

Certified Weed Free Forage Inspection Handbook for Alberta

**CANADIAN
AGRICULTURAL
PARTNERSHIP**
Innovate. Grow. Prosper.

**Is your forage
Certified Weed Free?**

ALBERTA
invasive species
COUNCIL

Alberta

Canada

Executive Summary

This Handbook is intended to provide Weed Free Forage Inspectors with an overview of the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage program, of the inspection process, and documentation required. If you are a Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector or are interested in becoming one, please contact the Alberta Invasive Species Council for more information at info@abinvasives.ca; 587 999 0954.

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History

Invasive species have negative ecological and economic impacts. They can take over native ecosystems, threaten biodiversity, upset trophic systems and can have monumental economic costs both through control costs and yield losses. A 2004 report suggests that invasive species cost Albertans \$1 billion each year, the majority of those costs are associated with the agricultural industry (McClay et al.). Preventing the introduction of invasive species before they establish is the single most effective way to manage them.

Contaminated hay is one means by which invasive plants are spread. To address this, in 2000, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the North American Invasive Weed Management Association to bring the Certified Weed Free Forage program online in Alberta. While demand for these products remains high, there has been dwindling participation in the program, which is largely attributed to lack of awareness of the program itself.

It is the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC)'s intention to work with producers, municipalities, and the province to facilitate, coordinate and revitalize the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage program and bring more certified weed free forage on the market in Alberta. The AISC will provide general program oversight, including facilitation, record keeping, and program administration; we will provide training opportunities for Weed Inspectors that are interested in becoming Certified Weed Free Forage Inspectors; we will work with program participants to develop and distribute weed free forage identifiers (e.g., tags, twine, etc.); and we will actively and strategically promote the program to potential producers and buyers.

Weed Free Forage inspections can only be conducted by those with authority under the Weed Control Act (e.g., Weed Inspectors). As such, the actual inspections and certification issuance can only be conducted by Weed Inspectors who have taken recent (within 3 years) Certified Weed Free Forage Inspector Training. Municipal participation is voluntary but encouraged! Municipalities may customize their program to suit their needs. For example, individual municipalities may choose to implement a fee for inspections, mileage, etc. Participating municipalities will be required to submit annual records of inspections conducted. The AISC will maintain master records of all forage certified weed free.

Overview of the Weed Free Forage Inspection Process in Alberta

Inspections take place anytime between end of June to end of July depending on the haying season.

Producers will contact the inspector. The inspector will collect all contact information, field locations to be inspected and explain the inspection process (if new producer) and set a date for the inspection.

Inspection Process

1. Inspector arrives on site with all supplies needed. (see list)
2. Inspector follows NAISMA minimum standard guidelines for field inspection. (See Appendix 3)
3. Inspector explains to the producers the conditions they are to follow (listed on inspection form) (See Appendix 1)

On inspection day, it is recommended the inspector meet with the producer at field location but is not required. Once the inspection is complete the inspector will meet with the producer to go over the

inspection and get signatures. The inspector drafts two copies of the inspection form, one for the inspector and one for the producer are filed. A copy of this form must be submitted to AISC by September 30.

The inspector asks the producer if they would like AISC to post their contact information on the AISC website with other producers that have inventory of Certified Weed Free Forage available.

The inspector asks the producer if they intend to sell or transport Certified Weed Free Forage across provincial or national boundaries. If so, the inspector also issues a transit certificate (see Appendix 2). Only one copy of the transit certificate is required and is given to the producer.

Producer is required to purchase the weed free twine and to bale only the Certified Weed Free Forage with the twine.

Supplies needed:

- Inspection forms
- Air photo for reference
- Pencil/pens
- Clipboard
- Weed id book (for reference if needed)
- Flagging tape/stakes (should an area need to be avoided)
- Bug spray
- Reflective vest
- CSA approved footwear
- Water

See Appendix 4 for an example of a completed form.

Annual Reporting Requirements

Please submit a copy of all Weed Free Forage Inspection Forms to AISC (info@abinvasives.ca) by September 30 of each year.

Appendix 1 Weed Free Forage Certificate of Inspection

Weed Free Forage Certificate of Inspection

Date of Inspection: _____ Inspection Certificate Number *: _____

This certifies that the area described below has been inspected per the NAISMA WFF Minimum Standards.

