

CHICKPEA STANDARDS

(As of November 2018)

The General Seed Certification Standards, as adopted by the Montana Seed Growers Association, are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute standards for certification of chickpea (*Cicer arietinum*) seed.

Applications for Certification of chickpeas are due May 25.

I. Land Requirements

A crop of the same kind must not have been grown or planted on the land for 3 years for the foundation class and, 3 years for the registered and 2 years for the certified classes prior to stand establishment unless the previous crop was under certification of the same variety and class.

II. Field Standards - General

The unit of certification shall be a field, or a portion of a field separated from the remainder by a definite boundary not in chickpeas at least 10 feet wide.

III. Field Standards - Specific

Factor	Ratio of Plants - Maximum Permitted		
	Fdn	Reg	Cert
Other Varieties	None ¹	1:10,000	2:10,000
Other Crops (inseparable)	None ¹	1:2,000	1:1,000

¹ "None" means none found during the normal inspection procedures.

"None" is not a guarantee to mean the field inspected is free from this factor.

IV. Field Inspection

Seed fields must be inspected once prior to harvest, preferably at flowering time when varietal purity can best be determined. For this reason, Applications for Certification of chickpeas are due May 25.

V. Preparation of Seed for Final Certification

A. Cleaning

1. Clean all seed at an approved plant authorized by the MSGA. A list of authorized cleaning plants is available through the MSGA office or website www.mtseedgrowers.org.
2. Seed delivered to the cleaning plant by grower must be identified by variety and certification number. A copy of the grower's Application for Certification or field inspection form will suffice.

B. Seed Sample for Grade Determination

1. Extra care should be taken to prepare chickpea seed samples for mailing. Seeds should be packaged in a box with adequate cushion to avoid breakage for the seed while in transit.
2. Submit a clean, three pound seed sample bearing positive identification to the Montana Seed Growers Association office for "Certified Grade Determination".
3. Use official MSGA seed sample bags obtained by calling the MSGA office.
4. If multiple lots from the same fields are harvested and cleaned separately, a sample for purity and germination must be submitted for each clean lot.

- C. Label orders should be noted on the "Conditioner's Report". Labels will be issued upon receipt of production fees or at the discretion of MSGA.

VI. Seed Standards

Factor	Fdn %	Reg %	Cert %
Pure Seed	98.00	98.00	98.00
Inert Matter	2.00	2.00	2.00
Other Varieties	0.05	0.10	0.20
Other Crop Seed	None	0.05	0.20
Weed Seed	None	None	0.10
Noxious Weeds ²	None	None	None
Germination	85.00	85.00	85.00

¹ "None" means none found in the sample submitted.

"None" is not a guarantee to mean the lot inspected is free of the factor.

² None of the noxious weeds listed in the General Standards, whether prohibited or restricted.

Note: Seed labelers of Chickpeas must have an Ascochyta disease test on a sample from the seed lot before final certification. Test results must be included on the tag or bulk seed certificate. MSGA strongly recommends the use of seed treatments on all lots of chickpeas.