

OKRA SEED CERTIFICATION STANDARDS (1988)

I. Application and Amplification of General Certification Standards

The General Seed Certification Standards, as adopted by the association are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute the requirements of certification of okra seed.

II. Land Requirements

- A. Fields on which okra is to be produced for certification shall not have had any okra grown on them the previous year unless the previous crop was of the same variety and of a certified class equal or superior to that of the crop seeded.

III. Field Inspections

- A. Two field inspections will be made.
 - 1. The first inspection will be made as soon as the first blossoms are open.
 - 2. The second inspection will be made with the first pods are ready to harvest. At this time, a record will be made of the number of off-type plants and the presence of disease, and the general condition of the plants in the field.

IV. Field Standards

- A. General

- 1. Isolation

Fields eligible for certification must be located at least 1,320 feet from any other variety or from the same variety, if it is planted from non-certified seed.

- 2. Roguing

The grower will be responsible for the roguing of the fields on which certification is requested. Although the exact number of roguings to be made is not specified, the use of the following program is suggested.

- a. Just before the first blossoms open: Check the field and surrounding territory for and remove all volunteer okra plants.

b. When the young plants and pods have assumed definite varietal characteristics: Inspect the field and remove all plants being off-type in form or color.

3. Cultural Requirements

a. At the time of harvest, the field must show the effects of approved, cultural practices and the plants must be reasonable free of disease.

4. Harvesting

Pods should be stored in a dry, ventilated place until threshed. It is not required but is recommended that young pods be topped from the plants at first harvesting.

5. Okra shall be certified only two years from foundation seed.

6. Unit of Certification

The unit of certification shall be a field but a portion of a field may be approved for certification provided the remainder is harvested separately and the seed eliminated for certification.

B. Specific Requirements

<u>Factor(at time of harvest)</u>	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Other Varieties and/or off-Types (Max.)	None	1 in 2500	1 in 1250

V. **Seed Standards**

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Standards for each class</u>		
	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Pure Seed (Min.)	98.00%	98.00%	98.00%
Inert Matter (Max.)	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Other Varieties	None	0.20%	0.50%
Other Crops (Max.)	None	0.01% / lb.	0.02% / lb.
Weed Seed (Max.)	0.05% / lb.	0.05% / lb.	0.10% / lb.
Objectionable Weeds	None	None	None
Noxious Weeds	None	None	None
Germination (Min.)	70.00%	*70.00%	*70.00%

*Include Hard Seed

See General Standards for noxious weeds, which are prohibited.