

BLACK MEDIC STANDARDS

(As of February 2017)

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 Black Medic (*Medicago lupulina*).

I. Land Requirements

- A. A crop of the same kind must not have been grown or planted on the land for five years prior to stand establishment for producing the Foundation, Registered and Certified seed classes, respectively.
- B. The land must be free of volunteer plants of Black Medic during the year immediately prior to establishment; and no manure or other contaminating material shall be applied the year prior to seeding or during the establishment and productive life of the stand.

II. Isolation

Certified seed fields must maintain the following minimum isolation distances from fields of any other variety or fields of the same variety not meeting genetic purity requirements for certification.

Class	Fields of <5 acres	Fields of >5 acres
--- Isolation in feet* ---		
Foundation	900	600
Registered	450	300
Certified	330	165

* The isolation distance between classes of the same variety may be reduced to 10 feet, regardless of class or size of field.

III. Field Standards - General

Fields of all classes of certified seed may produce three successive seed crops immediately following establishment.

IV. Field Standards - Specific

Factor	Ratio of Plants - Maximum Permitted		
	Fdn	Reg	Cert
Other varieties and off-types	1:1000	1:400	1:100
Other crop legumes	None	2/acre	5/acre

V. Field Inspection

It is the grower's responsibility to ensure that crops have been inspected prior to harvest. Crops cut, swathed or harvested prior to being field inspected are not eligible for certification.

VI. 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. Submit a cleaned, ½ pound seed sample labeled with grower name, cleaning plant name, certification number, and lot number to the Montana Seed Growers Association office for "Certified Grade Determination".
 2. Use official MSGA seed sample bags, obtained by calling the MSGA office.
 3. 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.

VII. Seed Standards

Factor		Fdn %	Reg %	Cert %
Pure Seed	min.	98.00	98.00	99.00
Inert Matter**	max.	2.00	2.00	2.00
Weed Seed	max.	0.10	0.10	0.20
Noxious Weed Seed ^{1/}				
Prohibited	max.	None*	None*	None*
Restricted ^{1/}	max.	None*	9/lb**	18/lb**
Total Other Crop Seed	max.	0.10	0.25	1.00
Other Varieties	max.	0.10	0.25	1.00
Other Kinds	max.	0.00	0.00	0.10
Sweetclover Seed		9/lb	45/lb	90/lb
Total Germination	min.	80.00	80.00	80.00
Germination plus Hard/Dormant Seed		N.S.	75.00	75.00

^{1/} Curly Dock and Buckhorn plantain only (see General Standards for noxious weed seed list).

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

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

** Singly or combined.