



Oregon Seed Certification Service

www.oscs.oregonstate.edu

Extension Service

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
LEWIS FLAX and PRAIRIE FLAX (*Linum lewisii*)
BLUE FLAX (*Linum perenne*)
 Approved February 12, 2004

Certification Standards: The general standards for seed certification found in the Oregon Seed Certification Service Handbook (OSCS) are basic to all crops, and together with the following specific regulations constitute the certified Lewis, Prairie and Blue Flax standards.

Varieties Certified: Varieties and classes eligible for planting may be found in the OSCS Handbook.

Field History: Land must not have grown, been planted to, or harvested for any species of Flax during the previous five years to be eligible to produce Foundation seed; during the previous four years to produce Registered seed; or during the previous three years to produce Certified seed, unless the previous crop was of the same variety and certified at the same or higher generation. Flax species must be planted in distinct rows. Exceptions must be approved by the Seed Certification Office prior to planting.

Field Inspection: Include a seedling and a seed crop inspection. The seedling applications must be submitted within 60 days of planting, and a seed crop application must be submitted by April 15 of each year in which seed is produced. Seed crop inspection should be made at full bloom, when consistency of petal color is most effectively evaluated.

Field Standards:

Class of seed produced	Maximum other varieties permitted ¹	Isolation Requirements ²	
		Less than 5 acres	More than 5 acres
Foundation	None	1320 ft.	1320 ft.
Registered	0.05%	660 ft.	330 ft.
Certified	0.10%	330 ft.	165 ft.

Sweet clover plants (maximum): Foundation – none, Registered – none, Certified – 10/acre

Seed Standards: (Minimum Sample Size -- 1/2 Pound)

Factor	Foundation (White tag)	Registered (Purple tag)	Certified (Blue Tag)
Pure seed, minimum	99.00%	99.00%	98.00%
Other crop, maximum	0.05%	0.10%	0.20%
Sweet clover	None	None	None
Inert matter, maximum	1.00%	1.00%	2.00%
Weed seed ³ , maximum	0.1%	0.20%	0.20%
Weed seed, GROUP A ⁴ , singly or combined	None	None	18/lb.
Germination, minimum	80%	80%	80%

¹Includes off-type plants.

²See p. 5, section IV, General Standards D, in the OSCS Handbook.

³None of the prohibited weeds listed in Section V, in the OSCS Handbook, nor any St. Johnswort allowed in any class of seed.

⁴GROUP A – Buckhorn plantain, Docks, Sheep sorrel, Bedstraw, and Poverty weed.