

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR GERMPLASM IN INDIANA

I. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GERMPLASM TYPES

- a. Eligible species shall include indigenous or non-indigenous trees, shrubs (including vines), or herbaceous plants (forbs and grasses).
- b. These standards address seed, seedlings, or other propagating materials of species, selections, clones, intra specific hybrids, etc. (collectively referred to as germ plasm types) which have not been released as a variety. If material is selected, tested and released as a named cultivar, it shall be eligible for certification under the genetic seed certification system and no longer eligible to be certified as a germ plasm type.

II. CLASSES OF GERMPLASM TYPES

- a. Source Identified material (yellow tag) - are seed, seedlings, or other propagating materials collected from natural stands, seed production areas, seed fields, or orchards where no selection or testing of the parent population has been made. It consists of the least selected germ plasm and is considered to have relatively diverse origin.
- b. Selected Material (green tag) - selected propagating materials shall be the progeny of phenotypically selected plants, traits, or parentage that have promise but no proof of genetic superiority or distinctive traits, produced so as to ensure genetic purity and identity.
- c. Tested Material (blue tag) - tested propagating materials shall be the progeny of plants whose parentage has been tested and has proven genetic superiority or possesses distinctive traits for which the heritability is stable, as defined by the certifying agency, but for which a variety has not been named or released. This seed must be produced so as to assure genetic purity and identity from rigidly controlled and isolated natural stands, individual plants, or seed fields.

III. ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS

- a. For existing native stands, there is no isolation distance requirement.
- b. For production fields of the same germ plasm source, no isolation is required.
- c. For production fields of different germ plasm sources of the same species, an isolation of one-fourth mile (440 yards) will be maintained for grasses and one-half mile (880 yards) for forbs.

IV. LIMITATIONS OF GENERATIONS

- a. Source Identified Material & Selected Material - No limitation or a limited number of generations may be specified.
- b. Tested Material - may be specified for each species by owner of variety and/or certification agency for varieties eligible for three class system of Foundation, Registered or Certified.

c. Both sexual (seed) and asexual (cuttings, rhizomes, grafting, etc.), means of reproduction and establishment are addressed by the limitation of generations, with one asexual generation being equivalent to one sexual generation.

V. PRODUCTION OF SEED

a. Source Identified Material – An initial inspection of the site is required for collections from natural stands. However, subsequent, annual inspections are not required. Complete source documentation regarding collection location, history and landowner must be submitted for review by ICIA when application for site inspection is made.

Inspection of nursery plantings to assure that certification requirements are met shall be made prior to seed maturity and/or collection. All original source collection documents will be inspected to assure origin for proper labeling.

b. Selected and Tested Material - at least one field inspection shall be made prior to seed collection. At this time, compliance with regard to roguing and isolation as covered by the applicable agency standards will be checked.

c. For all germ plasm types, compliance with regard to correct identification of species, location of natural stand or field or orchard, and seed yield must be verified by whatever means is deemed efficient and enforceable by the certification agency.

d. Producers of seedling or otherwise propagated nursery or container stock shall be supervised sufficiently so that the certification agency knows that the stock was produced from the germ plasm type claimed.

VI. INSPECTIONS

a. All inspections will be conducted by a representative of ICIA. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that appropriate inspections are completed.

b. Approval Inspection - Seed sites and seed production areas must receive an approval inspection. The Approval inspection is a thorough examination of the site to confirm compliance with fields standards. Approval inspections must be made prior to seed labeling.

c. Annual Inspection - Annual inspections are used to confirm adherence to standards for propagation facilities and seed conditioning facilities and are conducted unless ICIA is notified that no inspection is needed because facility is not in operation for a given year.

d. Spot Inspection - Inspections may be made without prior notice at any time during the production of certified reproductive material.

VII. SEED STANDARDS

a. Source Identified Material, Selected Material and Tested Material - no minimum standards will be required for germination or purity other than those as required by the Indiana Seed Law and Rules.

VIII. LAND REQUIREMENTS

a. Location where Source Identified seed was collected shall be defined by means of administrative, geographic, altitudinal, or other appropriate boundaries or descriptions judged to be significant by the certifying agency. State and County is the minimum required to be shown on the tag.

b. For the Tested germ plasm, the exact geographic source of the parent plants and the stand history must be known. Location (designated by section or comparable land survey unit) and elevation (nearest 500 feet) of the site of seed production must be shown on the tag.

c. For the Selected germ plasm, seed zones and/or breeding zones may be defined to indicate location of naturally produced seed for tag information. Artificially established fields or orchards may be listed either by specific site or by zonal definition.

d. In all cases where seed or other propagating materials are produced in fields or orchards, the origin of the parent material must be known. Exception may be made by the certifying agency regarding plantings outside the natural range of a species. The location printed on the tag shall be the location of the field or orchard, not the location of origin of the parent material.

IX. LABELING

a. All labeling of material must meet the requirements of the Indiana Seed Law as outlined in the Indiana Seed Law and Rules, IC 15-4-1.

b. Producers must supply the following minimum information to Indiana Crop Improvement Association:

1. Certification class
2. Species
3. Variety (if applicable)
4. Site number where collected
5. Producer's lot identification
6. Date packaged
7. Quantity (number of pounds of seed)
8. Number of containers
9. Source

c. Certification tags must be affixed to each seed container. ICIA will provide serially numbered agency labels.

1. Source Identified Material - yellow tag
2. Selected Material - green tag
3. Tested Material - blue tag

d. Source Identified, Selected and Tested Material labels shall contain the following information:

1. Species
2. Variety (if applicable)
3. Producer's lot identification
4. Source - geographic location of the parent plants
5. Site number - number assigned by ICIA for production site
6. Generation (if applicable)
7. Serial number

