

GENERAL SEED CERTIFICATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN IDAHO (rev 2024)

(These general policies and procedures are applicable to all crops eligible for certification and with the policies, procedures, and standards for the individual crops shall constitute the Idaho Crop Improvement Association's policies procedures, and standards for certification.)

I. Type of Certifying Organization

- A. The Idaho Legislature, at its 35th Session, enacted Senate Bill No. 107, the "Seed and Plant Certification Act of 1959". This Act designated the Regents of the University of Idaho, through the College of Agriculture of the University of Idaho, as the seed certifying agency for the State. This Act further gives the Regents of the University of Idaho the authority to designate an agent to administer and conduct the certification program.
- B. The Regents of the University of Idaho on April 27, 1959, appointed the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., as its duly authorized agent to administer and conduct seed certification in Idaho as provided by the Seed and Plant Certification Act of 1959.
- C. The Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. was organized in 1940 by the certified seed growers of the State. The body was incorporated April 17, 1941. The Idaho Seed Potato Growers Association voted to join the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. in 1942.

The Association is governed by a board of ten directors. Seven directors are elected by the membership and represent the various districts of the State. The head of the Department of Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences, or his/her designee, College of Agriculture, University of Idaho, serves as an ex-officio director. An individual appointed by the board of directors, serves as an advisor to the board. An individual appointed by the board of directors, serves as the executive vice president/secretary of the Association. All directors, except the executive vice president/secretary, have the power to vote.

Certification standards for Idaho meet at least the minimum standards of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA). Crops approved for certification in Idaho for which standards are not in effect may be certified under the latest minimum standards as published by AOSCA. Fees for such certification shall be the most applicable fees in effect.

II. Purpose of Certification

The purpose of certification shall be to maintain and make available to the public high quality seeds of superior crop plant varieties so grown and distributed as to preserve genetic identity and purity. The word "seed" or "seeds" as used in these standards shall be understood to include all propagating materials. In Idaho certification does not imply recommendation.

III. Eligibility Requirements for Certification of Crop Varieties

- A. The certification agency shall, in accordance with Section III, paragraph B & C of these General Policies and Procedures, accept as eligible for certification any variety of seed which:
 - 1. has been approved by a National Variety Review Board, or
 - 2. has been accepted for certification by any member agency of the Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies, or
 - 3. has been applied for or accepted for a PVP certificate, or
 - 4. has been approved by the Foundation Seed Stocks Committee, or
 - 5. has been recommended for joint release by the Foundation Seed Stocks Committee
- B. Varieties to be considered for certification may be submitted from the following sources:
 - 1. from the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station after being approved by the Foundation Seed Stocks Committee,
 - 2. from the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with other public agencies,
 - 3. from developments of other state or governmental agricultural experiment stations,
 - 4. from private and commercial plant breeding programs.
- C. The breeder or sponsoring institution or organization must describe and document in the application for certification submitted to the certifying agency those characteristics of the variety which give it distinctness and merit by supplying the following information:
 - 1. A statement by the person or firm requesting certification that the variety has been adequately tested to determine its value and probable area of adaptation; that it merits certification and that it is distinguishable from other varieties as set forth in Article V of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants.
 - 2. A statement on origin and breeding procedure.

3. A description of the morphological and physiological characteristics of value to field inspectors and such other factors as the breeder or sponsor considers pertinent.
 4. Evidence of performance including data on yield, insect or disease resistance and other factors supporting the value of the variety. These performance tests may be conducted by private seed firms or Agricultural Experiment Stations and shall include appropriate check varieties which are used extensively in the area of intended usage.
 5. A statement giving the region of probable adaptation and purposes for which the variety will be used. This should include areas within states or countries where the breeder of the variety has tested it and anticipates recommending and merchandising it.
 6. Procedure for maintenance of stock seed classes shall be described. At the time a variety is accepted for certification a one-pound sample of stock seed (class designated) or sample of propagating material, if requested, shall be presented to the certifying agency. The certifying agency may request a sample of the stock seed or propagating material any time during which the variety is in the certification program.
 7. The certifying agency shall use as evidence when considering the request for certification, the reports of the National Certified Variety Review Boards when available.
- D. The increase system as recommended by the sponsoring state and approved by the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies must be followed in the certification of the variety in Idaho. In most cases this means that only foundation and/or registered seed is eligible to plant for certification.

