



# Iowa Noxious Weed Seed Free



The Iowa Crop Improvement Association and its predecessor organization, as designated by the State of Iowa, have an 85-year history in seed certification. The mission of ICIA is to provide an unbiased source of service and education in production and quality assurance for Iowa agricultural crops.

ICIA is a member of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies, a worldwide network of service organizations dedicated to serving the needs of the global agricultural industry.

**ISO 9001:2000 Certified**

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# Forage & Mulch Certification

## A Growing Demand

Iowa Crop Improvement Association began offering a certification program in 2006 to assure that forage and mulch is free of noxious weed seed. The program offered complies with the Weed Free Forage Standards developed by the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA). NAWMA has established minimum standards to limit the spread of noxious weed seeds in the United States and Canada. For more information refer to their website at [www.nawma.org](http://www.nawma.org)

## Potential Markets

This program is an additional marketing opportunity for hay and straw producers.

Potential markets include:

- Customers seeking clean hay
- People needing certified hay for their horses on visits to national parks
- Contractors using straw for road construction and erosion-control projects
- Customers seeking clean animal bedding



## The ICIA Program

The key steps in the program:

- Application of seed or commercial fields of forage, grasses and small grains
- Inspection of fields and storage sites prior to cutting and harvesting to assure:
  - A designated list of noxious weeds and undesirable plants is not present in a manner to disseminate seed or to allow propagation of a new plant
  - Any noxious weeds or undesirable plants near the field are isolated from the field by at least 10 feet
  - Inspection within 10 days of harvest
- Labeling the bales or containers with certification labels
- Issuance of a Transit Certificate for interstate shipment

## Noxious Weed and Undesirable Plant List

The following is a partial list of undesirable weeds for a complete list refer to the ICIA website at [www.agron.iastate.edu/icia](http://www.agron.iastate.edu/icia)

Buffalobur	Horsenettle
Canada thistle	Leafy spurge
Common burdock	Musk thistle
Field bindweed	Purple loosestrife
Hemp	Quackgrass