



**Oregon Seed Certification Service**  
<http://seedcert.oregonstate.edu>

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS  
**KALE**  
*(Brassica oleracea)*  
 Revised February 7, 2024

**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 kale.

**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 any cruciferous crops during the previous five years. Exception: the same variety and generation may be planted with a three-year time interval from previous harvest. Kale must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

**Field Inspections:** Includes a seedling and seed crop inspection. The seedling application must be submitted within 60 days of planting, and a seed crop application must be submitted by April 15 the year in which the seed is produced. Crop inspection will be made during the early flowering stage.

**Field Standards:**

Class of seed produced	Maximum permitted Other Varieties <sup>1</sup>
Foundation	None
Registered	1:1000
Certified	1:500

**Isolation Requirements<sup>2</sup>**

Class	Field of cross-pollinated varieties	Fields of self-pollinated varieties
Foundation	1,320 feet	660 feet
Registered	1,320 feet	660 feet
Certified	660 feet	330 feet

**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 crop, maximum	0.01%	0.10%	0.25%
Inert matter, maximum	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Weed seed <sup>3</sup> maximum	0.01%	0.01%	0.25%
Restricted weeds <sup>4</sup>	one <sup>5</sup>	one <sup>5</sup>	two <sup>5</sup>
Germination, minimum	85%	85%	85%

<sup>1</sup> Other varieties shall be considered to include off-type plants and plants that can be differentiated from the variety being inspected. Volunteer plants may be cause for rejection or reclassification of a seed field.

<sup>2</sup> These isolation distances are minimum and must be met in all cases.

<sup>3</sup> None of the prohibited noxious weeds listed in Section V in the OSCS Handbook, nor any *Galium* spp., docks or sheep sorrel is allowed in any class of seed.

<sup>4</sup> Restricted weeds are defined as *Brassica nigra*, *Brassica luncea*, *Raphanus raphanistrum* and *Sinapis arvensis*.

<sup>5</sup> Seed in noxious weed exam.