IV. Classes and Sources of Certified Seed

- A. Four classes of seed, except for potatoes, shall be recognized in seed certification, namely, breeder, foundation, registered and certified. The foundation, registered and certified classes of seed shall meet the standards of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. for the respective crops.
1. Breeder Seed.
Breeder seed is a class of certified seed directly controlled by the originating or sponsoring plant breeding institution, or person, or designee thereof, and is the source for the production of seed of the other classes of certified seed.

2. Foundation Seed.
Foundation seed is a class of certified seed which is the progeny of breeder or foundation seed. Foundation seed is produced and handled under procedures established by the certifying agency, in accordance with this part, for producing the foundation class of seed for the purpose of maintaining genetic purity and identity.
 3. Registered Seed.
Registered seed is a class of certified seed which is the progeny of breeder or foundation seed. Registered seed is produced and handled under procedures established by the certifying agency, in accordance with this part, for producing the registered class of seed, for the purpose of maintaining genetic purity and identity.
 4. Certified Seed.
Certified seed is a class of certified seed which is the progeny of breeder, foundation or registered seed, except as provided in Section IV, Item B, paragraphs 1 and 2. Certified seed is produced and handled under procedures established by the certifying agency in accordance with this part, for producing the certified class of seed, for the purpose of maintaining genetic purity and identity.
 5. For potatoes, see Policies and Procedures for Potato Certification.
- B. The number of years and/or generations through which a variety may be multiplied shall be limited to that specified by the originating breeder or owner of the variety and shall not exceed two generations beyond the foundation class with the following exceptions:
1. Recertification of the certified class may be permitted for in-state planting of older varieties for which foundation seed is not being maintained.
 2. The production of an additional generation of the certified class may only be permitted on a one-year basis, when an emergency is declared prior to the planting season by the certifying agency stating that the foundation and registered seed supplies are not adequate to plant the needed certified acreage of the variety. The permission of the originating or sponsoring plant breeder, institution, firm or owner of the variety, if existent, must be obtained. The additional generation of certified seed to meet the emergency need is ineligible for recertification.
- C. Plant Variety Protection Certification.
1. The Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Act of December 24, 1970, (84 Stat. 1542) provides that the breeder, (or his successor in interest) his heirs or assignees, has the right, during the term of PVP, to exclude others from growing the variety, or offering it for sale, or reproducing it, or importing it, or exporting it. (Chap. 8, Sec 83.)

2. General certification policies and procedures and specific crop certification policies, procedures, and standards are basic to varieties having plant variety protection (PVP) certificates.

3. Some PVP varieties specify on the certificates that seed of the variety is to be sold by the variety name only as a class of certified seed (Sec. 180.143a). The owner who has a certificate specifying that a variety is to be sold by variety name only as a class of certified seed must label containers of the seed as follows: "Unauthorized propagation prohibited - TO BE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED - U.S. PROTECTED VARIETY" (Sec 180.143b) and (Chapt.8, Sec 83).

4. The Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. is organized as the official seed certification agency in the state of Idaho (Seed and Plant Certification Act of 1959). As such, it has an obligation to certify seed, plants and plant parts under the Idaho Rules of Certification and in conjunction with the established state and federal laws governing such products. This process is extended to all varieties eligible for certification. Eligible varieties are those that have been entered into the certification process by one of the methods described by the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA).

Within the above mentioned parameters, the ICIA is bound to certify eligible crops when an application for certification is submitted and all fees are paid by the grower or cooperating seed company. This includes crops with and without Plant Variety Protection as granted under the Plant Variety Protection Act and Title V of the Federal Seed Act.

When the appropriate steps have been followed to enter a variety for certification and application is properly made, the ICIA will offer the services of the Association in order to allow for completion of the certification process. No guarantee is made that the crop entered for certification will be finally certified unless it meets or exceeds all published standards of the Association.

ICIA will not refuse service to member seed growers or cooperating seed companies who make application for certification on licensed or PVP protected varieties on the basis that outside persons or organizations have contractual obligations that may or may not be met by persons propagating such varieties.

