

Nevada Department of Agriculture
Nevada Noxious Weed Free Certification Program
405 South 21st Street
Sparks, NV 89431

Certification Requirements and Guidelines

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) follows the weed free standards established by the North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA). This document has been established to assist producers to meet those standards and requirements. These rules and guidelines shall direct the inspection, certification, and marking of noxious weed free forage, straw and earth materials to allow for the sale, use, and transportation of certified weed free products within and from Nevada.

I. Purpose

The NDA noxious weed free certification program is a voluntary program with the purpose to provide a means for the inspection, certification and marking of Nevada products as noxious weed free. The NDA is the certifying authority and may appoint, as needed, approved inspectors throughout the state who may issue certificates of inspection. Overall, this program is intended to reduce and prevent the exportation, importation, growth and spread of noxious weeds in Nevada and other western states.

II. Application for Certification

- A. Producers that wish to have their products certified as Nevada Noxious Weed Free must fill out an application for certification once a year before inspections are conducted and submit this application to the NDA.
- B. An Applicant's signature on the application for certification is verification of the accuracy of the information submitted, grants NDA access to property as necessary to carry out the terms of this program and agreement, and signifies the applicant's agreement to follow program guidelines and regional standards requirements.

III. Field Inspection Procedures

A. Forage Inspection Requirements

- i. After completing the application for certification and before harvest or cutting dates, producers shall contact the NDA Program Coordinator and request an inspection date.
- ii. Forage or straw shall be inspected within ten (10) days prior to harvest in the field of origin for each field and cutting to be certified.
- iii. Each field inspected shall be identified by the name of the owner and a field name or number. The certification inspection may be performed on an entire field or a portion of a field, if the portion is plainly marked and identified prior to inspection.

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- iv. Field inspections must take place prior to any operation that will limit the approved inspector's ability to properly inspect and certify the field. Fields that have been cut or harvested prior to inspection are ineligible for certification.
- v. There shall be a minimum of two (2) entry points per field.
- vi. There shall be a minimum of one (1) entry point per each ten acres.
- vii. Each point of entry shall be at least one hundred fifty (150) feet into the field and each additional 150 feet traveled constitutes another entry point. Travel shall be uninterrupted, proceeding through the field being inspected.
- viii. The entire border shall be physically inspected.
- ix. The field inspection will include all ditches, fence rows, roads, easements, rights of way or buffer zones surrounding the field.
- x. If any noxious or prohibited weeds are found they will be marked and noted. The producer will be notified for treatment or removal before harvest and is required to perform that treatment before harvest. Negligence of performing treatment on noxious or other prohibited weeds found is a violation of the Nevada Weed Free Certification Program Requirements.
- xi. Common or nuisance weeds not listed as noxious by the state of Nevada or prohibited by NAISMA may be noted on the certificate of inspection by the inspector.
- xii. An approved inspector may not inspect fields which the inspector or a close family member (closer than a first cousin) owns directly or through a closely held corporate entity.

B. Gravel Pit/Earth Materials Inspection Requirements

- i. After an application for certification has been received by the NDA from the producer/pit operator, the producer will be contacted by the NDA Program Coordinator or approved inspector to set inspection date.
- ii. Gravel pits may be inspected regularly throughout the season, as the inspector deems necessary, with a minimum of two (2) times during the growing season each year.
- iii. The gravel/borrow material must be inspected in the area of origin and area of storage.

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- iv. The gravel/borrow material shall be inspected prior to movement to new areas.
- v. Area inspected includes surrounding ditches, top soil piles, gravel/sand piles, fence rows, roads, easements, rights-of-way, working areas, storage areas, and a buffer zone surrounding the area.
- vi. The entire border of the pit shall be physically inspected.
- vii. The area around all equipment, crushers, and working areas must be inspected.
- viii. All noxious or prohibited weeds must be noted and marked. The operator will be required to perform mechanical or chemical treatments before any certification can be issued. Negligence of performing treatment on noxious or other prohibited weeds found is a violation of the Nevada Weed Free Certification Program requirements.
- ix. Common or nuisance weeds not listed as noxious by the state of Nevada or prohibited by NAISMA may be noted on the certificate of inspection by the inspector.
- x. An approved inspector may not inspect a gravel pit of which the inspector or a close family member (closer than a first cousin) owns directly or through a closely held corporate entity.

IV. Certification Standards

A. Forage certification requirements

- i. Forage shall be free of those noxious weeds or undesirable plant species identified in the NAISMA prohibited weed list and those weeds declared noxious in Nevada.
- ii. Forage which contains any noxious weeds, or other prohibited weeds, may be certified if the following requirements are met:
 - a) Field upon which the forage was produced was treated to prevent seed formation or seed ripening to the degree that there is no danger of dissemination of the seed, or any injurious portion thereof from such noxious weeds, or undesirable plant species, or the propagating parts of the plant are not capable of producing a new plant.

