

WCIA Standards for Certification of Industrial Hemp Seed

Purpose

The purpose of this seed certification program is to maintain and make available to the public, quality seed of source-identified species of plants so produced, handled and distributed as to ensure proper labeling and identity.

General Standards for Seed Certification of Pre-Variety Germplasm (PVG)

1. Classes of Source-Identified Seed

Classes of seed recognized in the certification of source-identified seed.

- A. Source-identified Generation zero (G₀)
Seed collected from native stands
- B. Source-identified Generation one (G₁)
Seed harvested from a G₀ planting.
- C. Source-identified Generation two (G₂)
Seed harvested from a G₁ planting.
- D. Source-identified Generation three (G₃)
Seed harvested from a G₂ planting.
- E. Unlimited generations beyond G₃ are recognized for certification.

2. Source Geographic Identification

The geographic location of all classes of source-identified seed shall be described as one of the following:

- A. One or more of the Native Plant Seed Genotype Regions of Wisconsin (as noted in the WCIA Seed Certification Handbook)
- B. One or more counties
- C. Wisconsin

3. Eligibility

The eligibility criteria for source-identified certification are as follows:

- A. Approved seedstocks are:

1. Certified source-identified seedstocks. Applicant using certified seedstocks acquired from or multiplied from seedstocks acquired from another collector or producer must have a signed "Authorization to Produce Source-Identified Certified Seed" form for each seed lot.
 2. Seedstocks produced by the producer requesting field inspection, which passed field inspection, but failed certified mechanical seed quality standards.
 3. G_0 seedstocks collected by the applicant from native stand sites, which are documented either by WCIA field inspection or as Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approved collections.
- B. The producer must properly submit an application for source-identified seed certification.
- C. Seed must be harvested from:
- a. an approved native stand, or
 - b. an approved production field.
- D. Production for certification on producer established fields may continue indefinitely providing certification standards are met.

4. Application

- A. Application forms are supplied by WCIA. Completed applications for certification are to be submitted to WCIA annually.
- B. Maps shall be provided, along with completed applications, to WCIA showing the location of native stand collection sites and established production fields.
- C. Specific native stand collection-site information is confidential between the grower and WCIA except through court order or during a Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) inspection.
- D. One Source-identified certification tag, for each seed stock lot planted, must be submitted with the application for field inspection of producer established fields with the following exceptions:
- a. Producer collected/WCIA documented G_0 seedstocks were planted.
 - b. A WCIA laboratory report is submitted for seedstocks, which passed field inspection but failed seed mechanical quality standards.
 - c. For acquired seedstock lots.
- E. Producers must furnish, in writing, collection authorization from the owner, if a separate person or entity, for native stands located on private property.

Production Requirements

Requirements for Land.

1. An industrial hemp seed crop that is grown for certification must not be planted on land on which the previous crop grown was of the same kind, unless the previous crop grown was of the same variety and met all of the certification requirements for the same or higher class.
2. The application for certification must indicate the crops grown the previous 2 years on the land.
3. At least 2 years must elapse between the destruction of varieties of dissimilar adaptation and establishment of a new stand for the production of seed for certification.

Requirements for Isolation

1. Isolation areas must be kept free of Industrial Hemp plants. Under optimum conditions, not more than three plants per 11 square feet of harmful contaminants (species that can cross-pollinate with the inspected crop) are permitted within the required isolation distance(s) adjacent to the inspected crop. The conditions of each crop are assessed by WCIA which may alter this standard, usually by reducing the number of contaminant plants permitted per square yard, according to the contamination risks involved.
2. The required isolation as outlined in Table 1 must be in place prior to the time of flowering and crop inspection.
3. If dioecious male plants start shedding before removal from field, all plants around them should be destroyed for a radius of 10 feet for Foundation and 6 feet for Certified seed crops.
4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the minimum distance a field of industrial hemp must be from a different variety or a field of the same variety of industrial hemp that does not meet the requirements for the same class designation is:

<i>Table 1: Inspected crop</i>	<i>Other Crop</i>	<i>Isolation Distance Required (Feet)</i>
<i>Dioecious type – Foundation</i>	<i>1) Different varieties of industrial hemp</i>	<i>16,150</i>
	<i>2) Non-certified crop of same kind</i>	<i>16,150</i>
	<i>3) Lower certified class seed crop of same variety</i>	<i>6,640</i>
	<i>4) Same class of certified seed of same variety</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Dioecious type – Certified</i>	<i>1) Different varieties of industrial hemp</i>	<i>3,320</i>
	<i>2) Non-certified crop of same kind</i>	<i>3,320</i>

	3) Lower certified class seed crop of same variety	646
	4) Same class of certified seed of same variety	3
<i>Monoecious type and Hybrids – Foundation</i>	1) Dioecious variety of industrial hemp	16,150
	2) Non-certified crop of same kind	16,150
	3) Different varieties of the same type of industrial hemp (monoecious or female hybrid)	6,460
	4) Lower certified class seed crop of same variety	3,230
	5) Same class of certified class of same variety	3
<i>Monoecious type and hybrids -Certified</i>	-Dioecious variety of industrial hemp	3,230
	-Non-certified crop of same kind	3,230
	-Different varieties of the same type of industrial hemp (monoecious or female hybrid)	646
	-Lower certified class seed crop of same variety	646
	-Same class of certified class of same variety	3

5. Industrial hemp seed crops entered for certification are required to be at least 5 miles from a medical marijuana and/or a recreational marijuana cultivation area. The Association will consider implementing a variance relating to isolation distances concerning indoor versus outdoor cultivation of Cannabis.

Inspection of Seed Crops; Control of Contamination

1. Field inspection of the source-identified seed will be performed by WCIA-designated inspectors for both production field plantings and native stands.
2. The Association will inspect a seed crop of industrial hemp after female flowers are produced.
3. Producers will notify the Association when the ideal inspection time is for each crop at least 2 weeks in advance.
4. A field of industrial hemp entered for certification must show evidence of control of:
 - (a) Contaminating crops and varieties; and

(b) Objectionable and noxious weeds.

5. Industrial hemp varieties of the monoecious gender must show evidence of control of:

(a) Contaminating genders that exceed the varietal designation amount

(b) Deviation from the varietal characteristic regarding monoecious/dioecious genders cannot exceed more than 10% from varietal definition.

6. State Natural area and State Wildlife area native stand sites do not require on-site inspections. Producers must furnish annually to WCIA copies of:

a) DNR document authorizing collections.

b) Producer report of seed collections to the DNR.

7. Native stand sites may be inspected the year after seed collection provided the producer furnished collection site, identification number, location and seed quantity collected to WCIA during the year of collection.

Fields of Industrial Hemp: Maximum Tolerances

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, a field of industrial hemp must meet the following tolerances to be eligible for certification:

Factor	Maximum Permitted in Each Class	
	Foundation	Certified
Other Varieties	<i>None</i>	<i>1:5,000</i>
Other Crops	<i>None</i>	<i>1:2,000</i>

2. Total tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentrations exceeding 0.3% on a dry weight basis will result in immediate disqualification for seed certification. The grower is required to have a lab test from an independent accredited laboratory showing THC concentrations at levels stated above.

3. Any Cannabis sativa L. other than industrial hemp varieties are prohibited from being present within an industrial hemp field.

(a) In the event that any variety of Cannabis sativa L. other than industrial hemp is suspected, the resulting seed will not be certified.

Seed Sample

1. When requesting certification, an official seed sample must be submitted for each industrial hemp seed lot harvested from each collection site or production field.

2. Sampling procedures and testing methods recognized by the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) shall be used where applicable.

3. Seed samples will be retained by WCIA after seed analysis testing is completed.

Testing Seed Lots

1. Seed analysis tests for labeling must be performed by the WCIA Seed Testing Lab. AOSA methods will be used where applicable.
2. All seed must meet Wisconsin certification standards for source-identity, species purity, mechanical purity and germination as outlined in this document before certification tags will be issued.