V. Definition of Terms.

A. Off-type.

Plants or seed which do not conform to the description of the characteristics of the variety as supplied by the breeder or sponsoring institution or organization.

B. Variant.

Seeds or plants which are:

1. Distinct within the variety but occur naturally in the variety.
2. Stable and predictable with a degree of reliability comparable to other varieties of the same kind, within recognized tolerances, when the variety is reproduced or reconstituted.
3. Recognized as a part of the variety when released. Variants are not to be considered as off-types. Plant breeders should identify variants in the variety description upon release.

Variants are not to be counted as other varieties.

C. Lot of Seed.

The term "lot of seed" means a definite quantity of seed identified by a lot number, every portion or bag of which is uniform, within permitted tolerances, for the factors which appear in the labeling.

D. Plant Variety Protection.

The PVP act was established by federal law in 1970. It grants the breeder of a protected variety the exclusive right to reproduce and market for planting purposes seed of that variety for 18 years.

E. Plant Variety Protection Title V.

This portion of the Federal Seed Act makes it unlawful to sell, offer for sale or advertise, by variety name, seed not certified by an official certifying agency when it is a variety for which a certificate of plant variety protection under the Plant Variety Protection Act specifies sale only as a class of certified seed.

F. None.

None, when used in field or seed standards, means none found during the normal inspection procedures. None is not a guarantee to mean the field or seed inspected is free of the factor.

G. Transfer of Seed Pending Certification Certificate.

Transfer of seed pending certification certificate is a document that must accompany seed being shipped prior to final certification. It will indicate the shipper, grower, destination, kind, variety, lot number, weight, and other information as necessary. Lots shipped without this transfer certificate lose their identity and are ineligible for final certification.

- H. Bulk Sales Certificate.
Bulk Sales Certificate is a document that accompanies registered or certified seed that is sold in the bulk as clean seed. This document may be used by growers as proof of planting stock when making application for inspection.
- I. Application for Inspection.
Application for Inspection is to be completed for each crop kind, variety and class in order to be considered for field inspection.
- J. Unit of Certification.
A unit of certification is the entire field. Where a part of a field is entered, it must be separated from the other part by a mowed strip, fence, ditch, strip of other crop, or strip left unplanted.
- K. Modification of Land History.
Refer to page General-9, Item D.
- L. Approved Conditioner.
An approved conditioner is granted authorization by Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. to clean, grade and handle classes of certified seed
- M. Field.
A field will be a unit of certification with recognizable boundaries which may include but not be limited to areas which are mowed, uncropped or planted to crops other than the kind in question.
- N. Windrow Inspection.
Where reference is made to a windrow inspection, it shall be implied that the seed was inspected at maturity (for example 80% buckskin pods) for a final inspection or while the seed is actually in the windrow.

VI. Application for Certification.

- A. Date of filing applications - Applications are to be made on official forms or on-line, and submitted to Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. prior to the following dates:

CROP	DATE
Alfalfa, Red Clover, Sanfoin, White Clover, Trefoil, Milkvetch and Lewis Flax	May 1- Renewals, April 1 – Fall plantings, May 1 – Spring plantings
Grasses	May 1 - Renewals Seedling application due 60 days after planting
Beans	June 15 - Southwest July 1 - Southcentral
Chickpea, Lentils and Peas	May 1
Grain	June 1
Rape Seed	May 1
Potatoes	June 10

- B. Applications - Application for certification must be made on official forms supplied by the Association. Such forms are available upon request. Inspection fees must accompany the application. One official tag or proof of planting stock taken from each lot of seed planted must be submitted with the application, except for potato applications.

Application for certification may also be made electronically by use of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. Seed Certification Database system. All data entered in this manner is subject to the same standards and policies as data entered via paper application.

VII. Field Management Prior to Inspection.

- A. Roguing of objectionable weeds, other crops, and off-type plants difficult to separate in cleaning should be done before inspection. Off-type is a plant or seed which deviates in one or more characteristic from that which has been described as usual for the variety. Every field for certification should show evidence of good management.

