

REQUIREMENTS— 99.0% NON-GMO CORN SEED PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this 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 a 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 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/hybrid 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/hybrid name and lot number, seed tag, or Certification tag (if applying for Foundation, Registered, or Certified seed class).
 - b. For purchased seed, declaration by the seed supplier of the non-GMO status for each seed lot is recommended, but not required.
2. A non-GMO seed test confirming the status of the seed lot meets or exceeds the 99.0% standard is recommended, but not required.
 - 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/hybrid must be provided.

LAND REQUIREMENTS

Corn shall be grown on land on which the previous crop was of another non-GMO crop. If planted to corn, the previous crop must be of a different color and endosperm type or planted with the same variety/hybrid.

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. 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 & 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. Refer to MCIA Seed Certification Handbook for the maximum lot size for bag, tote, and bulk seed lots.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS

1. MCIA Seed Lab must be used for germination and purity analysis testing.
2. MCIA will approve GMO testing methods to be used on the final sample for each seed lot.

FIELD STANDARDS *(maximum allowed)*

	Foundation	Certified or Quality Assurance
Other Crop	None	None
Other Varieties	None	0.50%

SEED STANDARDS

Factor	Foundation	Certified or Quality Assurance
Pure seed (minimum)	99.00%	99.00%
Inert matter (maximum) ¹	1.00%	1.00%
Weed seeds (maximum)	None	None
Other crop seeds (maximum)	None	None
Other varieties (maximum) ²	None	0.50%
Germination (minimum) ³	90%	90%
GMO contamination	1.0%	1.0%

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

¹ Inert matter is not a factor used to determine non-GMO status.

² Pertains to a mechanical (visual) purity test where kernels of different color or endosperm type will be weighed to determine the percentage.

³ Minimum germination for popcorn is 85%. Germination is not a factor used to determine non-GMO status.

LABELING

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