

Specific Certification Standards NCCIA Noxious Weed Free Gravel and Soil

I. General Certification Standards as Applied to Weed Free Forage and Mulch

These certification standards comply with the North American Weed Free Gravel Minimum Certification Standards developed by the Weed Free Forage and Gravel Committee of the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA).

II. Definitions

Area of Origin

Where material is stored

Borrow/ Fill Pit

Is a location where the soil or other natural deposits on or in the earth are removed from their location to make them suitable for use elsewhere.

Area shall include, but not be limited to, surrounding ditches, top soil piles, gravel/sand, fencerows, roads, easement, rights-of way, working areas, storage areas, and a buffer zone surrounding the area. All areas included in the permit.

Gravel

Small stones or pebbles, or a mixture of these with sand

Material

Is gravel and borrow

Noxious Weeds

Those plant species, including any weed seed or propagative plant parts, designated by the North American Weed Free Forage Committee in **Appendix A** and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Propagules

Any part of a plant capable of enabling it to reproduce (may include seeds, roots, and/or stolons).

Soil

The natural medium for the growth of land plants on the surface of the earth, composed of organic and mineral materials.

III. Field and Storage Site Inspection Standards

- a) Gravel borrow/fill pit and storage sites must be inspected annually by NCCIA weed free certification specialist to be eligible for certification
- b) Gravel borrow/fill pit and storage sites must be free of those noxious weeds and undesirable plant species identified in **Appendix A**.
- c) Gravel must be inspected in the area of origin. The borrow/fill pit inspection must include surrounding ditches, fencerows, roads, easements, grass waterways, or a buffer zone surrounding the field. Applicants must supply maps to field and storage sites.
- d) The borrow/fill pit and storage sites must be inspected prior to movement.
- e) When opening a new gravel pit or expanding an existing gravel pit with weeds present, topsoil and material should be removed and stockpiled appropriately. Do not move infested material off property or place in vehicle traffic areas. An additional pit inspection is required if the original pit inspection did not encompass the area of expansion.

- f) Borrow/fill pit and storage sites containing weeds found in **Appendix A** may be certified if the following requirements are met:
 - i. Noxious weeds are treated to prevent seed formation or seed ripening to the degree that there is no danger of dissemination of the seed or other propagules capable of producing a new plant
 - ii. The noxious weeds are treated no later than the rosette to bud stage (boot stage for grass species) prior to cutting or harvesting
 - iii. The treatment methods can include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Burning
 - 2. Mowing
 - 3. Rogueing
 - 4. Chemical
- g) Borrow/fill pit or storage areas may be rejected if they contain excessive weeds not listed in **Appendix A**.
- h) If noxious weeds have not been treated and are present in areas adjacent to the borrow/fill pit (or portion of), an isolation/buffer strip, 6' minimum, must be established between the borrow/fill pit and the infested area sufficient to prevent natural movement of weed propagules to the pit.
- i) Field Inspection Reports will be issued by NCCIA indicating that the above requirements have been met based upon the pit inspection.
- j) Products passing field inspection shall be eligible for receive a Transit Certificate for a fee.

IV. Maintaining Identity of the Gravel/Soil

The applicant must keep accurate record of the amount of Gravel/Soil processed from each Borrow/Fill Pit including storage sites. The following records must be maintained and must be made available upon request by NCCIA.

- a) The number and average weight of material sold
- b) Exact location of storage
- c) Date of material sold
- d) Borrow/ Fill Pit location (GPS of site centroid) or Site ID #
- e) Copies of certification document
- f) Total material shipped

V. Total Production

- a) A copy of total material shipped must be provided to NCCIA annually

VI. Annual Certification Markings and Labeling

The following are accepted labeling practices:

- a) Weed Free Product Certificates, available from NCCIA
- b) Transit Certificate, available from NCCIA and are required for out of state shipments.

Appendix A: North American Designated Noxious Weed and North Carolina Noxious and Undesirable Weeds

Absinth wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)
 Austrian fieldcress (*Rorippa austriaca*)
 Black henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
 Buffalobur (*Solanum rostratum*)
 Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
 Common burdock (*Arctium minus*)
 Common crupina (*Crupina vulgaris*)
 Common mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*)
 Common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
 Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*)
 Cutleaf teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*)
 Dame's rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)
 Dalmatian toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica*)
 Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
 Dyers woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)
 Field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
 Field scabious (*Knautia arvensis*)
 Hoary Alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)
 Hoary cress (*Cardaria spp.*)
 Horsenettle (*Solanum carolinense*)
 Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
 Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*)
 Jointed goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrica*)
 Leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
 Meadow knapweed (*Centaurea pratensis*)
 Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caputmedusae*)
 Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
 Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)
 Oxeye daisy (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)
 Perennial pepperweed (*Lepidium latifolium*)
 Perennial sowthistle (*Sonchus arvensis*)
 Plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*)
 Poison hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)
 Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
 Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
 Quackgrass (*Agropyron repens*)
 Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
 Russian knapweed (*Centaurea repens*)
 Scentless chamomile (*Matricaria perforata* or *M. milaceum*)
 Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
 Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)
 Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)
 Squarrose knapweed (*Centaurea virgata*)
 St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
 Sulfur cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)
 Tall buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)
 Tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)
 Vipers Bugloss/Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*)

Wild oats (*Avena fatua*)
 Wild proso millet (*Panicum miliaceum*)
 Yellow hawkweed (*Hieracium pratense*)
 Yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*)
 Yellow toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

Additional weeds designated as Prohibited noxious in North Carolina:

Balloon vine (*Cardiospermum halicacabum* L.)
 Crotalaria (*Crotalaria spectabilis*)
 Itchgrass (*Rottboellia cochinchinensis*)
 Jimsonweed (*Datura stamonium* L.)
 Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*)
 Serrated Tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)
 Witchweed (*Striga spp.*)
 Bushkiller (*Cayratia japonica*)
 Yellow Fieldcress (*Rorippa sylvestris* L.)
 Lythrum (all spp.)
 Mile-a-minute (*Persicaria perfoliata* L.)
 Puncturevine (*Tribulusterrestris* L.)
 Beach Vitex (*Vitex rotundifolia*)
 Uruguay Waterprimrose (*Ludwigia hexapetala*)
 Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

Additional weeds designated as

Undesirable by NC Crop Improvement Association :

Dodder (*Cuscuta spp.*)
 Bermudagrass* (*Cynodon dactylon*)
 Wild mustard (*Brassica kaber* var. *pinnatifida*)
 Wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*)
 Wild onion (*Allium cacdense*)
 Wild garlic (*Allium vneale*)
 Kudzu (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)
 Hemp (*Cannabis sativa*)
 Palmer amaranth (*Amaranthus palmeri*)
 Mary's Grass (*Microstegium vimineum* var. *imberbe*)
 Curly Dock (*Rumex crispus*)

*Bermudagrass permitted in the case of Bermudagrass forage