

# WSCIA Q A Program

Ensuring the best in quality from  
your seed





## Purpose

- Washington State Crop Improvement Association, Inc. adopts rules to establish standards for a Quality Assurance Program in Washington State in order to maintain and make available sources of quality seeds of plant varieties so grown and distributed as to ensure genetic purity.



# Varieties Eligible & How to Enroll

- Varieties Eligible
  - Varieties Submitted to WSCIA
  - Current list will be kept
  - Must be a distinguishable variety
  - Statement of origin
  - Description of characteristics
  - Evidence of performance
  - Region of adaptation
  - Procedure of seed stock maintenance
- How to Enroll
  - Application at WSCIA office
  - Application for each crop, variety, field
  - Applicant pays fees at time of application
  - **Applicant must attach seed stock verification**
  - Follows same guidelines as certification process



## Grower Responsibilities

- Maintain purity and identity of seed harvested
- Prevent seed crop and lot mixture
- ID seed crop as it is delivered to processor
- Comply with QA seed standards and procedures
- Harvest seed only after it has been inspected by WSCIA



# Land History

- Requirements are established in specific crop standards
  - Peas 1 year min - 3 ft isolation
  - Lentils 3 year min -25 ft isolation
  - Garbanzo 2 year min - 25 ft isolation



# When is a field inspected

- A seedling inspection is done at the most appropriate time after planting
- Field inspections are made at a time when factors QA Program acceptance are most evident
- The unit of inspection is the entire field standing at the time of inspection. A portion of a field may be entered in program if it is clearly defined





# Causes for rejection & Withdrawal

- Defoliation or Harvest before inspection
- Presence of prohibited noxious weed or excessive objectionable weeds not prevented from producing seed
- If a field is rejected for the QA Program the grower may reapply after the cause of rejection is corrected
- An applicant applying for inspection by the QA Program may withdraw a field from inspection by notifying the agency before the field is inspected



# Identification of seed containers with field and/or lot numbers



- Field number must be on all seed containers or bulk seed deliver documents to ensure identity when delivered to the seed conditioner
- All seed for the QA Program must be packaged in clean, new containers of uniform weight and identified with a lot number when tagged. The lot number must identify the producer and year of production for each lot of seed.





# Completion of QA Program – When may seed be labeled

- QA seed tag label or seal is evidence of genetic purity of the contents must be attached to a container
- QA Program tags, labels, and seals must be obtained from WSCIA
- QA Program seed is valid only if tag, label, seal is affixed to each container in accordance with the AOSCA procedures as show in WAC 16-301-010
- QA Program seed sale certificate will be issued upon completion of final acceptance into the QA Program for all seed to be sold in bulk. This certificate must accompany any shipment or transfers including those to other seed plants and out of state shipments.
- Seed that fails to meet QA Program standards on factors other than genetic purity may be designated substandard

# Who may condition seed in Washington State

- A seed conditioning facility must be inspected and approved by the WSDA prior to conditioning seed in the State of Washington
- Facility must show ability to prevent mixture of lots of seed
- Equipment must be easily accessible and inspect between lots
- Screenings are to be disposed of in accordance with chapter 15.49 RCW
- Seed must be sampled in accordance with WAC 16-302-95, 16-302-090, 16-302-91

## Miscellaneous field and seed inspection standards for Peas, Lentils, & Chick peas

- Field Peas & Chickpea will be inspected at full bloom (unless ascochyta blight is found)
- Lentils will be inspected at full bloom and maturity.
- Any practice which permits or caused contamination of seed crop is cause for rejection
- Prohibited and Objectionable weed must be prevented from producing seed
- Field run lots of same varieties may be co-mingled
- Germination min. refers to germination when sampled
- Official lab providing seed analysis for QA Program is the WSDA Seed Laboratory



# Field Standards

- Field Pea Standards

- 1 year land history
- 3 ft. minimum unless same crop
- 20 off type plants per acre unless described

- Lentil Standards

- 3 year land history
- 25 ft. minimum unless same crop
- 20 off type plants per acre unless described



# Field Standards

(continued)

- Chickpeas field standards
  - 2 years land history
  - 25 ft isolation unless same crop
  - 10 off type plants unless described
  - 10 plants Ascochyta Blight maximum





# Seed Standards

Based on maximum percentage

<u>Variety</u>	<u>Off-Type</u>	<u>Pure Seed</u>	<u>Inert</u>	<u>Other Crop</u>	<u>Weed</u>	<u>Germ</u>	<u>Obj. Weed</u>
Field Pea	0.03%	99.0%	1.00%	0.10%	0.05%	85%	2/lb.
Lentil	0.03%	99.0%	1.00%	0.10%	0.05%	85%	2/lb.
Chickpea		99.0%	1.00%	0.10%		85%	2/lb.



## Program Fees

- Application fee per variety \$22.97
- Field inspection fee per acre \$ 3.11
- Special field inspection fee/acre \$ 2.58
- Late application fee \$30.75
- Re-inspection fee \$43.10
  - Plus \$ 0.46/acre over 25 acre
- Final certification fee (tagging fee) \$ 0.15/cwt
- Sampling Fee \$ 0.105/cwt
- Additional fees WAC 16-303-25



# Program Costs

Fee	Expense	Totals (50 A)	Total @ 1,200/A	Total @ 1,500/A
Application Fee	22.97	22.97		
Field Insp. Fee	3.11	155.50		
Final Cert Fee	.15		90.00	112.50
Totals		188.47	278.47	300.97
Cost/Acre (50 A)			5.57	6.01
Cost/cwt			0.464	0.401