

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

VEGETATIVELY PROPAGATED PASTURE GRASSES

I. Application and Amplification of General Certification Standards

- A. The General Seed Certification Standards as adopted by the association are basic and together with the following specific standards, constitute the standards for certification of these grasses.
- B. Only those fields planted with foundation or registered sprigs of Vegetatively Propagated Pasture Grasses will be eligible for certification.
- C. A grower of registered sprigs may increase his acreage from his own production, provided the increase is adjacent and planted on land under his control. Note: Size of increase not to exceed ten (10) acres.

II. Land Requirements (Rules covering land prior to planting)

A field to be eligible for the production of Foundation (white tag), Registered (purple tag), Certified (Blue Tag) stock must have been thoroughly inspected twice at approximately six-week intervals, and must have been found free of other Bermuda grass and noxious weeds in both inspections.

III. Field Inspections

- A. Handling the Crop prior to Inspection:

A field must be rogued and/or sprayed sufficiently during the growing season to remove any mixture of Bermuda grasses or other perennial grasses and noxious weeds.
- B. Time of Inspection:

An inspection must be made during the growing season at a time when there is sufficient growth to make the identification of other Bermudas, other perennial grasses and noxious weeds.
- C. Production fields that fail to meet the genetic standard for the registered class within one growing season will be permanently downgraded to the certified class.

IV. Field Standards

A. General

1. **Restrictions on number of varieties per farm**
When registered or certified planting stock is being produced, no other variety or strain of the same species shall be grown for planting stock production except by special permission from the certifying agency.
2. **Unit of Certification**
The entire acreage standing at the time of inspection as a unit from a map showing the exact size and permanent location of the field.
3. **Isolation Requirements**
A field to be eligible for the production of registered or certified planting stock of any of these Bermudas must be isolated from any other strain of the same species by a strip at least 10 feet wide to preclude any possibility of mixing planting material during the digging operations.
4. **Equipment (mowers, aerators, irrigation, balers, etc.) will be cleaned before entering sprig field of contaminating weed and grass seeds and noncertified hay that may remain in baler.**

B. Specific Requirements

FACTOR	Maximum Permitted in each Class		
	<u>FOUNDATION</u>	<u>REGISTERED</u>	<u>CERTIFIED</u>
Other Varieties ^{1/}	None	1 / A	3 / A
Other Crops (Bahagrass/Fescue)	None	None	10 / A
Other Living Plants	Not to exceed one plant per 10,000 sq ft	Not to exceed one plant per 1,000 sq ft	Not to exceed one plant per 100 sq ft
Noxious Weeds	None	None	None

^{1/}Other varieties shall consist of all other Bermuda grasses that can be differentiated from the variety that is being inspected.