

Seed Certification



CLOVER SEED RULES Ref SR 024

20 November 2004

General Procedures

The following are the general procedures that are to be applied for production of clover seed. Additional requirements are applicable depending on the species and cultivar. Contact the service provider for further details.

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the certification of clover seed (*Trifolium* spp) that is true to type for International and domestic purposes.

PADDOCK HISTORY

Land will not be eligible for registration for the production of basic or certified clover seed if any part of the area nominated has grown a clover crop other than a basic or certified crop of the same cultivar in the previous three (3) years.

ISOLATION

Basic- 100 metres from any clover.
Certified – 50 metres from any clover.

INSPECTIONS

Annual inspections are to be carried out in any year seed is to be harvested.

A seedling inspection is also required to check on volunteer plants.

UNSOWN STRIP

New sowings require an unsown strip of land to be left in the crop. The strip must be at least one (1) metre wide and form a circuit of the paddock one third from the outside.

The strip must not be treated in anyway to prevent the growth of naturally occurring seedlings. Failure to leave this strip may make the crop ineligible for certification.

This strip is not required where the area has not grown a clover crop in the past five (5) years.

The number of successive harvests may be limited depending on the status of seed sown

AGE OF STAND

Basic seed areas may only produce two (2) successive crops. These areas are then down graded to certified seed status.

Certified seed areas may only produce four (4) successive crops including the 2 years as a basic seed crop.

CROP REJECTION

Seed may be rejected for the purposes of certification if the area fails to comply with the following requirements at any inspection:-

- basic seed - max off-types –1 per 30m²
- certified seed - max off-types 1 per 10m²

SEED QUALITY STANDARDS

Seed must meet minimum standards applicable to the cultivar to be eligible for labelling as basic or certified seed.

Any cultivar is eligible to be certified.