- B. The unit of certification is the entire field. Where a part of a field is entered, it must be separated from the other part by a mowed strip, fence, ditch, strip of other crop, or strip left unplanted.
- C. Isolation. All fields used for the production of certified seed must have the minimum isolation distance as shown from fields of any other variety of the same species or closely related species or fields of the same variety that do not meet the varietal purity requirements for certification given in the individual standards.
- D. Modification of land history may be approved by the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. Meridian office, when a cultural practice has proven to be successful. Cultural practice may include mechanical means such as deep plowing and/or chemical means such as fumigants or other material for seed bed preparation. Materials and methods must be a matter of record. Whichever method is used, it must be approved and adequate to maintain varietal purity. At no time may the time interval for land history be reduced below the requirement as stated in the United States Department of Agriculture, Part 201 - Federal Seed Act, for Certified Seed Regulations for specified crop and appropriate certified generation. To aid in distinguishing between volunteers and crop seeded, the seed must be planted in distinct rows but may vary in row spacing.

VIII. Establishing the Source of Seed and Field Inspection.

- A. When the seed planted for the production of foundation, registered or certified seed is obtained from another person, documentary evidence such as a certification tag, sales record, etc., must be submitted to the Association to establish source of seed.
- B. All foundation, registered, and certified seed grown in Idaho to be eligible to tag as certified, including seed grown on Idaho Experimental Station land or under the supervision of such station, shall be entered for certification and shall be inspected by a representative of the Association. The field inspector shall cross the field sufficiently to evaluate accurately the factors affecting the eligibility for certification. Seed, to be eligible to tag, must have met certification requirements.

CROP	INSPECTION
Alfalfa, Red Clover, Sanfoin, White Clover, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Milkvetch	Seedling inspection during first season of planting. At least one inspection per year that certification is requested.
Grass	Seedling inspection in first year. One inspection per year done after heading but before harvest or windrow.
Beans	Growing season and windrow.
Grain	After crop is fully headed.
Field Peas	Inspection throughout growing season as needed.
Potatoes	See Potato policies and procedures.
Rapeseed	Inspection during bloom stage.

- C. Seed from fields on which no inspection has been made will not be eligible to tag.

IX. Contaminating Crops and Weeds.

- A. Every field for which certification is requested shall show evidence of good management and shall show that reasonable precaution has been taken to control contaminating crops and varieties, noxious and objectionable weeds.
- B. Poor stands, poor vigor, lack of uniformity, excess weeds, or conditions which are apt to make inspection inaccurate or bring certified seed into disfavor shall be cause for rejection.
- C. Fields other than small grain found to contain jointed goatgrass, and/or its hybrids, will not be eligible to produce certified small grain. These fields will be noted in the grower's file, and shall remain ineligible for any future production of certified small grain seed until such time as an approved reclamation procedure is developed and successfully completed. See Grain Policies and Procedures.

When jointed goatgrass, and/or its hybrids, is found in an official seed sample, the field producing that seed lot shall be noted in the grower's file and monitored for jointed goatgrass each subsequent year of production of certified seed.

- D. Prohibited noxious seeds in Idaho Certified Seed unless otherwise specified: See page General-11.

Prohibited noxious seed in Idaho certified seed unless otherwise specified:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Austrian Fieldcress	<i>Rorippa austriaca</i>
Austrian Peaweed	<i>Swainsonia salsula</i>
*Bladder campion	<i>Silene cucubalus</i>
Black Henbane	<i>Hyoscyamus niger L.</i>
Buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum, Dunal</i>
Camelthorn	<i>Alhagi pseudalhagi</i>
Canada Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Common Crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris Cass.</i>
Dalmation Toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>
Diffuse Knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa Lam.</i>
*Dodder	<i>Cuscuta spp.</i>
*Dogbane	<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>
Dyers Woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria L.</i>
Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Hoary Cress	<i>Cardaria draba</i>
*Horsenettle	<i>Solanum corolinenser</i>
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
Jointed Goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica, Host</i>
Leafy Spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
Matgrass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>
Meadow Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium pratense</i>
Meadow Knapweed	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>
Milium	<i>Milium vernale</i>
Musk Thistle	<i>Carduus nutans L.</i>
Orange Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
*Pennycress	<i>Thlaspi arvense</i>
Perennial Pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium L.</i>
Perennial Sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Poison Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum, L.</i>
Puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris L.</i>
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria L.</i>
Quackgrass	<i>Elytrigia repens</i>
Russian Knapweed	<i>Centaurea picris</i>

