Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 201.71 Establishing the source of all classes of certified seed.

The certifying agency shall have evidence of the class and source of seed used to plant each crop being considered for certification.

[38 FR 25662, Sept. 14, 1973]

§ 201.72 Production of all classes of certified seed.

(a) Each certifying agency shall determine that genetic purity and identity are maintained at all stages of certification including seeding, harvesting, processing, and labeling of the seed.

(b) The unit of certification shall be a clearly defined field or fields.

(c) One or more field inspections shall be made (1) previous to the time a seed crop of any class of certified seed is to be harvested, and (2) when genetic purity and identity can best be determined. The field shall be in suitable condition to permit an adequate inspection to determine genetic purity and identity.

(d) A certification sample shall be drawn in a manner approved by the certifying agency from each cleaned lot of seed eligible for certification. Evidence that any lot of seed has not been protected from contamination which might affect genetic purity, or is not properly identified, shall be cause for possible rejection of certification.

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§ 201.73 Processors and processing of all classes of certified seed.

The following requirements must be met by processors of all classes of certified seed:

(a) Facilities shall be available to perform processing without introducing admixtures.

(b) Identity of the seed must be maintained at all times.

(c) Records of all operations relating to certification shall be complete and adequate to account for all incoming seed and final disposition of seed.

(d) Processors shall permit inspection by the certifying agency of all records pertaining to all classes of certified seed.

(e) Processors shall designate an individual who shall be responsible to the certifying agency for performing such duties as may be required by the certifying agency.

(f) Seed lots of the same variety and class may be blended and the class retained. If lots of different classes are blended, the lowest class shall be applied to the resultant blend. Such blending can only be done when authorized by the certifying agency.

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§ 201.74 Labeling of all classes of certified seed.

(a) All classes of certified seed when offered for sale shall have an official certification label affixed to each container clearly identifying the certifying agency, the lot number or other identification, the variety name (if certified as to variety), and the kind and class of seed.

(b) In the case of seed sold in bulk, the invoice or accompanying document shall identify the certifying agency, the crop kind, variety (if certified as to variety), class of seed, and the lot number or other identification.

(c) The official certification label may be printed directly on the container when an accounting of the containers is required by the certifying agency. The seed lot number or other identification number, the kind, and variety name (if certified to variety) shall appear on the official label and/or directly on the container in a position to be viewed in conjunction with the official certification label.

(d) Labels other than those printed on the containers shall be attached to containers in a manner that prevents removal and reattachment without tampering being obvious.