



Seed certification: notes on how to complete form CERT 4 for bulking of crops

This notification allows seed from crops of the same variety, grown by the same grower to be bulked on the farm at the discretion and under the responsibility of the applicant.

A bulk of seed from crops which have passed crop inspection at different categories and/or levels will assume the category and level of the lowest constituent. It is essential that, for each crop in the bulk:

- it is eligible to produce seed at the category/level at which the seed in the bulk is to be certified
- a crop inspection report has been issued
- the report states that the crop met the standards for the category/level at which seed in the bulk is to be certified

Seed in the bulk cannot be certified unless these conditions are met.

1. Procedures when seed is bulked

The applicant must inform NIAB when seed crops are bulked. Failure to do so could result in seed in the bulk not being eligible for certification, because the identity of the seed and its link to the crops from which it was produced, is not preserved.

Notification of bulking should be made to NIAB on form CERT 4. This should be submitted as soon as bulking on the farm takes place, or the final crop inspection results are known for the crops concerned, whichever is the later.

The crop identity number of the bulk will be the numerically lowest crop identity number of the components. When the bulk is ready for certification it should be treated in the same way as seed obtained from a single seed crop.

2. CERT 4 – bulking of crops

This form should be completed only in respect of the bulking of seed from crops of the same variety grown by the same grower which have passed crop inspection at the category/level at which the seed in the bulk is to be certified.

The form should be completed by the applicant. It should be sent to NIAB as soon as bulking on the farm takes place, or the final crop inspection results are known for the crops concerned, whichever is the later.

3. Notes on completing CERT 4

Category and level

Enter the category and level (if appropriate) of seed which the bulked crop is intended to produce.

Level applies only to Basic, C1 or C2 crops of barley, oats and wheat, durum wheat and spelt wheat, which may be verified at HVS. Seed crops of different levels may be bulked but the resulting bulk must assume the minimum standard (e.g. a bulk of C1 HVS and C1 minimum would result in C1 minimum).

Seed of different categories may be bulked. However, the resulting bulk must assume the lower category (e.g. a bulk of C1 and C2 would result in C2) and all the crops in the bulk must be eligible to produce seed of the lower category.

Crop identity number of bulk (key crop)

Enter in the first crop box the lowest crop identity number of the crops to be bulked. This is the key crop and the crop identity number that should be quoted for the produce in the future. The crop identity numbers of the other crops should be entered in the remaining boxes. This is essential to ensure the identity is preserved.