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Scotch Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Scotch Thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium L.</i>
Silverleaf Nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
Skeletonleaf Bursage	<i>Ambrosia tomentosa Nutt.</i>
Smooth Groundcherry	<i>Physalis subglabrata ackenz. & Bush</i>
Spotted Knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa Lam.</i>
St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Swainsonpea	<i>Sphaerophysa salsula (Pall.) DC; wainsona salsula (Pallas) Taubert</i>
Syrian Beancaper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Tansy Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaeae, L.</i>
Toothed Spurge	<i>Euphorbia dentata</i>
Whitetop (Hoary Cress)	<i>Cardaria draba and pubescens</i>
*Wild carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>
Yellow-flowered (Rush) Skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
Yellow Starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis L.</i>
Yellow Toadflax	<i>Linarea vulgaris, Hill</i>

* Designated by AOSCA Seed Standards for specific crop kinds.

X. Seed-Borne Diseases

Every field for which certification is requested shall show evidence that reasonable precaution has been taken to control seed-borne diseases. The field at time of inspection shall not contain beyond established tolerances of injurious seed-borne plant diseases which are enumerated in the individual crop standards.

XI. Harvesting and Seed Handling.

- A. Harvesting must be done with utmost precautions to avoid mixtures. The combine or thresher must be cleaned thoroughly prior to use. As an added precaution, the first five sacks threshed should be discarded, or preferably all seed from the first cut around the field.
- B. Conditioning is usually necessary to remove weeds, inert matter and small seeds. The cleaner and equipment (hoppers, spouting, bucket elevators, etc.) must be cleaned thoroughly to remove all seeds from the previous run. Cleaning should be supervised by a representative of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. unless done in an approved cleaning plant.

- C. If additional seed from the same grower source is processed at a later date for certification, it must be given a different lot number and sampled and handled throughout as a different lot.
- D. Seed must be stored so that the sampler has access to all parts of the lot.
- E. The lot number must be on each bag or container and plainly visible to the sampler at sampling time.
- F. Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. district offices must be notified prior to any movement of uncleaned seed to other districts for conditioning and handling under certification.
- G. Seed shall be cleaned by approved conditioners and supervised by Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc.

XII. Samples and Resampling of Seed.

A representative sample of each lot of seed as it is to be offered for sale shall be obtained by a representative of the Association to determine if seed is eligible to tag. Except in special cases, as determined by the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., no lot of seed will be resampled for purity unless it is recleaned.

XIII. Conditioning Certified Seed and Seed House or Bin Inspection of Seed.

- A. Conditioning of seed is interpreted to include all procedures for preparing seed for planting after it has been harvested.
- B. Seed eligible for certification shall be conditioned by one of the following:
 - 1. Producer's own equipment.
 - 2. A seed conditioning plant approved by the certifying agency, which may be either:
 - a. Another producer's equipment.
 - b. A commercial seed conditioning plant which has been approved by the certifying agency.
 - 3. A portable cleaner which has been approved by the certifying agency.
- C. Inspection of harvested lots of seed from inspected fields may be made at any time by representatives of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. who shall have authority to reject for certification any lot not properly identified, protected from mixture or which has failed to meet the certification standards.

XIV. Approval and Responsibilities of Conditioner.

Conditioners granted authorization to clean, grade, and handle Idaho certified seed must meet the following minimum requirements:

- A. Facilities shall be available to perform the function requested without introducing admixtures.
- B. Identity of the seed must be maintained at all times.
- C. Records of all operations shall be complete and adequate to account for all incoming and finally certified seed. These shall include:
 - 1. Receiving records, including the following information:
 - a. Variety and kind.
 - b. Name and address of the shipper.
 - c. Shipper's lot number.
 - d. Weight and number of bags received.
 - e. Receiving lot number assigned to the lot of seed by the consignee.
 - 2. Record of blending, cleaning or other conditioning, also rebagging, including:
 - a. Variety and kind.
 - b. Lot number of component lots used in making final or blended lot and final lot number.
 - c. Number of bags and weight of each component.
 - d. Number of bags and weight of recleaned seed or blended seed.
 - e. Weight of refuse or screenings and its disposition.
 - f. For a mixture of grass seed to be labeled sod quality each component shall meet sod quality standards.
- D. Conditioners shall permit inspection by the certifying agency of all records of the kind of seed conditioned including both certified and non-certified seed.

