

# PECAN CERTIFICATION ASEXUAL PROPAGATION STANDARDS (2009)

## I. Application and Amplification of General Certification Standards

A. The General Seed Certification Standards, as adopted by the association, when applicable to this crop, are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute the standards for woody plants and forbs.

### B. Definitions

**Budding** is taken from a green, immature woody stem for the purpose of propagation.

**Graft Wood** is taken from a dormant woody stem for the purpose of propagation.

**Hardwood cutting** is taken from a mature woody stem for the purpose of propagation.

**Indexing** is a procedure to determine virus or other pathogen infection by inoculation from the plant to be tested to an indicator plant (grafted onto plant to be tested) or by any other approved method.

**Softwood cutting** is taken from a green, immature, actively growing stem of a woody plant during spring or early summer for the purpose of propagation.

### C. Classes and sources of certified stock are defined as follows:

1. **Foundation stock** shall be those plants identified by the developer of the cultivar as donor plants for budding and grafting. Foundation stock plants will be:
  - a. Inspected annually for conformance to the published cultivar description
  - b. Identified by map and GPS
  - c. Identified by a permanent marker each plant
  - d. Foundation plants may be maintained indefinitely
  - e. In greenhouse Foundation stock plants shall be produced in containers with labeling of cultivar name and lot number (if applicable)

2. **Registered stock** is produced from Foundation stock in a greenhouse or field by budding and grafting. Registered stock plants will be:
  - a. Inspected annually for conformance to the published cultivar description
  - b. Identified by map and GPS
  - c. Identified by a permanent marker each plant
  - d. Registered plants may be maintained indefinitely
  - e. In greenhouse Registered stock plants shall be produced in containers with labeling of cultivar name and lot number (if applicable)
  
3. **Certified stock** is produced by budding and/or grafting from Foundation or Registered stock in a greenhouse or field. Producers must develop a plan for identifying certified stock. The plan will emphasize maintaining identity and purity of stock. Documentation of number of cutting taken, survivability, labeling, quantity sold, buyer, etc. The plan must be approved by GCIA.

A complete record of the number of certified plants sold will be maintained and made available to the official certifying agency. The record will include (a) class, (b) cultivar, (c) date of shipment, and (d) number of plants shipped.

## II. Inspections

Inspections and audit may be performed at any time during the production marketing cycle.

All grafted trees will be identified. The inspector will visually inspect 10% of all marked grafted trees to determine the percentage of trees that did not take the graft. If the number of marked trees that are not grafted exceeds  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 percent, the licensee will not be allowed to market the trees as certified until the nursery is re-inspected and found to be within compliance.

## III. General Requirements for Producers

- A. Growers may sell Foundation, Registered, or Certified stock as certified plants.
  
- B. Information required on a tag when tagging Foundation, Registered or Certified plants:
  - Kind
  - Cultivar name
  - Certification number
  - Lot number
  - Patent protection statementGrower – Name and Address each container/plant will be labeled with variety and certification information.

#### IV. Field and Greenhouse Standards

##### A. General

Plants will be inspected prior to sale, with leaves on, for phenotypic conformity to the variety description.

1. Field and Greenhouse inspections and control for the production of certified plants.

##### A. Procedures for Lifting, Grading and Packaging of Certified plants

- a. An inventory of the number of grafts produced shall be made prior to lifting and reported in writing to GCIA.
- b. Total number of plants shipped shall not exceed five percent of the prelifting inventory.

### **INSTRUCTIONS & PROCEDURES**

1. Plants will be handled to prevent mixture.
2. Plants will be identified at all times to maintain identity.
3. Final dates for filing application for annual membership and inspections:

March 15<sup>th</sup>

Cost \$0.50 per tree sold

Donor trees (foundation and/or registered trees) inspection, annually, \$50.00 per hour plus mileage

Approval of Facilities for new producers -

\$500.00 plus travel if an on site visit is required

\$250.00 for desk audit, no on site visit required