

Producing Kansas Certified Seed

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Certified seed producers have a long history of providing Kansas farmers with quality, varietally-pure, seed. Certified seed is produced, labeled, and sold in compliance with the certification standards of Kansas Crop Improvement Association (KCIA), and state and federal seed laws.

Producing Kansas Certified Seed

While anyone may produce certified seed, they must do so under KCIA oversight in accordance with KCIA standards, and in compliance with seed law.

This tutorial will acquaint new certifiers with the basics of certified seed production. Additional information may be found at www.kscrop.org or by contacting Kansas Crop Improvement.

Standards and Procedures

It is important to read and understand the standards and procedures governing certified seed production prior to entering seed certification. The ***Kansas Certification Standards*** contains the general standards for certification as well as for the specific crop(s) to be produced. These can be viewed at our website or obtained from KCIA.

Standards and Procedures

The *Kansas Seed Certification Procedures* outlines accepted procedures for complying with certification standards, field compliance, completing certification, and marketing certified seed.

Also included are examples of the documentation required. The procedures may be viewed online or obtained through the KCIA office.

Field Selection

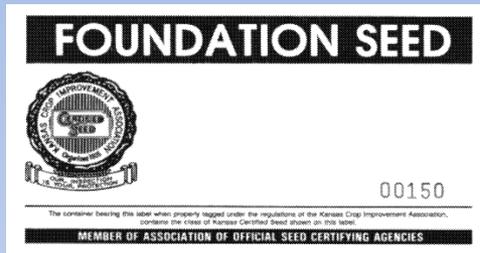
Field choice is very important. Problems present in the field at planting may cause difficulty in meeting certification requirements.

Field history must conform to the standards specific to the crop grown. Generally, not always, there is a minimum 12-month restriction on previous crop.

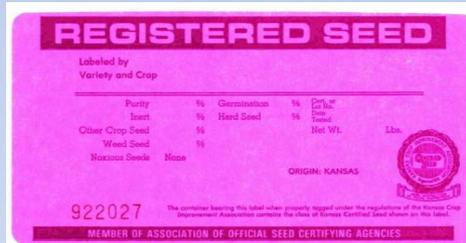
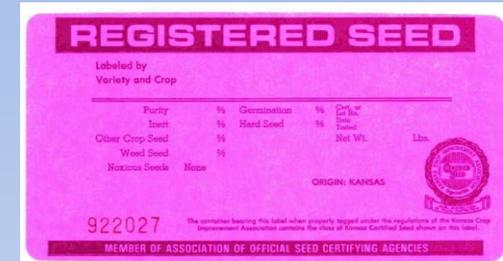
Presence of prohibited weeds or prohibited crops, or excessive objectionable or common weeds may lead to field rejection by KCIA.

Read and understand the field standards for the specific crop of interest.

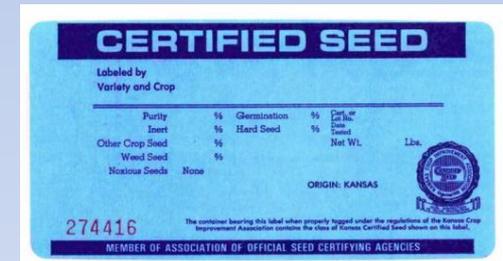
Select Proper Seed Source



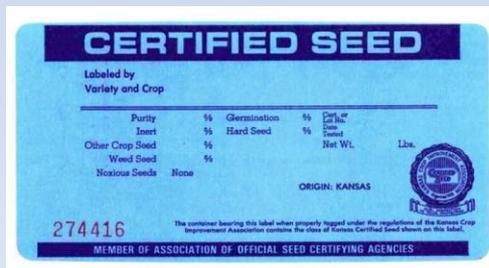
to produce



to produce



to sell



Apply For Certification

Contact KCIA, we are transitioning to electronic field application on *myfields* and some fields, especially wheat will be applied for electronically, while some will require a paper form.

Complete an application form or in *myfields* for each field and attach/upload a seed label from the seed planted in that field to each form.

Submit field applications to KCIA before any established deadlines for the specific crop.

Review Statement and Make Payment

Based upon the field applications submitted to KCIA, a ***Statement of Fields Applied for Inspection*** will be sent listing all fields submitted and assessment of fees.

The applicant must review the statement, make necessary corrections or additions and return the statement, with payment, to KCIA prior to the established deadline.

Prepare Field For Inspection

Certification standards specific for the crop should guide the applicant in preparing the field for the field inspector.

Ensure proper isolation and separation from adjoining fields.

The crop must be within stated tolerances for varietal purity. Presence of excessive off-types will cause field rejection. Fields should be walked, and if necessary, off-types rogued (removed).

Prepare Field For Inspection

The crop standards will list prohibited and objectionable weeds. Uncontrolled prohibited weeds in the field will lead to field rejection.

Objectionable weeds may be present but not in excessive quantity. However, objectionable and common weeds present to the extent that field inspection is hampered, are cause for field rejection.

Prepare Field For Inspection

Prohibited crops, such as rye or triticale in wheat, are forbidden in certified fields and must be removed prior to inspection.

As harvest nears, call KCIA to schedule a field inspection 7 to 10 days prior to the anticipated harvest date. This will allow for proper scheduling and prevent harvest delays.

A field harvested prior to field inspection can not be certified.

Harvest and Storage

Once a field has passed field inspection, it may be harvested. All equipment, combines, trucks, gravity wagons, augers, bins, etc. must be clean to ensure maintenance of varietal purity.

In storage, seed condition must be maintained in order to meet seed quality standards when sampled and tested.

Conditioning and Testing

Seed to be certified must be conditioned (cleaned) by a KCIA Approved Conditioner. A grower may apply to KCIA to clean his/her own seed as a Grower Conditioner if the proper conditioning equipment is owned.

Once seed has been cleaned it must be sampled and the sample submitted to KCIA for testing. Upon favorable test results a seed lot will be issued a ***Certificate of Inspection.***

Certificate of Inspection

A ***Certificate of Inspection*** is the applicant's permission to sell the seed as Kansas Certified Seed. The certificate will state the total number of bushels in the seed lot, the seed analysis, the class, a Plant Variety Protection statement, and any other information that will be important when marketing the seed.

Total seed sold can not exceed the amount stated on the ***Certificate of Inspection***.

Marketing Certified Seed

Seed must be properly labeled in order to be sold.

Failure to properly label the seed will lead to loss of certification for that seed.

Labeling of certified seed is subject to KCIA standards and to State and Federal seed laws.

It is the applicants responsibility that all seed is properly labeled.

The procedures booklet explains seed labeling.

Reporting

KCIA is required to track certified seed. In order to do this, applicants must complete the ***Distribution Report*** on the backside of the original Certificate of Inspection and return it to KCIA by the established deadline.

In addition, a ***Statement of Unaccounted for Fields*** may be sent to you and must be completed when received and returned prior to deadline. It will list fields applied for but for whatever reason have not completed certification.

Thank You

KCIA welcomes you to seed certification and hopes that you find it rewarding and profitable.

This presentation has been a brief overview of seed certification. Additional and more detailed information may be found at our website: www.kscrop.org or by contacting our office at 785-532-6118.

We are happy to assist you.