



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

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
LEWIS FLAX and PRAIRIE FLAX (*Linum lewisii*)
BLUE FLAX (*Linum perenne*)
 Approved 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 Lewis, prairie and blue flax standards.

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

Field History: Land must not have grown, been planted to, or harvested for any *Linum* sp. during the previous five years to be eligible to produce Foundation seed; during the previous four years to produce Registered seed; or during the previous three years to produce Certified seed. For Registered and Certified classes, these requirements are waived if the previous crop year of Lewis, prairie or blue flax was of the same variety, same or higher class, and passed certification field requirements for genetic purity. Flax species must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

Field Inspection: Include a seedling and a seed crop inspection. The seedling applications must be submitted within 60 days of planting, and a seed crop application must be submitted by April 15 of each year in which seed is produced. Seed crop inspection should be made at full bloom, when consistency of petal color is most effectively evaluated.

Field Standards:

Class of seed produced	Sweet Clover (maximum)	Maximum permitted Other Varieties ¹	Isolation Requirements ²	
			Less than 5 acres	More than 5 acres
Foundation	None	None	1320 ft.	1320 ft.
Registered	None	0.05%	660 ft.	330 ft.
Certified	10/ac	0.10%	330 ft.	165 ft.

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%	98.00%
Other crop, maximum	0.05%	0.10%	0.20%
Sweet clover	None	None	None
Inert matter, maximum	1.00%	1.00%	2.00%
Weed seed ³ , maximum	0.1%	0.20%	0.20%
Weed seed, GROUP A ⁴ , singly or combined	None	None	18/lb.
Germination, minimum	80%	80%	80%

¹ Includes off-type plants.

² See Pg. 5, Section IV, D in the OSCS Handbook.

³ None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V in the OSCS Handbook allowed in any class of seed.

⁴ GROUP A – buckhorn plantain, docks, sheep sorrel, *Galium* spp. and poverty weed