Legal Land Description	QTR		SEC		TWP		RGE		MER		Field No./ Description	
------------------------	-----	--	-----	--	-----	--	-----	--	-----	--	------------------------	--

Producer and Inspector Contact Information

Producer Name		Phone	
Farm Name			
Mailing address			
Email			
Field Description			
Producer contact information posted on AISC website?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Weed Free Forage Inspection Details

Date Hay Must Be Cut By		Spools of Twine Issued/Used	
Total Acres Inspected		Marking System	NAISMA twine, galvanized wire, tags, none
Certified Acres		Stack Yards Weed Free	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved
Estimated Yield per Acre		Hay Species and Percent Present	
Type of Bale:		Other Plant Species Found and Amounts Present	
Approximate No. of Bales			

Level of Certification (Select one option only)

<input type="checkbox"/>	EXCEEDS requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards and contains only the specified forage material with no other plant material.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MEETS requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MINIMUM requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards are met*. This forage contains variable amounts of Prohibited species which were immature, (nonviable seed) when harvested, or were treated to prevent seed formation. These plant parts, although not desirable in the forage products, are not considered able to begin a new infestation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	FAILED

*Inspection Certificate Numbering System: Each certificate shall receive a unique number as follows:

- Year - County # (or initials)- Inspector Initials - Field # (which increases sequentially for each inspector)
- For example, the following certificate number would be issued if Joe Smith was an Inspector for the MD of Ranchland and this was his third field inspected in 2021: 2021 – 66 – JS – 3.

I agree to the following conditions:

1. I will exclude a 12 foot buffer around the field and/or other areas defined by the inspector.
2. All bales must be identified with special coloured twine, or approved tag, prior to moving them off or within the field.
3. Certified forage must be stored separately from other hay in a pre-approved stack yard.
4. I agree that this field will be cut by: _____, 10 days after the inspection took place.
5. The inspector reserves the right to cancel inspection of certifications if evidence is found that the standards are not being followed.
6. Other: I agree to indemnify and save harmless, the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Invasive Species Council, the Municipality and their employees, councillors, and board members in respect to any claim of demands that may in time hereafter be brought against these parties by reason of this program.

Producer's Signature		Date	
Inspector's Name		Contact	
Inspector's Signature		Date	
Municipality			

Inspector Comments	Inspection Sketch or see aerial photo

Disclaimer: Certified forage may not meet the forage quality standards adopted by the Hay Marketing Task Force of the American Forage and Grassland Council.

Minimum Guidelines for Field Inspection

The Inspector will follow the inspection procedures detailed below:

1. There shall be a minimum of two entry points per field.
2. There shall be a minimum of one entry point per each 10 acre (4.05 hectares).
3. Each point of entry shall be at least 150 feet into the field and each additional 150 feet traveled shall constitute an entry point. Travel shall be uninterrupted, proceeding through the field in a zigzag pattern as shown below (delete or insert graphic).
4. The entire field border shall be walked or driven, ensuring a minimum 12 foot weed free buffer.
5. Fields shall be inspected within 10 days prior to cutting or swathing. Fields must be inspected prior to a second cut.
6. The storage area shall also be inspected and maintained to meet the standards.
7. An inspector may not inspect fields of which said inspector has ownership or financial interest.
8. An inspector shall be a duly appointed Weed Inspector.
9. An inspector shall document each inspection on a **Field Inspection and Certification Form as attached.**

***Inspection Certificate Numbering System:** Each certificate shall receive a unique number as follows:

- Year - County # (or initials)- Inspector Initials - Field # (which increases sequentially for each inspector)
- For example, the following certificate number would be issued if Joe Smith was an Inspector for the MD of Ranchland and this was his third field inspected in 2021:
 - 2021 – 66 – JS - 3

Annual Reporting Requirements: Please submit a copy of each inspection form to info@abinvasives.ca by September 30 of each year.

For information about this program, please contact the Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) (info@abinvasives.ca; 587 999 0954). The AISC works to facilitate and coordinate the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage program utilizing the North American Invasive Species Management Association Weed Free Products standards and procedures under the authorization of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.