Approved conditioners shall designate an individual who shall be responsible to the certifying agency for performing such duties as may be required.

Approval of conditioner shall be on an annual basis.

In all cases of rebagging, blending, scarifying, treating, recleaning or other conditioning, the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. assumes no responsibility for the seed failing to meet certification requirements.

The certifying agency shall make as many inspections of both seed and records as may be required to satisfy itself that only the seed meeting requirements is labeled with certified tags.

XV. Seed Testing.

Except for potatoes, Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. (ICIA) shall ensure all samples of foundation, registered or certified seed, are tested for germination and/or purity by a Registered Seed Technologist (RST) or by an official state seed testing laboratory or by ICIA. Certificates or Reports of Analysis issued and signed by an RST (a recognized member of Society of Commercial Seed Technologists), an Official Lab that is recognized by Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA), an accredited Canadian Lab or an ICIA lab will be acceptable for certification of seed provided the seed meets certification standards. The testing must be performed according to AOSA Rules for Testing Seed. If samples are tested by an entity other than ICIA, the approved conditioner will be subject to a random check sampling rate of a minimum of 10% of lots conditioned in any given year. Cost for testing of check samples will be billed to the approved conditioner. If a pattern of non-compliance with Idaho Policies, Procedures, and Standards for Certification develops, the approved conditioner will be required to have seed tested at a facility designated by ICIA.

XVI. Tags and Seals.

- A. Each bag of seed sold as certified must be packed in new bags and must bear the official tag attached in an approved manner to each container. Misprints, misbranded, blotted, and reject bags and/or bags turned inside out must not be used.
- B. If grain is sold in bulk, satisfactory arrangements must be made by the owner or warehouseman with the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. before any seed movement if certification identity is to be maintained. Grower or dealer must show ability to handle seed in bulk.
- C. The certification tag which is attached to the bag or container serves as evidence of the genetic purity, class and quality of the seed contained therein.
 - 1. The following colored tags, except for potatoes, shall designate the class and quality of seed:
 - a. White tag for foundation seed.
 - b. Purple tag for registered seed.
 - c. Blue tag for certified seed.
- D. All official certification tags and seals shall be attached under the supervision of Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc.
- E. Fees for any retagging on all crops will be at \$0.20 per cwt.

XVII. Substandard Seed.

Seed failing to meet certification standards other than those affecting genetic purity may be certified, provided other crop or weed seed does not exceed the maximum allowed in the seed standards, and there is no injury to the reputation of certified seed. The certification tag attached to such seed shall carry the word "Substandard" and clearly show the respects in which the seed does not meet the regular certification standards.

XVIII. Complying with Federal and State Seed Laws.

Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. is not responsible for obligations arising from the sale, distribution or shipment of seed which has been certified, including obligations of compliance with the Federal Seed Act, the Federal Plant Variety Protection Act, Idaho Seed Law, the Standards of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies, or any other state or federal laws or regulations affecting the sale, distribution or shipment of seed.

XIX. Membership.

Any person producing seed in the State of Idaho is eligible for a membership in Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. The membership fee is \$30 per year and is included in application fees. Right to membership may be revoked for just cause by the Board of Directors of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc.

XX. Application and Inspection Fees.

Application forms may be secured from the following:

- A. In the “Forms” section of the ICIA website: www.idahocrop.com
- B. Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. offices:
 - 1. 2283 Wright Avenue, Suite C, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.
 - 2. 1680 Foote Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402.
 - 3. 429 SW Fifth Avenue Suite 105, Meridian, Idaho 83642.
 - 4. 2720 Pullman Road, Moscow, Idaho 83843.

Applications together with appropriate fees should be sent to the nearest Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. office listed above.

Applications for certification of alfalfa, clover and grasses must be made the year these crops are seeded and each year thereafter; otherwise the field or fields will not be eligible for certification.

Inspection fees will be refunded if a member finds his crop will not meet certification requirements and notifies the district fieldman or the Association office BEFORE inspection is made.

The Association assumes no obligation to inspect crops for certification, unless the application has been filed with the Association before the deadline date.

