
Turfgrass Certification Standards

27-196 VEGETATIVELY PROPAGATED TURFGRASS CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

I. APPLICATION OF GENERAL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

The General Seed Certification Standards Clemson University Regulation 27-190, are basic and applicable. The following specific standards constitute the standards for certification of vegetatively propagated turfgrasses, bermudagrass, centipede, zoysia, St. Augustine and seashore paspalum.

The General Standards are modified as follows:

1. Foundation Turf – shall be the vegetative increase of Breeder or Foundation turf.
2. *Registered Turf – shall be the vegetative increase of Foundation turf.
3. Certified Turf – shall be the vegetative increase of Foundation or Registered turf.
4. Life of Stand: The life of the stand will continue for all classes of vegetatively propagated turf grasses as long as the varietal and mechanical purity for the class is maintained.

*A grower of Registered turf may increase his acreage of Registered turf from his own production provided the increase is adjacent and planted on land under the control of the grower. The size of such increase is not to exceed a total of ten (10) additional acres.

II. LAND REQUIREMENT:

- A. A field to be eligible for the production of Foundation, Registered or Certified turf must be free of contaminating grasses, weeds and other crops.
- B. Land for production of Foundation or Registered sod shall be fumigated with a recommended soil fumigant.

III. FIELD INSPECTION

- A. Handling the crop and planting and prior to inspection.
 1. A field must be rogued and/or sprayed during the growing season to remove (1) other varieties, (2) other perennial grasses, (3) most common weeds, (4) objectionable and noxious weeds.
- B. Time and number of inspections:

1. A minimum of three inspections will be required.
Fields must be inspected prior to planting to insure the field is free of contamination.

IV. FIELD STANDARDS:

A. General

1. Unit of Certification

A field or portion of a field may be certified.

2. Isolation requirements:

Plantings of vegetatively propagated turf grasses must be isolated from any other variety and other perennial grasses by an artificial barrier and/or strip at least six (6) feet wide to prevent mixing during the growing season and harvesting operation.

B. Specific Requirements

Maximum permitted in each class***

| Factor | Foundation | Registered | Certified |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| *Other Varieties..... | None | None | 1/acre |
| **Other Crops..... | None | None | None |
| Noxious/Objectionable Weeds..... | None | None | None |
| Other living plants (max.)..... | 100 | 200 | 400 |

*Other varieties shall consist of all other varieties of the kind being produced.

**Other crops shall consist of all other kinds and varieties of perennial grasses.

***Should other varieties, other crops and/or noxious weeds be found in excess of standard during field inspection, roguing and eradication by spot spraying will be permitted to bring turf in line with standard

V. TURF STANDARDS

Objectionable or Noxious Weeds..... None

INSTRUCTIONS AND PROCEDURES

An official certificate or label will accompany each shipment of certified sprigs, sod or plugs. A complete record on the amount of certified turf sales will be maintained and made available to the official certifying agency. The record will include (a) class of certified turf sold (Foundation, Registered, or Certified), (b) Kind and Variety, (c) field number, (d) date of harvest, (e) amount of turf shipped (square feet, cubic feet, bushels, etc.)