



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

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
MEADOW FESCUE
(Festuca pratensis)*
 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 meadow fescue.

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

Field History: Land must not have grown nor been seeded to these listed species and for the periods of time, as follows:

Previous crop	Time out required, in years		
	Foundation	Registered	Certified
Annual ryegrass	5	5	5
Perennial ryegrass	5	2	2
Intermediate ryegrass	5	2	2
Festulolium 2x/4x	5	2	2
Festulolium 6x	5	2	2
Tall fescue	5	2	2
Meadow fescue	5	2	2

For Registered and Certified classes, these requirements are waived if the previous crop year of meadow fescue was of the same variety, same or higher class and passed certification field requirements for genetic purity. Meadow fescue 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. The seedling application 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.

Field Standards:

Class of seed produced	Maximum permitted Other Varieties ¹	Isolation Requirements ²	
		Less than 5 acres	More than 5 acres
Foundation	None	900 ft.	900 ft.
Registered	0.5%	660 ft.	300 ft.
Certified	1.0%	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	98.00%	98.00%	98.00%
Other crops, maximum	0.10%	0.10%	0.50%
Inert matter, maximum	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
Weed seed ³ , maximum	0.30%	0.30%	0.30%
Weed seed, GROUP A ⁴ , singly or combined	None	27/lb.	27/lb.
Germination, minimum	85%	85%	85%

*Taxonomists place meadow fescue in one of three genera: as *Festuca pratensis* (see USDA Germplasm Resource Information Network – GRIN); as *Schedonorus pratensis* (see Flora of North America, Vol. 24, pgs. 446-448; Integrated Taxonomic Information System – ITIS; and USDA, NRCS Plants Database); and as *Lolium pratense* (see Integrated Taxonomic Information System – ITIS).

¹ Includes off-type plants.

² See Section IV, D in the OSCS Handbook. This distance must be maintained from meadow fescue, all ryegrass, and festulolium 2x/4x, and for Foundation and Registered classes from tall fescue and festulolium 6x.

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 and *Galium* spp.