Alberta Weed Control Act + NAISMA WFF Species List

- Absinth Wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*)
 Austrian Fieldcress (*Rorippa austriaca*)
 Autumn Olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*)
 Baby's-breath, Common (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
 Balsam, Himalayan (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
 Barberry, Common (*Berberis vulgaris*)
 Bartsia, Red (*Odontites vernus*)
 Bellflower, Creeping (*Campanula rapunculoides*)
 Bindweed, Field (*Convolvulus arvensis*)
 Bluestem, Caucasian (*Bothriochloa bladhii*)
 Bluestem, Yellow (*Bothriochloa ischaemum*)
 Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*)
 Brome, Downy (*Bromus tectorum*)
 Brome, Japanese (*Bromus japonicus*)
 Buckthorn, Common (*Rhamnus cathartica*)
 Buffalobur (*Solanum rostratum*)
 Burdock, Great (*Arctium lappa*)
 Burdock, Lesser (*Arctium minus*)
 Burdock, Woolly (*Arctium tomentosum*)
 Buttercup, Tall (*Ranunculus acris*)
 Cinquefoil, Sulphur (*Potentilla recta*)
 Crupina, Common (*Crupina vulgaris*)
 Clematis, Yellow (*Clematis tangutica*)
 Cockle, White (*Silene latifolia*)
 Daisy, Oxeye (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)
 Dame's Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)
 Dyer's Woad (*Isatis tinctoria*)
 Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)
 Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
 Hawkweed, Meadow (*Pilosella caespitosa*)
 Hawkweed, Mouse-ear (*Pilosella officinarum*)
 Hawkweed, Orange (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)
 Henbane, Black (*Hyoscyamus niger*)
 Hoary Alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)
 Hoary Cress, Globe-podded (*Lepidium appelianum*)
 Hoary Cress, Heart-podded (*Lepidium draba*)
 Hoary Cress, Lens-podded (*Lepidium chalepense*)
 Hogweed, Giant (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
 Horsenettle (*Solanum carolinense*)
 Hounds-tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
 Iris, Pale Yellow (*Iris pseudacorus*)
 Johnsongrass (*Sorghum halepense*)
 Jointed Goatgrass (*Aegilops cylindrica*)
 Knapweed, Bighead (*Centaurea macrocephala*)
 Knapweed, Black (*Centaurea nigra*)
 Knapweed, Brown (*Centaurea jacea*)
 Knapweed, Diffuse (*Centaurea diffusa*)
 Knapweed, Hybrid (*Centaurea* × *psammogena*)
 Knapweed, Meadow (*Centaurea pratensis*)
 Knapweed, Russian (*Rhaponticum repens*)
 Knapweed, Spotted (*Centaurea stoebe* ssp. *micranthos*)
 Knapweed, Squarrose (*Centaurea virgata* ssp. *squarrosa*)
 Knapweed, Tyrol (*Centaurea nigrescens*)
 Knotweed, Giant (*Fallopia sachalinensis*)
 Knotweed, Hybrid Japanese (*Fallopia* × *bohemica*)
 Knotweed, Japanese (*Fallopia japonica*)
 Medusahead (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*)
 Mullein, Common (*Verbascum thapsus*)
 Nutsedge, Yellow (*Cyperus esculentus*)
 Pepper-grass, Broad-leaved (*Lepidium latifolium*)
 Poison Hemlock (*Conium maculatum*)
 Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
 Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
 Quackgrass (*Elymus repens*)
 Ragwort, Tansy (*Jacobaea vulgaris*)
 Rush Skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
 Saltcedar (*Tamarix ramosissima*)
 Saltlover (*Halogeton glomeratus*)
 Scabious, Field (*Knautia arvensis*)
 Scentless Chamomile (*Tripleurospermum inodorum*)
 Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
 Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)
 Sowthistle, Perennial (*Sonchus arvensis*)
 Spurge, Leafy (*Euphorbia virgata* formerly *Eurphorbia esula*)
 Starthistle, Yellow (*Centaurea solstitialis*)
 St. John's-wort, Common (*Hypericum perforatum*)
 Tamarisk, Chinese (*Tamarix chinensis*)
 Tamarisk, Smallflower (*Tamarix parviflora*)
 Tansy, Common (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
 Teasel, Common (*Dipsacus fullonum*)
 Teasel, Cutleaf (*Dipsacus laciniatus*)
 Thistle, Canada (*Cirsium arvense*)
 Thistle, Marsh (*Cirsium palustre*)
 Thistle, Nodding (*Carduus nutans*)
 Thistle, Plumeless (*Carduus acanthoides*)
 Toadflax, Dalmatian (*Linaria dalmatica*)
 Toadflax, Yellow (*Linaria vulgaris*)
 Water Milfoil, Eurasian (*Myriophyllum spicatum*)
 Wild Oats (*Avena fatua*)
 Wild Proso Millet (*Panicum miliaceum*)

Appendix 2 Weed Free Forage Transit Certificate

Transit certificates are only required when the producer intends to sell or transport Certified Weed Free Forage across provincial or national boundaries.



PO Box 1925
Blairmore, AB, T0K0E0
587 999 0954
Abinvasives.ca

TRANSIT CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED WEED FREE FORAGE

CERTIFIED ACCORDING TO THE NORTH AMERICAN INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION'S
CERTIFIED WEED FREE FORAGE STANDARDS

NOTE: Each bale of certified weed free forage must be baled with at least one strand of weed free forage twine.

