/lb.
Wild Oats, maximum (determined on 500 g.)	None	None	None (1/lb. in Oats)
Smut balls, maximum (determined on 500 g.)	None	None	None
Ergot, maximum, (determined on 500 g.)	0.05% (0.10% in Triticale)	0.05% (0.10% in Triticale)	0.05%
Germination, minimum	85%	85%	85%

¹ Percentages of pure seed, other crop, inert and weeds will be based on 75 g. for oat and cereal rye, and 100 g. for barley, triticale and wheat; #/lb. of all seed contaminants will be based on 500 g. Seed lots moved to Oregon for final certification must be tested for the factors listed in these standards using at least these working weights. Seed containing a contaminant with "0" or "None" tolerance must be re-cleaned before being re-sampled (except as noted in Special Requirements, I).

² Foundation seed will be tested and labeled to indicate seeds per pound; a 2 lb. sample will be inspected for off-type, other cereals and noxious weeds.

³ No vetch is allowed in "other crops" (determined on 500 g.)

⁴ None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V in the OSCS Handbook, nor any bedstraw, buckhorn plantain, docks, dogfennel, sheep sorrel, or St. Johnswort, is allowed in any class of Certified seed. Immature and/or mature seeds of the weeds referenced or listed in this footnote, or of cereal rye (as a contaminant), vetch and wild oats, except as provided in oats, are prohibited in certified seed (determined on 500 g.)

⁵ Seed variants may be specified in a variety description by the variety originator/maintainer, and would not be counted as part of the tolerance for off-type; if a seed count were required, then the fee will be charged to the client submitting the sample.

⁶ No cereal rye is allowed in "other cereal", except in the Certified class of triticale, and then not to exceed 1/lb. (determined on 500 g.)