

Seed Certification



LUCERNE SEED RULES Ref SR 027

20 November 2004

The following Rules are to be applied in conjunction with the "General Rules" for the Certification of Seed for Sowing that contain the general procedures.

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the certification of Lucerne Seed (*Medicago sativa*) that is true to type.

Certified seed areas may only produce six (6) successive crops. This may include the three years as a basic seed crop.

PADDOCK HISTORY

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

Crops that have a reduced plant stand may be rejected for certification.

For information on stand life extensions check with your certification service provider.

CROP REJECTION

Seed may be rejected for the purposes of certification if:-

ISOLATION

Basic - 100 metres from other lucerne crops.
Certified - 50 metres from other lucerne crops.

The area fails to comply with the following requirements at any inspection:-

- Basic seed - maximum off-types
1 per 30m²
- Certified seed - maximum off-types
1 per 10m²

INSPECTIONS

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

SEED QUALITY STANDARDS

Seed must meet the standards as listed hereunder to be eligible for labelling as basic or certified seed.

AGE OF STAND

The life of a stand may vary, however, the minimum stand life in any case is as follows.

Minimum Germination (including hard seed)	60 %
Minimum Pure Seed	98 %
Maximum Other Seed	0 %

Basic seed areas may only produce three (3) successive crops. These areas are then down graded to certified seed status.

