MINNESOTA CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

REQUIREMENTS—
99.0% NON-GMO CORN SEED PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the 99.0% Non-GMO Corn Seed Program is to provide independent, third-party verification to ensure seed lots are suitable to be used for non-GMO grain production. MCIA labels may be provided to identify qualified seed lots as 99.0% non-GMO seed.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment within the MCIA Corn Field Inspection Program is required. *Fields must be applied for and inspected under an MCIA seed program (Certification or Quality Assurance).* Field inspection is necessary for non-GMO corn seed to determine whether the seed is free of GMO seeds as well as to identify possible sources of contamination, which may include mixed seed stock, previous crop volunteers, field mixture of varieties and/or other crops, and inadequate isolation. Application for field inspection for each field and variety/brand is required. Applications are available from MCIA and must include:

1. Name of variety/brand.
2. Kind and variety/hybrid of previous crop.
3. Map indicating the location of each field.
4. Signature on application verifying that all handling, conveying, planting, and other equipment used for planting the seed have been adequately cleaned prior to use.

SEED SOURCE REQUIREMENTS

1. All seed must be from a known seed source.
    a. The applicant must provide proof of seed source, which may include one of the following: an invoice including variety/brand name and lot number, seed tag, or certification documentation.
    b. For purchased seed, declaration by the seed supplier of the non-GMO status for each seed lot is recommended, but not required.
2. It is recommended, but not required, to have a non-GMO seed test confirming the status of the seed lot meets or exceeds the 99.0% standard.
    a. A sample of each seed lot planted should be kept. If requested, this sample may be tested to verify any presence of GMO. MCIA will approve GMO testing methods.
3. A variety description including phenotypic characteristics of the variety/brand must be provided.

LAND REQUIREMENTS

Corn shall not be planted on land that has grown corn of another color or endosperm type unless the previous crop was the same variety/brand.

FIELD REQUIREMENTS

1. Isolation
    a. During the growing season, refer to the isolation requirements within the Certification Standards for Hybrid Corn Seed.
    b. At the time of harvest, a distance adequate to prevent mechanical mixture shall separate fields from any uninspected, non-qualifying corn fields and any other GMO seed-producing crop.
2. Sample size—a minimum of 100 plants to be counted in each of 10 sample areas.
3. Other varieties (offtypes)—shall not exceed 0.1%.
4. Field inspections—fields will be inspected at least 3 times during the 5% to 95% receptive silk timeframe in order to determine isolation distances are sufficient and to determine varietal purity.
    a. Portions of a field not meeting standards will be rejected and cannot be labeled as seed.

SEED CONDITIONING AND SAMPLING

1. Seed must be conditioned at an MCIA-approved seed conditioning facility.
2. MCIA or approved personnel from an MCIA-approved seed conditioning facility shall obtain representative samples of each lot.
3. Lot size and sample size will be based on amount of product available, container, bin, or transportation size.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

1. The MCIA Seed Laboratory must be used for germination and purity analysis testing, including other crop contaminants.
2. MCIA will approve GMO testing methods. These approved tests must be used on the final sample for each seed lot.

SEED STANDARDS *(maximum allowed)*

	Foundation	Certified or Quality Assurance
Other Crop	None	None
Other Varieties	None	0.5%
GMO Contamination	1.0%	1.0%

****Note: total of GMO contamination and other varieties may not exceed 1.0%.*

LABELING

1. Seed meeting standards may be identified with MCIA labels as 99.0% non-GMO corn seed.
2. Contact agency for labeling options.