SELLER

Name	
Address	
City, Province, Postal Code	
Phone Number	
Signature	

CONSIGNEE/RECEIVER

Name	
Address	
City, Province, Postal Code	
Phone Number	

TRANSPORTER

Name	
Address	
City, Province, Postal Code	
Phone Number	

COMMODITY/CROP TYPE

Certification Marking (Tags/Twine, etc.)		Certificate Number(s)	
Bale Size		Number of Bales	
Type of Forage			
Date Sold		Specific Destination	
Comments			
Issuer's Signature			
Title		Issue Date	

Only originals are accepted.

Appendix 3 NAISMA Minimum Weed Free Forage Standards

**NAISMA WEED FREE FORAGE
MINIMUM CERTIFICATION STANDARDS**

Revised 1/24/97, 9/16/97, 8/9/99, 10/30/02, 10/20/03, 9/21/04, 1/05/05, 10/18/06, 11/1/12, 3/31/15, 02/01/16, 10/23/17, 10/17/18, 4/16/20

INTRODUCTION

There is a growing demand in North America for the use of certified weed free forage and mulch as a preventative program in integrated weed management systems to limit the spread of noxious weeds.

The Standards are designed to:

Provide some assurance to all participants that forage certified through this program meets a minimum acceptable standard;

- Provide continuity between the various provinces, states, and federal lands in the program.
- Limit the spread of noxious weeds.

Participating jurisdictions may wish to add to these standards within their specific state or province but must meet the minimum standards outlined in this document to be recognized by NAISMA.

NAISMA Forage Certification Standards may not meet the forage quality standards adopted by the Hay Marketing Task Force of the American Forage and Grassland Council.

DEFINITIONS Revised 1/24/97, 10/30/02, 5/15/08, 3/31/15, 10/23/17, 10/17/18

Certification

Inspector certification is available at the NAISMA Conference and online. An administrative fee may be applicable for this certification.

Certification Markings

NAISMA approved tags or purple and yellow twine, or both.

Cubed hay

Harvested with equipment which forms the hay into small compact self-binding units. These are not considered pellets as defined in this document, and therefore the field of origin must be certified.

Designated authority

Must be one of the following:

- Representative of a state or province's department of agriculture.
- Manager of a state, provincial, local government or federal agency staff responsible for managing legislated weed species within their jurisdiction (ex: Weed Supervisor, Weed Superintendent, Ag. Fieldman).

- An individual designated as an inspector under that state or province's weed control legislation or federal agency staff. This individual must be trained and certified in accordance with the state/provincial standard operating procedures for weed inspection as well as NAISMA's weed free forage standards.
- University Extension Agent.
- Representative of a State Crop Improvement Association.
- Other authority as approved by NAISMA.

Federal Agency

Federal land management agency with no financial gain in NAISMA Minimum Standard Certification programs.

Forage

Any crop, including alfalfa, grass, small grains, straw, and similar crops and commodities, that is grown, harvested, and sold for livestock forage, bedding material, or mulch related uses and the byproducts of those crops or commodities that have been processed into pellets, cubes, or related products.

Prohibited Weed

Those plant species, including any weed seed or propagative plant parts, voted on by MOU holders and approved by the NAISMA BOD in Appendix A, as well as weeds listed under weed control legislation within the state or province of the forage's origin.

Pellets

Agglomerated feed formed by compacting and forcing through die openings by a mechanical process. If heat is not used in the process, the field of origin must be certified.

Propagules

Any part of a plant capable of enabling it to reproduce (may include seeds, roots, and/or stolons).

NAISMA MINIMUM WEED FREE FORAGE STANDARDS (revised 3/31/15, 10/23/17)

- Forage shall be free of prohibited weeds as defined in these minimum standards.
- Forage shall be inspected in the state/province of origin by the designated authority.
- Forage shall also be inspected in the field of origin by the designated authority per Appendix E.
- Forage which contains any prohibited weeds may still be certified if the field upon which the forage was produced is treated to prevent prohibited weed seed or other propagule viability according to agricultural practices acceptable to, and to the satisfaction of the designated authority.
- Pellets as defined in these standards may also be certified if they are declared free of viable prohibited weed seeds or other propagules by a test conducted by a state/provincial seed testing laboratory approved by the designated authority.
- Cubed hay as defined in these standards may also be certified if the field of origin has been

certified by the designated authority according to these standards.

- An Inspection Certificate as per Appendix B shall document the above requirements are met.
- Interstate shipment of NAISMA Certified Weed Free Forage shall be accompanied by NAISMA Certification Marking as outlined in Appendix D, and an original printed or digital copy of the Transit Certificate issued by the designated authority as outlined in Appendix C.

