



Quality Welsh Food Certification Ltd
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DF05 Non-Organic Seed & Plant Derogation Instruction

*DF05 Non-Organic Seed & Plant Derogation should be completed to apply for approval for the use of single varieties of seed, grass, forage, arable silage and wholecrop seed mixes; fruit stocks; trees and hedging plants.

- Organic seeds/ plants must be used where available (Welsh Organic Scheme Standards 1.49). However, where no suitable organic seeds/ plants are available, untreated non-organic seeds/ plants may be used with prior approval by QWFC;
- *QWFC require derogation to use non-organic seed or plants before any purchase, although it is acceptable to sow without prior derogation an approved 50 or 70% organic seed mix, derogation approval must be gained before the Assessment takes place:
- Unless an approved Organic Seed Mix is used. agronomic justification must be given for the variety to be sown if different varieties of that species are listed on the [organicxseeds](http://organicxseeds.co.uk) website;
- Derogation approval cannot be granted on grounds of cost.

Obtaining Approval

1. Check the UK Organic Seed Database www.organicxseeds.co.uk for availability of organic seed;
2. If the variety that you require is not available on the seed database and alternative varieties are agronomically unsuitable then an application for the use of non-organic untreated seed or plants must be submitted to QWFC;
3. One of the following must be used as justification for the application:
 - (a) No variety of the species required is registered on the UK Organic Seed Database;
 - (b) The seed supplier is unable to deliver the seed before the planned sowing date despite ordering the seed in reasonable time;
 - (c) The variety required is not available on the database and it can be demonstrated that none of the registered alternatives of the same species are agronomically suitable;
 - (d1) For research purposes;
 - (d2) For small scale field trials;
 - (d3) For variety conservation purposes;
 - * (e) The seed is an approved Organic Mix
 - (f) Seed for seed production

*2026 Seed Requirements:

Derogation approval required prior to purchase	Less than 50% organic grass & forage seed mixes
	Less than 70% organic arable silage and wholecrop seed mixes
	Less than 100% organic combinable seed mixes
	100 % non-organic seed
Derogation approval required before assessment takes place	50% - 99% organic grass & forage seed mixes
	70% - 99% organic arable silage and wholecrop mixes
No Derogation required	100% Organic Seed