Maximum Impurity Standards

1. Impurity Standards

(a) Impurities should be removed prior to crop inspection.

(b) Any combination of impurities may be reason for declining certified status.

(c) An Industrial Hemp crop for certified status, unless otherwise specified by the Breeder, must not exceed the limits, as outlined in Table 2., of harmful contaminants (species that can cross pollinate with the inspected crop), plants of other varieties or distinct types foreign to the variety being inspected, weeds or other crops with seeds that are difficult to separate from Industrial Hemp seed (e.g. Hemp Nettle)

(d) Table 2 indicates the maximum number of impurities permitted by AOSCA in approximately 10,000 plants of the inspected crop. The inspector makes at least 6 counts (10,000 plants each) or the equivalent to determine the number of impurities. The resulting average of these counts must not exceed the maximum impurity standards in Table 2.

Table 2:

Inspected Crop	Maximum Impurity Standards per 10,000 Plants in Foundation and Certified Industrial Hemp seed Crops		
	Maximum Number of "Too Male" Monoecious Plants	Maximum Number of Dioecious Male Plants Shedding Pollen	Maximum Number of other Impurities
Dioecious Type - Foundation	-	-	3
Dioecious Type - Certified	-	-	10
Monoecious Type - Foundation	500	1	3
Monoecious Type - Certified	-	100	10

Minimum standards for classes of industrial hemp seed

1. Each lot of seed entered for certification must be sampled and meet the minimum standards for the class of seed produced. Samples must meet the following standards:

Factor	Standards for Each Class	
	Foundation	Certified
Pure Seed (minimum)	98.0%	98.0%
Total other Crop Seed (maximum)	0.01%	0.08%
Weed Seed (maximum)	0.10%	0.10%
Inert Matter (maximum) *	2.0%	2.0%
Other Varieties (maximum)	0.005%	0.05%
Other Kinds (maximum) **	0.01%	0.07%
Germination (minimum)	80.0%	80.0%

* Inert matter shall not include more than 0.5 per cent of material other than seed fragments of the variety under consideration.

** Other kinds shall not exceed 2 per lb (454 grams) for Foundation or 10 for Certified.

Application for certification; contents and submission requirements.

1. For each planting, an applicant must submit to the Association an application for certification.
2. Each application must:
 - (a) Be on a form obtained from the Association;
 - (b) List all sources of the seed stock planted;
 - (c) Include documentation that verifies the eligibility of the seed stock planted;
 - (d) Include a map that shows the location of the farm and the planting; and
 - (e) Include any other information requested by the Association.

Labeling

The certified source-identified seed label shall contain the following information:

- A. Class of certified source-identified seed
- B. Species common and scientific name

- C. Purity information including: the percentage by weight of pure seed, inert matter, weed seeds and seed of other species
- D. Lot number
- E. Percentage of germination exclusive of dormant or hard seed and the percentage of dormant or hard seed
- F. Total of the germination and dormant or hard seed percentages
- G. Original geographic location of G₀ (native stand) collection site for all seed regardless of generation
- H. Production field county location
- I. Small packet labels must meet AOSCA standards (AOSCA certification handbook, section 1, page 4)
- J. The producer, collector or vendor, whose name appears on the seed container guarantees to the buyer that the tag attached to the seed is an accurate representation of the entire lot of the seed and that the lot has been inspected by the official seed certification agency and conforms to the published standards of that agency.
- K. Any other information required by DATCP statute or regulation.

Seed Conditioning and Production Records

All grower records and facilities involved in receiving, cleaning, storing, labeling, shipping or other functions in the certification process shall be available for inspection by the WCIA during normal business hours.

It is the responsibility of each producer to maintain an accurate record of all sales of certified source-identified seed, including the name and address of the purchaser, amount and species/genotype of seed sold and the date.

Rejection of Seed Lots

WCIA will reject for certification, any lot of source-identified seed which is questionable as to source-identity, and any lot which does not meet the certification standards of WCIA.

Violations

The penalty for providing false information or collecting seed and/or digging plants on state or private land without permission is the loss of certification privileges now and in the future.