Strawberry-Plant Certification Plan

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Purpose

Strawberry-plant certification by the State College Extension Service is for the purpose of providing to the prospective purchaser a source of improved strawberry planting stock.

Under the terms of this statement improved strawberry planting stock is that stock which has been improved through selection or other practices to the extent that it is vigorous, is true to the variety name, and has a minimum of destructive strawberry pests.

There is a demand for a high-grade, vigorous planting stock for use by Oregon growers and for sale to out-of-state strawberry-plant markets. High-grade, vigorous planting stock free from disease is a requirement if high yields of quality fruit of the strawberry are to be expected.

Certification under this plan is not compulsory. It is offered as a means of protection to the grower of selected high-grade strawberry plants. It also provides assurance to the purchaser that the stock is selected strawberry planting stock.

Eligibility

Any Oregon grower, firm, or corporation agreeing to abide by the rules for strawberry-plant certification as herein provided is eligible for certification service; provided, however, that the right is reserved to return the fee and cancel the application of any grower, firm or corporation in an inaccessible district or in a location where the time and expense required to make the inspection would be excessive.

Fees will be returned and applications canceled if cultural conditions of any fields entered for certification are such that proper inspection is not possible, or if for other reasons certification of the field is found undesirable.

Acreage fee

Beginning with the year 1933, a minimum annual fee of $10.00 will be required of each grower for the first acre or less that is entered for certification, and $5.00 for each additional half acre or less.
One-half of the fee must accompany the application for certification and the remainder must be paid before the final certification.

Only entire fields will be accepted for certification.

Refunds

Refunds will be made when withdrawals are filed before inspections are made or expense is incurred by the Extension Service.

When fields are rejected on the first inspection all fees paid will be refunded except $5.00. Fees for fields rejected on the second inspection will be refunded above $7.50. The amounts retained will be used to meet expenses incident to the inspection service already performed.

Application

Applications should be made through the county agent in the county where the grower is located. Blanks may be obtained at the county agent’s office. If there is no county agent, apply to the Extension Service, Oregon State Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon. Application for inspection must be made by April 1 of each year.

Requirements for strawberry-plant certification

1. Only varieties of established merit will be accepted for certification.

2. Plantings for certification are to be made from selected or from certified stocks.

3. Fields entered for certification must be at least 300 feet from non-certified strawberry plantings.

4. Plantings are to be made on the hill system, and are to be given the best standard care and treatment.

5. All low-yielding, diseased, or abnormal plants are to be rogued out.

6. Insect pests are to be controlled by use of approved methods.

7. Fields showing more than five percent virus and other serious diseases at any field inspection will be rejected.

8. Inspections will be made during the blooming and fruiting period and again in the fall before any plants are dug.

9. If other than certified strawberry plantings are grown on farms where fields are entered for certification the runners of uninspected plants shall be cut off during the season for runner development; or such runner plants are to be left undisturbed until after sales have been made from certified fields.

10. Plants are to be placed in new, clean sacks or crates.

11. Only vigorous plants with well-developed roots will be tagged as certified improved stock.

12. Tagging of certified stock will be done by a representative of the Extension Service. Lots of less than 500 plants will not be tagged. Growers will be expected to group their orders so that tagging will not become a burdensome detail.

13. The responsibility of the certification service ends with the last field inspection. The grower must assume all responsibility attending the sale and distribution of the improved or certified strawberry planting stock which he produces.

14. The certification of strawberry planting stock as to improvement through selection as herein provided does not take the place of inspections required by the State Laws of Oregon.
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF STRAWBERRY PLANTS

Growers wishing certification of improved strawberry plants must fill out and sign this application blank.

I hereby apply for inspection of ______________ acres of strawberry plants for certification under the rules set forth for the production of improved strawberry planting stock.

Variety or varieties to be certified:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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The original planting stock used for the above fields was grown by

I enclose $_____________ entrance fee made payable to the Extension Service, Corvallis, Oregon. I agree to abide by the rules set forth for strawberry-plant certification.

I agree that the responsibility of the certification service shall end with the last field inspection made on my strawberry field which I have entered for certification. I furthermore agree to sign personally all certification tags which are placed on certified strawberry planting stock sold as such from my field or fields.

Grower's name____________________________ Address____________________________