

**SMALL GRAINS STANDARDS**  
**WHEAT - BARLEY - KAMUT - OATS - FLAX - TRITICALE - RYE - SPELT**

The General Seed Certification Standards, as adopted by the Montana Seed Growers Association, are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute standards for certification of small grains.

**I. Land Requirements**

A crop will be eligible for certification when planted on land on which the last crop grown was of another kind (species) or produced a certified class of seed of the same variety. **A year of summer fallow generally will NOT be accepted as a crop year between different varieties of the same crop species.**

**II. Isolation**

A certified field (any class) must be separated from uncertified varieties or certified fields of different varieties by a strip at least 10 feet wide, which is either cultivated, mowed or planted to some other kind of crop.

**III. Field Standards - General**

- A. A portion of a field may be certified. Define the area to be certified (includes registered) and inspected by mowing a swath or staking to separate each portion prior to field inspection and harvest.
- B. Hand rogue crop or variety mixtures and troublesome weeds from foundation and registered fields. Two or more roguing operations after heading and prior to harvest are necessary. Grower should use individual discretion in determining the need for roguing fields planted for the certified class.
- C. If the crop is harvested before field inspection, it automatically becomes ineligible for certification.

**IV. Field Standards - Specific**

Factors	Ratio of Plants - Maximum Permitted		
	Fdn	Reg	Cert
Other distinguishable varieties <sup>1</sup>	None	1:10,000	1:2,000
Other inseparable small grains	None	1:10,000	1:5,000
Noxious weeds*	None	None	None

<sup>1</sup> Other distinguishable varieties shall be considered to include off-type seeds that can be differentiated from the variety being analyzed, but not include variations characteristic of the variety.

\* Except wild oats - see *Field Inspection* below.

**V. Field Inspection**

- A. Any field found to contain jointed goatgrass at the time of field inspection will be rejected from certification.
- B. Any field, or part of a small grain field **except oats**, containing more than 5 wild oat plants per acre is cause for rejection. There are no wild oats allowed in tame oats. A second inspection, after roguing, can be requested, and may be subject to additional inspection fees.

**VI. Eligibility**

Classes of certified seed: (Pedigree classes) - The certification of seed will be limited to a maximum of two (2) generations from Foundation (Registered and Certified), except varieties for which no foundation seed is maintained or is not adequate to meet the demand.

- 1. Foundation seed is eligible to plant to produce registered seed. All foundation seedstocks are allocated by the MSU Foundation Seedstocks' Committee. Submit seed requests to Foundation Seed Stocks by February 15 for spring grains and July 1 for winter grains. Contact Dr. Bill Grey

(406)

994-5687, Dept. of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology, Montana State University,

Bozeman or, a request form can be found at:

<http://plantsciences.montana.edu/FoundationSeed/default.htm>. Foundation seed will be placed with experienced certified seed growers.

2. Foundation or Registered seed is eligible to plant to produce certified seed.
3. The Certified class is not eligible to plant for recertification.

**Exception:** When foundation or registered seed of a variety is not in adequate supply, certified class seed, when sold in the bag, may be declared eligible for planting for re-certification by MSGA with permission of the variety owner or breeder.

## VII. Preparation of Seed For Final Certification

### A. Cleaning

1. Clean all seed at a commercial plant authorized by the MSGA. A list of authorized cleaning plants is available through the MSGA office.
2. Seed delivered to the cleaning plant by grower must be identified by variety and certification number. A copy of the grower's Application for Certification or field inspection form will suffice.

### B. Seed Sample for Grade Determination

Submit a cleaned, 3-5 pound seed sample bearing positive identification to the Montana Seed Growers Association office for "Certified Grade Determination". Use official MSGA seed sample bags. If multiple lots from the same fields are harvested and cleaned separately, a sample for purity and germination must be submitted for each clean lot.

- ### C. Tag orders should be noted on the "Conditioner's Report". Tags will be issued upon receipt of production fees.

## VIII. Seed Standards

A variety will be rejected for certification if it exceeds the allowed number per pound and/or percentage by weight in any factor.

<b>Factor</b>		<b>Fdn %</b>	<b>Reg %</b>	<b>Cert %</b>
Pure Seed, (Except Oats)	min	96.00	97.00	97.00
Pure Seed, Oats	min	98.00	98.00	98.00
Pure Seed, Flax	min		98.00	97.00
Total Other Crop Seed	max <sup>1</sup>	.06	.12	.25
	max	2/lb	3/lb	8/lb
Other Distinguished Varieties	max <sup>2</sup>	.05	.10	.20
[Example: white winter wheat in red or white spring in red spring wheat]	max	1/lb	1/lb	5/lb
Other Kinds of Grain	max	.01	.02	.05
[Example: spring barley in spring oats;]	max	1/lb	2/lb	3/lb
[Winter growth types in spring growth types or visa versa]	max	3/lb	7/lb	10/lb
<b>The percentage of seeds/lb combined cannot total more than total other crop</b>				
Inert/Broken Seed (Except Oats)	max	4.00	3.00	3.00
Inert/Broken Seed (Oats)	max	2.00	2.00	2.00
Weed seeds (common)	max	5/lb <sup>3</sup>	5/lb <sup>3</sup>	5/lb
Noxious weeds including wild oats, Persian Darnel <sup>4</sup>		None <sup>5</sup>	None <sup>5</sup>	None <sup>5</sup>
Germination, Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, Triticale	min	80.00	85.00	90.00
Germination, Flax	min	80.00	80.00	80.00

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<u>Barley Stripe Mosaic Virus, Fdn and Reg Class Only</u>	max	Neg <sup>6</sup>	Neg <sup>6</sup>	N/A
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- <sup>1</sup> No winter rye is permitted in winter wheat. Not applicable to seeds of winter grains in spring crops and vice versa.
- <sup>2</sup> Other distinguishable varieties shall be considered to include off-type seeds that can be differentiated from the variety being analyzed, but not include variations characteristic of the variety.
- <sup>3</sup> Not more than 3 of one kind.
- <sup>4</sup> See general certification standards.
- <sup>5</sup> “None” means none found during the normal inspection procedures. None is not a guarantee to mean the lot inspected is free of the factor.
- <sup>6</sup> The Barley Stripe Mosaic Virus (BSMV) test is required on all Foundation class barley seed. It is not required on the Registered or Certified class for seed grown in Montana from previously tested Foundation or Registered seed. BSMV is required on all classes of seed produced out-of-state which has not been previously tested regardless of class.