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- b) Noxious weed(s) or undesirable plant species was treated not later than rosette to bud stage, or boot stage for grass species prior to cutting or harvesting
- c) Treatment method can include but is not limited to: 1) burning, 2) mowing, cutting or rouging, 3) mechanical methods, or 4) chemicals.
- iii. After an inspection has been completed, if the field or commodity inspected is certified as Noxious Weed Free, the inspector shall issue a certificate of inspection for that harvest or cutting.
- iv. An inspection certificate shall document that the above requirements have been met based upon reasonable and prudent visual inspection. Field grading will be identified based on inspection results. Producers may provide a copy of the certificate of inspection to all customers to accompany the product.
- v. If the field or commodity failed to comply with certification standards the producer will not receive a certificate of inspection, but will receive a letter detailing reason for rejection of certification.
- vi. If the field or commodity inspected passed inspection and is certified the inspector may also issue a transit certificate.
- vii. Interstate shipment of forage shall be accompanied by an original transit certificate issued by proper officials or authority in the state of origin. Shipments into restricted areas not accompanied by the proper transit certificate may be rejected.
- viii. One strand of NAISMA approved certified weed free twine must be used on all bales certified weed free as a marker to signify certification.
- ix. Twine shall only be sold by approved NAISMA entities and state departments of agriculture. Producers are prohibited from selling or lending twine to any other producer.

B. Gravel Pit/Earth Material Certification Standards

- i. Gravel/borrow area shall be free of those noxious weeds or undesirable plant species identified in the NAISMA prohibited weed list and those weeds declared noxious within the state of origin.
- ii. Gravel/borrow area which contains any noxious weeds, or undesirable plant species, may be certified if the following requirements are met:

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- a) Area upon which the gravel/borrow material was mined was treated to prevent seed formation or seed ripening to the degree that there is no danger of dissemination of the seed, or any injurious portion thereof from such noxious weeds, or undesirable plant species, or the propagating parts of the plant are not capable of producing a new plant.
 - b) Noxious weed(s) or undesirable plant species was treated not later than rosette to bud stage, or boot stage for grass species.
 - c) Treatment method can include but is not limited to: 1) burning, 2) mowing, cutting or rouging, 3) mechanical methods, or 4) chemicals.
- iii. A certificate of inspection shall document that the above requirements have been met based upon a reasonable and prudent visual inspection. Certification grading will be identified based on inspection results. Producers may provide a copy of the certificate of inspection to all customers to accompany the product.
 - iv. If the pit or materials failed to comply with certification standards the producer will not receive a certificate of inspection, but will receive a letter detailing reason for rejection of certification.
 - v. If the pit or materials inspected passed inspection and is certified the inspector shall issue a transit certificate.
 - vi. Shipment of certified earth materials shall be accompanied by an original transit certificate issued by proper officials or authority in the state of origin. Shipments into restricted areas not accompanied by the proper transit certificate may be rejected.

V. Certification Grades

All products will be given an inspection and certification grading based on inspection.

A. Forage Certification Grading

- i. A Grading = MEETS requirements of the NAISMA certification standards. This forage may contain variable amounts of annual weeds and/or other weeds not listed as prohibited or noxious per NAISMA & Nevada state standards.
- ii. B Grading = MINIMUM requirements of the NAISMA certification standards are met. This forage contains variable amounts of prohibited or noxious weed species which were immature (no viable seed) when harvested or were treated to prevent seed formation. These plant parts, although not usually desirable in the forage product, are considered unable to begin new infestations.

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- iii. C Grading = FAILED to meet the minimum standards established by NAISMA.
- B. Gravel Certification Grading
- i. A Grading = EXCEEDS requirements of the NAISMA certification standards and contains only the specified gravel/borrow material with no non-native plants noted.
 - ii. B Grading = MEETS requirements of the NAISMA certification standards. This gravel/borrow materials contains variable amounts of annual weeds and/or other weeds not listed as prohibited or noxious per NAISMA & Nevada state standards.
 - iii. C Grading = MINIMUM requirements of the NAISMA certification standards are met. This gravel/borrow material contains variable amounts of prohibited or noxious weed species which were immature (no viable seed) when treated to prevent seed formation. These plant parts although not usually desirable in the gravel/borrow material, are considered unable to begin new infestations.
 - iv. D Grading = FAILED to meet the minimum standards established by NAISMA.

V. Post-Inspection and Post-Certification Requirements

- A. After a producer's commodity/product has been certified the forage producer shall:
- i. Perform all treatments/control measures as required by the inspector after inspection.
 - ii. Cut and/or harvest the certified fields within 10 days of inspection date.
 - iii. Take reasonable and prudent steps to protect the certified product from contamination. This may include separate storage, cleaning of equipment before and after harvest, maintaining regular treatments on all properties, ect.
 - iv. Attach bale tags, certified compressed bale binding material, or NAISMA twine to each bale of certified forage or straw intended for sale as noxious weed free forage or straw prior to the bales leaving the producers stack yard or storage area.
 - v. Report bale count and remaining twine amounts to NDA program coordinator after harvest and baling is complete. Failure to do this will make a producer ineligible for additional inspections/certifications for the following cuttings or harvests.
 - vi. Provide the shipper, trucker, transporter and/or customer with appropriate certificates.
- B. After a producer's materials have been certified the gravel pit or borrow materials operator shall:

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- i. Perform all treatments/control measures as required by the inspector after the inspection.
 - ii. Take reasonable and prudent steps to protect the certified product from contamination. This may include separate storage, cleaning of equipment before and after harvest, maintaining regular treatments on all properties, ect.
 - iii. Maintain a record of where materials are shipped and used from that certified pit.
 - iv. Provide the shipper, trucker, or transporter and/or customer with appropriate certificates.
- C. After certification, a producer may post signs or other forms of notification on the certified commodity indicating that the commodity is certified as noxious weed free. If a producer has not received another inspection or certification within one (1) year of the last inspection date all signs and/or other notifications must be removed.
- D. Producers that receive certification will be added to the NDA online producers list with name, contact information, image of pit or fields, and grading. This producers list is updated on an annual basis. If a producer has not received certifications in over one (1) year from last certification issue date that producer is removed from the NDA online producer list.

VI. Enforcement Measures and Failures to Comply

- A. Fields, harvested lots of forage or straw from certified fields, and/or gravel pit storage or mining areas may be checked at any time by an approved inspector.
- B. Using a transit certificate, certificate of inspection, and/or certification marking/twine for products that have not been certified shall constitute a violation of NAISMA Standards and NDA Noxious Weed Free Certification Program Requirements.
- C. An inspector's reasonable conclusion that forage, straw, and/or gravel pit earth materials that are not from a certified field or pit have been marked or sold as such, shall be a cause for immediate cancellation of certification and removal of all certificates and markings from that producer's possession.
- D. Any person who provides false information on an application for inspection or violates any of the requirements of the NDA Noxious Weed Free Certification Program, as provided in this document, may, upon order of the NDA program coordinator and NDA Director, be suspended for a period of up to two (2) years from participating in the Nevada Certified Weed Free Program.

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- E. If a person is suspended from participating in the Nevada Noxious Weed Free Certification Program all certificates and markings/twine will be removed from that person's possession.

VII. Nevada Noxious and NAISMA Prohibited Species Lists

A. Nevada Noxious Weed List

African rue	<i>Peganum harmala</i>
Austrian fieldcress	<i>Rorippa austriaca</i>
Swainsonpea	<i>Sphaerophysa salsula</i>
Black henbane	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>
Camelthorn	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>
Common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
Dalmatian toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>
Dyer's woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
Eurasian water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>
Giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
Goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
Crimson fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
Hydrilla	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
Iberian starthistle	<i>Centaurea iberica</i>
Common St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Malta starthistle	<i>Centaurea melitensis</i>
Mayweed chamomile	<i>Anthemis cotula</i>
Mediterranean sage	<i>Salvia aethiopsis</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria, L. virgatum & cultivars</i>
Purple starthistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>
Rush skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>
Sow thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>
Squarrose knapweed	<i>Centaurea virgata</i>
Sulfur cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
Syrian bean caper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Yellow starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>
Yellow toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>
Horsenettle	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>
Diffuse knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
Medusahead	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Russian knapweed	<i>Acroptilon repens</i>
African mustard	<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>
Scotch thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>
Silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>

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Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Hoary cress	<i>Cardaria draba</i>
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
Perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
Salt cedar (tamarisk)	<i>Tamarix spp.</i>
Spotted water hemlock	<i>Cicuta maculata</i>

B. NAISMA Prohibited Weeds List

Absinth wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>
Bermudagrass	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>
Buffalobur	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Common burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
Common tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
Dalmatian toadflax	<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>
Diffuse knapweed	<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>
Dyers woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>
Field bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Hemp (marijuana)	<i>Cannabis sativa</i>
Henbane, Black	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>
Hoary cress, (Whitetop)	<i>Lepidium draba</i>
Horsenettle	<i>Solanum carolinense</i>
Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>
Johnsongrass	<i>Sorghum halepense</i>
Jointed goatgrass	<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>
Leafy spurge	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
Matgrass	<i>Nardus stricta</i>
Meadow knapweed	<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>
Medusahead	<i>Taeniatherum caput-medusae</i>
Milium	<i>Milium vernale</i>
Musk thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Orange hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>
Oxeye daisy	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>
Perennial pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
Perennial sorghum	<i>Sorghum almum</i>
Perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Plumeless thistle	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>
Poison hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Puncturevine	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Quackgrass	<i>Agropyron repens</i>
Rush skeletonweed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>

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Russian knapweed	<i>Centaurea repens</i>
Scentless chamomile	<i>Matricaria perforata</i> or <i>M. milaceum</i>
Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Scotch thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>
Sericea Lespedeza	<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>
Silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
Skeletonleaf bursage	<i>Ambrosia tomentosa</i>
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>
Squarrose knapweed	<i>Centaurea virgata</i>
St. Johnswort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Sulfur cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla recta</i>
Syrian beancaper	<i>Zygophyllum fabago</i>
Tansy ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Toothed spurge	<i>Euphorbia dentata</i>
Wild oats	<i>Avena fatua</i>
Wild proso millet	<i>Panicum miliaceum</i>
Yellow hawkweed	<i>Hieracium pratense</i>
Yellow starthistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>
Yellow toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>