

Kentucky Seed Certification Standards

TURFGRASS SOD

I. Application of Genetic Certification Standards

A. The General Seed Certification Standards as adopted are basic and, together with the following specific standards, constitute the standards for certification of turf grass sod.

B. The Genetic Standards are modified as follows:

Classes of Seed:

1. Foundation sod shall be the vegetative increase of breeder sod or seed.
2. Registered sod shall be the vegetative increase of foundation sod or seed.
3. Certified sod shall be the vegetative increase of foundation, registered, or certified sod or seed. Additional planting stock requirements for varieties of Kentucky bluegrass, Red fescue, Chewings fescue, Tall fescue, and Zoysia are included in Section IV/B.

II. Land Requirements

A. A field to be eligible for the production of foundation or registered sod must have been inspected 2 times and found free of all other perennial grass species and varieties for one year preceding the time of planting.

B. A field to be eligible for the production of certified sod must have been inspected prior to planting and found free of all other perennial grasses.

C. A field to be eligible for the production of foundation, registered, or certified sod may be thoroughly treated with a recommended soil fumigant and left undisturbed for 3 weeks, at which time an official inspection shall be made to determine if the land is free of perennial grasses. Soil conditions should be favorable for seed germination and active plant growth during this period.

D. No animal manures or other material potentially containing seeds shall be applied on sold to be entered for certification.

III. Field Standards

A. General

B. **Isolation** – A field to be eligible for certification of sod must lie isolated from any other perennial grass by a barrier that will prevent encroachment or mechanical mixing during harvesting.

IV. Sod Standards

The sod must be of uniform density, color and texture.

Maximum Permitted in 1000 Square Feet

	Foundation	Registered	Certified
Noxious Weeds	None	None	None
Objectionable Weeds *	---	---	---
Other Varieties	None	None	None

* Kind and amount to be designated by the certifying agency

V. Planting Stock Standards

The seed standards for sod quality grass seed of Kentucky bluegrass, Red fescue, Chewings fescue, Tall fescue, and Zoysia shall be:

Variety	Minimum Purity	Minimum Germ	Maximum Other Crop	Maximum Weed ***
Marion KY bluegrass	96.00%	80.00%	0.10% **	0.02%
Other Varieties KY bluegrass	97.00%	80.00%	0.10% **	0.02%
Red fescue	98.00%	90.00%	0.10%	0.02%
Chewings fescue	98.00%	90.00%	0.10%	0.02%
Tall fescue	98.50%	80.00%	0.10% ****	0.02%
Zoysia	To Be Added			

* Must be free of ryegrass, orchardgrass, (see exception for Tall fescue), timothy, bentgrass, Big bluegrass, Poa trivialis, Smooth bromegrass, Reed canarygrass, bermudagrass and clover. Canada bluegrass in Kentucky bluegrass varieties = maximum .02%. Red fescue and Chewings fescue must be free of Canada bluegrass.

** Other Kentucky bluegrass = maximum 2.0 %

*** Must be free of dock, chickweed, crabgrass, plantain, Black medic, Annual bluegrass, velvetgrass and noxious weed seeds

**** Orchardgrass seed in Tall fescue seed shall not exceed 20 per pound based on analysis of 50 gram sample.

A sod seed analysis based on a 25 gram sample for noxious, all weed and all crop seed, on a 10 gram Poa annua check shall be the basis of determining seed standards.