

CENTIPEDE SEED CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

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 centipede turfgrass seed.
- B. Foundation, registered, and certified seed producing fields should continue to produce the appropriate class of seed for the life of the stand.
- C. Production fields may be established by seed or vegetative material.

II. Land Requirements

- A. The production of foundation seed or plants shall be on land that has not grown or been seeded to the same species during the previous two crop years.
- B. The production of the registered or certified classes shall be on land that has not grown or been seeded to the same species during the previous crop year, unless the field was harvested as sod, any plants not harvested will be removed with a non-selective systemic herbicide and the field(s) inspected not less than six weeks after application during the growing season.
- C. A field inspection is required prior to planting. Isolation, previous crop and existing contamination shall be checked and problems corrected prior to planting.
- D. Fumigation can be used in lieu of previous crop requirement. Land fumigated with approved material must lay idle for a period of not less than three weeks after fumigation (or not less than six weeks when converting to like species) and be inspected for compliance with Section II, A. Land must receive adequate moisture, (a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ " per week) and soil temperature (60° F. at 4" soil depth) must be adequate to allow any live plants not eradicated by fumigation to emerge. Fields passing a preplant inspection prior to fumigation do not require a three or six week waiting period.

Fumigation rate, material and process to be approved by the GCIA Turfgrass Committee appointed at the most recent annual membership meeting.

III. Field Inspections

- A. Time and number of inspections
 - 1. Centipede seed producing fields will be inspected annually; prior to seed harvest and at a time when varietal identity and purity can best be determined.

2. Centipede seed producing fields may not be used for certified sod production unless they are in compliance with the Vegetative Turfgrass Standards to include three inspections per year during the growing season. "Seed production or sod production fields must be declared no later than May 1st." Harvest and sale of certified sod from designated centipede seed producing fields is a direct violation of this standard and will result in suspension of all centipede seed production according to centipede seed production standards and will require the grower to produce all certified centipede in compliance with the GCIA vegetatively propagated or seeded turfgrass certification standards for a minimum of one year beginning the year following violation.

3. Mature sod (sod that will be harvested before the next scheduled inspection per the Time and Number of Inspections noted in the standard) may be rejected* if the sod or field fails to meet the standard relating to noxious weeds, other varieties, other crop or inability to make an inspection due to cultural practices. Fields rejected are to be re-inspected before certified grass can be sold and will not be published in the annual turf directory.

Immature sod (sod that will not be harvested before the next scheduled inspection per the Time and Number of Inspections noted in the standard, usually new fields or recently harvested fields) may be placed in pending* if the sod or field fails to meet the standard relating to noxious weeds, other varieties, other crop or inability to make an inspection due to cultural practices. Fields placed in pending may be published in the turfgrass directory.

*For uniform fields, use GCIA field inspection sampling protocols.

IV. Field Standards

A. Isolation

1. A strip at least 6 feet in width from contaminating grasses and which is uncropped, or planted to a non-encroaching crop other than the kind inspected shall constitute a field boundary.

2. The field shall be the unit of certification.

3. Minimum Isolation from other Centipede varieties:

<u>Minimum Isolation - Feet</u>		
<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
900	500	300

- B. A map showing each kind and variety must accompany the application for field inspection.

C. Specific Requirements:

	<u>Maximum Permitted Ratio of Plants</u>		
	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Other Varieties Not to exceed	1 per 550 sq. yds.	1 per 110 sq. yds.	1 per 55 sq. yds.

V. **Seed Standards**

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Pure Seed (Min.)	98%	98%	98%
Inert Matter (Max.)	2%	2%	2%
Other Crop Seed (Max.)	.02%	.02%	.02%
*Noxious Weed Seed	None	None	None
**Weed Seed (Max.)	.20%	.40%	.50%
***Germination (Min.)	80%	80%	80%
Other Var. (Off Type)	None	None	None

* Bermuda Grass seed will be considered a noxious weed.

** Bahia grass seed will be considered a prohibited objectionable other crop.

*** Total Germination will include dormant seed.

Maximum lot size 10,000 lbs.