**Derogation Form for Non-Organic Seed**

*This form should be used for single varieties of non-organic seed (e.g. barley, oats), the non-organic constituents of organic grass and forage seed mixtures, and for non-organic seed potatoes.*

Section 2.5 of the SOPA standards states that ‘all crops sown or planted on land registered by the OF&G (Scotland) SOPA organic certification scheme must be produced from certified organic seed or vegetative propagating material, where it is currently available. Only untreated and uncoated seed may be used.’

**OF&G (Scotland) will need to know the reason for wanting to use non-organic seed of a single variety, including potatoes, *before* any purchase takes place. Failure to do so may lead to decertification of the crop. Where grass and forage seed mixtures containing 70% or more organic seed are to be sown, details of the seed within the mix must be submitted to OF&G (Scotland) *prior* to sowing as you require a derogation for the non-organic components up to a maximum of 30% (by weight).**

**Step 1**

Check the availability of the organic seeds by checking [www.organicxseeds.co.uk](http://www.organicxseeds.co.uk) database or contacting OF&G (Scotland) on 01939 291800.

**Step 2**

**For Single Seed Varieties**

If the variety you require is not available organically, and alternative varieties of the same crop are not suitable, OF&G (Scotland) will consider your request to use non-organic seed. Justification for this must be provided by completion of this form with the selection of one of the following categories:

1. No varieties of the species which I want to use are registered in the UK organic seed database
2. The seed supplier is unable to deliver the seed or seed potatoes before sowing or planting despite ordering the seed in reasonable time
3. The variety which I want to use is not registered in the database and I can demonstrate that none of the registered organic alternatives available of the same species are appropriate for my production *(you will need to provide an explanation as to why the alternative organic varieties are not appropriate either in the space provide on this form or supply additional supporting documentation)*
4. For research purposes:

d.i) to test in small-scale field trials

d.ii) for variety conservation purposes

1. The seed is part of a grass or forage mix containing at least 70% organic seed
2. Seed for seed production only, proof of registration will usually be requested

**Seed Mixes**

The derogation allowance for grass & forage seed mixtures currently is 30% (by weight) non-organic seed varieties, with a minimum of 70% (by weight) of organic seed varieties. A derogation approval for the 30% non-organic grass/clover/forage crop varieties can be applied for after purchase, but must be applied for **prior to** sowing. The 30% derogation allowance applies also to forage mixtures grown as unharvested mixtures. An unharvested mixture contains species from two or more of the following different groups that is not intended for combine harvesting: cereals, pulses, herbage species, brassicas and others. **For all mixtures please detail both the organic and non-organic constituents and quantities of each on this form**.

**Potatoes**

Seed potatoes must be sourced organically. Approval for non-organic varieties may be given in exceptional circumstances. Please contact OF&G (Scotland) to discuss the requirements for this.

***This form should be used for single varieties of seed, grass and forage seed mixtures, and for seed potatoes. Please complete this form accurately as incomplete forms cannot be processed.***

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| **Producer’s name & address** | | **SOPA no.** | **Supplier used** | | |
| **Crop / Grass Mixture** | **Variety** (include non-organic components of grass mixture) | **Total Quantity**  (kg/seeds) | **Organic/Non-Organic**  (mixes only) | **Proposed Sowing Date** | **Area Planted**  (ha or m2) |
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| ***Please select the appropriate justification category. The explanations of these categories can be found on the reverse side of this form.***  **a)**  **b)  c)  d)  d.i)  d.ii)  e)  f)** | **A written explanation is required for justification c)** |

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| --- | --- |
| **Official Use**  **Approved / not approved by:** | **Date:** |
| **Reasons/conditions:** | |

Email:[**certification@sopa.org.uk**](mailto:certification@sopa.org.uk)Fax: **01939 291250**

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