



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

# Selling and Labeling Agricultural Seed for Farm Use



**Farm** is a place of agricultural production which has annual sales of agricultural products of \$1,000 or more (FAC 52262).

7/2023

**Agricultural Seed**: includes seed of domesticated grass or cereal, any plant grown as turf, cover crop, forage crop, fiber crop, or field crop, including mixtures of these seeds, but not including varieties generally known and sold as flower or vegetable seed (FAC 52254; 3 CCR § 3863 (a)).

**Label Requirements**: (FAC 52452)

- Clearly printed/written in English on a label/tag in a conspicuous location.
- Name and address of labeler (full address or city, state, zip code).
- Commonly accepted name of kind, kind and variety, or kind and type of seed, and percentage by weight.
- Lot number.
- Percentage by weight of all weed seed (not to exceed 1½ %), other agricultural seed, and inert matter.
  - If seed is coated, include percentage of coating material **exclusive** of inert matter percentage.
- Name and approximate number of restricted noxious weed seeds per pound.
- Germination percentage and test date for all named components.
  - Germination test date must not exceed 8 months at resale and 15 months at retail (FAC 52481).
  - Hermetically sealed containers must include the phrase “Seed has been preconditioned as to moisture content.” and “Container is hermetically sealed.” The phrase “Germination test valid until (month, year)” may be used. Test date must not exceed 18 months at resale and 36 months at retail. (FAC 52481, 3 CCR § 3864)
- Mediation notice (found in 3 CCR § 3915.1) (FAC 52456, 3 CCR § 3867).

If composed of multiple agricultural seed components (FAC 52452):

- The name is required for each component > 5% by weight; if the components, each present in an amount < 5% by weight, exceeds 10% by weight total, each component > 1% by weight shall be named together.
- Each named component’s letters shall be the same type and size; each named component shall have the percent by weight shown on the label.

If seed is treated with fungicides, pesticides, and/or other hazardous chemicals, it is considered **Treated Seed** and must include the following (FAC 52484):

- “TREATED SEED” and the signal word (WARNING, CAUTION, or DANGER) for the category of treatment material in all capital letters; if multiple substances are applied, the seed must be labeled for the substance with the highest level of toxicity.
- Chemical or generic name of all treatment materials.
- Appropriately worded statement as to the hazards to humans and animals.
- Appropriately worded statement of practical treatment, if present.

Single-component:

## Goldcap Sorghum

Lot # 8594

Purity: 94.5% Germ: 95% Test Date: 8/2/2022

Inert: 3.5% Other: 1.5% Weeds: 0.5%

Noxious weeds: none

**CAUTION: TREATED SEED** - Treated with Thiram.

Do not use for food, feed, or oil purposes. In case of contact, flush skin or eyes with water. For eye contact, seek medical attention. Harmful if swallowed or inhaled.



Notice arbitration/conciliation/mediation required by several states under the seed laws of several states, arbitration, mediation or conciliation is required as a prerequisite to maintaining a legal action based upon the failure of seed to which this notice is attached to produce as represented. The consumer shall file a complaint along with the required filing fee (where applicable) with the Designated State Authority within such time as to permit inspection of the crops, plants or trees by the designated agency and the seedman from whom the seed was purchased. A copy of the complaint shall be sent to the seller by certified or registered mail or as otherwise provided by state statute.

Invested Seed Co. - 1212 Twelfth Ave, Seedsville, CA 98765

Multiple-component:

## Winter Field Mix

<u>Component</u>	<u>Purity</u>	<u>Germ</u>	<u>Test Date</u>
Winter's Harvest Rye	32.00%	95%	06/2022
F-92 Wheat	34.50%	94%	05/2022
Blue Skies Triticale	32.60%	92%	06/2022

Weeds: 0.10% Other Crop: 0.10% Inert matter: 0.70%  
Noxious Weeds/lb: NONE Lot: 98-M-452

Great Green Seeds, LLC • Verdanton, CA 99999

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This information is taken from the California Seed Law, which contains excerpts from the California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) and the California Code of Regulations (CCR). As regulations can change, please refer to online sources for the most up-to-date information on regulations and laws concerning seed. The California Seed Law can be found on the CDFA Seed Services website.

Please review 3 CCR § 3899 for the list of regulated agricultural seed kinds.

### **Who must register with the CDFA?**

Any labeler or any person selling vegetable or agricultural seed in California must register annually (FAC 52351). Persons with an existing nursery license are exempt, unless they are labeling seed. Packets of seed of 4oz or less do not need to be included in assessment fees (FAC 52354 (b)). Refer to the CDFA's Seed Services Program web page for more information on registration and assessment, including fees and forms.

Labeler: any person whose name and address appears on the label pertaining to or attached to a lot or container of agricultural and/or vegetable seed for sale (FAC 52254.5).



#### **California Department of Food and Agriculture Plant Health Pest Prevention Services**

##### **Seed Services Program**

1220 N Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

916-403-6715

[seedservices@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:seedservices@cdfa.ca.gov)

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pe/nsc/seed/>

#### **Plant Pest Diagnostic Center Seed Science Laboratory**

<http://cdfa.ca.gov/plant/PPD/seed.html>

3294 Meadowview Rd, Suite 253

Sacramento, CA 95832

916-262-1100

