

SEED CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR UPLAND COTTON (1988)

I. Application and Amplification of General Certification Standards

The General Seed Certification Standards, as adopted by the association, are basic and together with the following specific standards constitute the standards for certification of cotton.

II. Land Requirements (Rules covering land prior to planting)

- A. There are no requirements as to previous crops.
- B. Land to be used for the production of certified seed must be free from volunteer cotton plants.

III. Field Inspections

At least one official inspection of each field must be made after the bolls have formed, but prior to harvest.

IV. Field Standards

A. General

1. Unit of Certification

There shall be only one variety of cotton per farm, and the unit of certification shall be a field, but a portion of a field may be approved for certification provided the remainder is harvested separately and the seed eliminated for certification.

2. Isolation

A field must be located at least 1500 feet from any other variety for the production of foundation; 100 feet for registered and 25 feet for certified except minimum isolation shall be 500 yards if the contaminating source differs by easily observed morphological characteristics from the field to be inspected.

B. Specific Requirements

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Maximum permitted in each class</u>		
	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
* Other Varieties (including off-type plants)	None	1 plant / A	5 plants/A
**Noxious Weeds (inseparable)	None	None	None
***Diseases	-----	-----	-----

- * Other varieties shall be considered to include plants that can be differentiated from the variety that is being inspected.
- ** Precautions should be taken to avoid the possibility of gathering noxious weed seeds with cotton when the crop is harvested mechanically.
- *** No standards are established at this time where dashes occur in the table.

V. Harvesting and Hauling

- A. Machines used for harvesting certified cotton must be thoroughly cleaned of all seed cotton prior to use. This applies to individually owned and custom operated harvesters.
- B. All vehicles used to transport cotton to gins must be free from other cotton seed.
- C. Spot inspections of harvesters and hauling vehicles to be made by official GCIA Inspector.

VI. Ginning and Conditioning

- A. Ginning
 - 1. One variety communities shall certify only one variety. If the community changes varieties, two varieties may be certified during the one-year change-over, provided this community has been a one variety gin community for a period of not less than five years. Gin days shall be set for each variety as agreed by the association and the ginner.
 - 2. All producers of certified cotton seed must gin their cotton in a gin inspected and approved by a GCIA Inspector. For approval the gin must be free of all seed.
- B. Conditioning

All plants conditioning certified seed must have the prior approval of the association. In plants handling more than one variety, procedures to prevent mechanical mixtures of varieties also must be approved by the Association.

VII. **Seed Standards**

<u>Factor</u>	<u>Foundation</u>	<u>Standards for each class</u>	
		<u>Registered</u>	<u>Certified</u>
Pure Seed (Min.)	98%	98%	98%
Inert Matter (Max.)	2%	2%	2%
Other Crops (Max.)	None	None	None
Other Varieties (Max.)	.03%	.05%	.10%
*Noxious Weed Seed	None	None	None
Weed Seeds	None	None	None
Germination (Min.)	70%	70%	70%

*See General Standards for list of noxious weeds.

INSTRUCTIONS & PROCEDURES

1. **Seed Handling**

- a. Prior approval of the certifying agency must be obtained on the applicant's facilities for ginning, storing and handling certified seed.
- b. Seed must be harvested, ginned, stored and conditioned in such a manner as to prevent mixture. Precautions must be taken to maintain identity of each lot of seed.
- c. Size of lot – maximum 500 bags or 12 ½ tons of machine delinted or 12 ½ tons of acid delinted seed.