

Specific Certification Standards Grass - Cool-season Turf

- I. General Seed Certification Standards as Applied to Cool-season Turfgrass**
- A. The General Seed Certification Standards as adopted are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute the standards for certification of cool-season turfgrass.
 - B. The General Seed Certification Standards are modified as follows to apply specifically to cool-season turfgrass.
Section IX. Classes and Sources of certified seed for **sexually propagated** turfgrass.
 - 1. Certified turfgrass shall be produced from Certified, Registered or Foundation seed.
- II. Land Requirements**
- A. A field to be eligible for the production of Foundation or Registered sod must have been inspected two (2) times and found free of all other perennial grass species and varieties for one year proceeding the time of planting.
 - B. A field to be eligible for the production of certified sod must have been inspected prior to planting and found free of all other perennial grasses.
 - C. A field to be eligible for the production of Foundation, Registered, or Certified sod may be thoroughly treated with a recommended soil fumigant and left undisturbed for three weeks, at which time an official inspection shall be made to determine if the land is free of perennial grasses. Soil conditions should be favorable for seed germination and active plant growth during this period.
 - D. No animal manures or other material potentially containing seeds shall be applied on sod to be entered for certification.
- III. Field Inspections**
- Inspections must be made during the growing season at a time when there is sufficient growth to make the identification of other varieties or crops present. One inspection shall be made before harvest and sale as Certified (most inspections are in the spring season).
- A. After stand establishment and prior to inspection, a field must be rogued and/or sprayed with the herbicides sufficiently during the growing season to remove other varieties, perennial weeds, and objectionable/noxious weeds.
 - B. Inspector will mark areas of turf that do not meet certification standards with wired plastic flags, or attach a map with Field Inspection Report.
- IV. Field Standards**
- A. General requirements
 - 1. Unit of certification
A field or portion of a field may be certified. Acreage of each field will be reported to NCCIA upon application for field inspection. If a portion of a field does not meet the field standards during inspection, the map of the field will clearly indicate the portions of the field with acreage estimates for each portion.
 - 2. Isolation

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

B. Specific requirements (maximum permitted)

Factor	Plants / acre	%[†]
Other Varieties ¹	10 (.0002)	0.00001 (.02%)
Other Crops ²		
Annual Ryegrass	435 (.01)	0.0007 (1%)
Orchardgrass	871 (.02)	0.0014 (2%)
All others	871 (.02)	0.0014 (2%)
Noxious Weeds	none	none
Objectionable Weeds ³	435(.01)	0.0007(1%)

¹ Other varieties shall consist of all other varieties of the kind being produced.

² Other crops shall consist of all other kinds and varieties of perennial grasses.

³ Such as, but not restricted to, White Clover, Wild Onions and /or Wild Garlic, Dandelion, Chickweed, Henbit, Annual Hop Clover.

[†] Based on an average of 220,000 seeds/lb. of tall fescue, 8 lbs./1000 sq. ft. seeding rate, and 80% germination rate. This equals 61,332,480 plants/acre.

Tolerances: (Plants/Acre) / 43,560sqft = () x by 100 = ()%

If factor is found in excess of standards and area flagged by inspector; rouging and/or eradication by spot spraying will be permitted to bring turf within standards.

V. Turf Standards of Sod

A. No noxious weeds are permitted.

B. An official certificate or tag will accompany each shipment of certified sod.

C. A complete record on the amount of certified turf sales will be maintained and made available to North Carolina Crop Improvement Association. The record will include class, kind and variety, field number, date of shipment, and amount of turf shipped (square feet).