

## Variety Application Process

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Oregon Seed Certification Service

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There are two *Variety Application* forms and a *Variety Ownership Declaration* form for you to consider when submitting a variety for the Oregon seed certification program. Please complete and submit the appropriate application and materials based on the circumstances described in the following paragraphs. Each of the forms may be completed on a PC by inserting the requested information in the space provided or selecting one of the options from an available drop-down list. Using the tab key will help you to navigate through the form. A completed *Variety Ownership Declaration* must accompany all applications.

The **OSCS Experimental Variety Program** application is used for a cultivar that is still under development and not yet recognized for certification. Once accepted into this program, production of the experimental variety may be inspected, and qualifying production labeled with a tag issued by OSCS identifying the seed lot as representing an experimental variety. Such varieties will be eligible for inspection for three consecutive harvests at which time it must be formally applied and approved for certification, or dropped from the experimental variety program. In some cases, a fourth year of eligibility as an experimental variety may be granted upon written request if additional time is needed to complete documentation of the variety for certification. The *OSCS Experimental Variety Program* application and *Variety Ownership Declaration* forms should be submitted for each variety.

The **AOSCA Certification Scheme** application is used for a variety that is approved by an AOSCA national variety review board, formally approved by another certification agency (AOSCA or OECD), formally reviewed and released by a university or state agricultural experiment station, or submitted for U.S. plant variety protection, plant patent or utility patent. Please indicate which of these scenarios applies as the basis for review when completing the *AOSCA Certification Scheme* variety application form. Each of the items (A-G) listed on this form must be addressed in the submitted documentation.

- For a variety previously accepted by an AOSCA national variety review board, issued a PVP certificate or PTO patent, or accepted for the OECD Seed Scheme, you will need to submit:
  - a copy of the *AOSCA Certification Scheme* application and *Variety Ownership Declaration* forms;
  - a copy of the signed PVP, PTO, or OECD application and its supporting documentation;
  - a copy of their approval notification;
  - a two-cup sample of representative seed.
- For a variety submitted for PVP or PTO review (but not yet accepted), accepted by another AOSCA agency, or released by a university/state agricultural experiment station, you will need to submit:
  - five (5) copies of the *AOSCA Certification Scheme* application and *Variety Ownership Declaration* forms;
  - five (5) copies of the signed PVP, PTO, agency or university/state agricultural experiment station application and its supporting documentation;
  - a two-cup sample of representative seed.

Applications will be reviewed by the Oregon Certification Variety Review Committee on a first-come-first-serve basis and should be submitted prior to planting field production intended for OSCS inspection. **Guidelines for grass variety applications are listed separately.** Applications requiring urgent consideration may be assessed a special handling fee. Please note that variety codes are not accepted for certification purposes in Oregon. All certified varieties will be listed by variety name only.

The **Variety Ownership Declaration** form allows the variety owner the option to designate a licensee or production contractors for the variety, and allows the licensee or contractor the option to permit the release of their OSCS production data for the variety. All OSCS field records of proprietary varieties list an authorized production contractor to receive copies of the field inspection reports and other correspondence concerning the production. The recognized licensee or contractor may allow OSCS to report production data about the variety to the variety owner or other designee by indicating their choice on the form and signing it. If a licensee or contractor is not listed on the VOD form, the variety owner will be assumed by OSCS as the contractor. Oregon statutes prevent OSCS from providing proprietary production information to anyone other than the field applicant or authorized contractor without special permission. Whether or not either of these options is utilized, the variety owner must sign the VOD form.