XXI. Reinspection.

A crop which does not meet certification standards in certain respects at the time of initial inspection may be reinspected at the discretion of the fieldman. If reinspection is desired, the grower must submit his request in writing to the district fieldman for consideration within five days following date of initial inspection. A fee of \$80.00 must accompany the request. If the actual cost of making the reinspection exceeds \$80.00 the fieldman will collect the additional amount. This regulation does not apply to potatoes.

XXII. Reinstatement of Specific Crops.

- A. Several crops, especially legumes and grasses should be reinstated each year to maintain eligibility for certification.
- B. Reinstatement of fields that are more than two years delinquent may not be made without special permission from the manager of the Association. Any field delinquent one year or more will be charged a reinstatement fee for each year delinquent.

XXIII. Appeal Procedures.

An appeal of a certification decision may be filed by letter within two (2) days of receiving notice of a decision. This letter of appeal must be sent to the area manager for forwarding to the Meridian certification office at 429 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 105, Meridian, ID 83642.

The certification program will make appeal inspections where time, weather, and crop conditions permit, and where factors affecting the original decision have not been altered.

Cost for this appeal will be charged to the individual seeking appeal.

District Directors may be involved with final appeal decisions.

XXIV. Rejection of Applications.

The Association reserves the right to reject applications to certify for the following reasons:

- A. Application received too late to make proper inspection.
- B. Location of field such that inspection would be unduly expensive, or location of field not mapped accurately.
- C. Failure of grower to pay for services previously rendered.
- D. Failure of grower to comply with the certification regulations.

XXV. Sampling Procedure.

In order to secure a representative sample, equal portions shall be taken from evenly distributed parts of the quantity of seed to be sampled.

A probe or trier long enough to sample all portions shall be used for free-flowing seed in bags or bulk. Seed moving by conveyors should be sampled at intervals, approximately each fifth bag.

Non-free-flowing seed, such as certain grasses and other seeds difficult to sample with probe or trier, shall be sampled by thrusting the hand into the bulk and withdrawing representative portions.

Bulk Sampling.

Bulk seeds shall be sampled by inserting a long probe or thrusting the hand into the bulk, as circumstances require, in at least seven uniformly distributed parts of the quantity being sampled.

Bag Sampling.

In quantities of five bags or less, each bag shall be sampled. In quantities of more than five bags, but less than 50, at least every fifth bag, but not less than five bags shall be sampled. In the case of large lots of seed, sampling shall be adequate to be representative of the seed.

If there appears to be lack of uniformity, the samples shall not be combined, but shall be retained separately for laboratory analysis. If they appear uniform, they shall be blended and a final sample taken from the composite.

The following are minimum weights of samples of seeds to be submitted for analysis:

- A. Four (4) ounces of grass seed not otherwise mentioned, white or alsike clover, or seeds not larger than these.
- B. Eight (8) ounces of ryegrass, brome grass, onions or seeds of similar size.
- C. Five (5) pounds of cereals, beans, or seeds of similar size.
- D. One (1) pound of red clover, alfalfa, or seeds of similar size.

XXVI. Scope of Certification.

The attaching of the official Idaho certification tag to a sack or container of seed certifies that the seed was produced, inspected and handled under, and qualified for certification at the time of tagging under the regulation of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. The attaching of the official Idaho tag to a sack or container of seed also certifies, in the case of appropriate crop varieties, that at time of tagging, based on sample inspection and visual symptoms, the seed met Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. tolerances for seed as to freedom from disease. Diseases that cannot be observed visually at the time of inspection may be present. Certification does not constitute a warranty of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. or the grower of certified seed regarding any characteristic of the seed, beyond the foregoing expressed representations. Since the use of certified seed is beyond the control of the grower, the seller, the inspector, the Idaho Federal-State Inspection Service, and the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc., certification does not constitute a warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, including the implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, concerning the performance of the seed.

Generally, certification rules and regulations will apply to seed sold in a 12-month period that is grown and harvested after May 1 of that cropping year. Unconditioned and untagged seed will be subjected to present year policies, procedures, and standards for certification when final certification is requested. Conditioned and tagged seed that met the previous year's standards, under which the lot was tagged, is eligible for sale without further consideration by the Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Inc. However, such seed must meet current Idaho State Seed Law standards for labeling.