Appendix A: NAISMA Weed Free Forage Prohibited Weed List

Revised: 01/24/97, 04/20/97, 09/16/97, 10/30/02, 10/05/05, 10/09/09, 03/31/15, 02/01/16, 10/23/17, 10/17/18, 4/16/20

The designated authority shall inspect fields for NAISMA prohibited species and their state or province designated noxious weed lists.

Absinth wormwood (<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>)	Orange hawkweed (<i>Hieracium aurantiacum</i>)
Austrian fieldcress (<i>Rorippa austriaca</i>)	Oxeye daisy (<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>)
Black henbane (<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>)	Perennial pepperweed (<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>)
Buffalobur (<i>Solanum rostratum</i>)	Perennial sowthistle (<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>)
Canada thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>)	Plumeless thistle (<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>)
Caucasian Bluestem (<i>Bothriochloa bladhii</i>)	Poison hemlock (<i>Conium maculatum</i>)
Common burdock (<i>Arctium minus</i>)	Puncturevine (<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>)
Common crupina (<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>)	Purple loosestrife (<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>)
Common mullein (<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>)	Quackgrass (<i>Agropyron repens</i>)
Common tansy (<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>)	Rush skeletonweed (<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>)
Common teasel (<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>)	Russian knapweed (<i>Centaurea repens</i>)
Cutleaf teasel (<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>)	Scentless chamomile (<i>Matricaria perforata</i> or <i>M. milaceum</i>)
Dame's rocket (<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>)	Scotch thistle (<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>)
Dalmatian toadflax (<i>Linaria dalmatica</i>)	Sericea lespedeza (<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>)
Diffuse knapweed (<i>Centaurea diffusa</i>)	Spotted knapweed (<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>)
Dyers woad (<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>)	Squarrose knapweed (<i>Centaurea virgata</i>)
Field bindweed (<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>)	St. Johnswort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>)
Field scabious (<i>Knautia arvensis</i>)	Sulfur cinquefoil (<i>Potentilla recta</i>)
Hoary Alyssum (<i>Berteroa incana</i>)	Tall buttercup (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>)
Hoary cress (<i>Cardaria spp.</i>)	Tansy ragwort (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>)
Horsenettle (<i>Solanum carolinense</i>)	Vipers Bugloss/Blueweed (<i>Echium vulgare</i>)
Houndstongue (<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i>)	Wild oats (<i>Avena fatua</i>)
Johnsongrass (<i>Sorghum halepense</i>)	Wild proso millet (<i>Panicum miliaceum</i>)
Jointed goatgrass (<i>Aegilops cylindrica</i>)	Yellow Bluestem (<i>Bothriochloa ischaemum</i>)
Leafy spurge (<i>Euphorbia esula</i>)	Yellow hawkweed (<i>Hieracium pratense</i>)
Meadow knapweed (<i>Centaurea pratensis</i>)	Yellow starthistle (<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>)
Medusahead (<i>Taeniatherum caputmedusae</i>)	Yellow toadflax (<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>)
Musk thistle (<i>Carduus nutans</i>)	

Procedure for species considered for addition or deletion:

1. Petition must be sent to the NAISMA Weed Free Forage and Gravel (WFF&G) Committee from a designated authority as defined in these standards formally requesting a species be added or removed from listing to Appendix A:
2. Petition shall contain a risk assessment of species proposed to be added with information on its potential and/or actual impacts to natural resources at a state/provincial and/or regional level.
3. Petition shall contain a risk assessment of species proposed for deletion with information on why the species is no longer considered a potential and/or actual threat to natural resources at a state/provincial and/or regional level.
4. Petitioner shall send the formal petition to add or delete a species to the NAISMA WFF&G Committee Chair at least 90 days before the committee meets at NAISMA's Annual General Meeting (AGM).
5. NAISMA WFF & G Committee Chair will send the petition to committee members and MOU holders at least 60 days in advance of NAISMA's AGM.
6. NAISMA WFF & G Committee will formulate a recommendation to support or deny the petition to be presented and voted on by MOU holders. The decision (by simple majority) is then presented to the NAISMA Board of Directors (BOD) for their consideration prior to NAISMA's AGM.
7. MOU holders can only vote once and can vote by proxy.
8. If the NAISMA BOD supports the Weed Free Forage Committee recommendation on the petition, it will be presented at NAISMA's AGM.
9. Appendix A will be modified as necessary after the above procedures have been carried out.

Appendix B: Inspection Certificate Standards and Certificate of Inspection Minimum

Requirements: Revised 1/24/97, 10/30/02, 3/31/15, 10/23/17, 4/16/20

- Designated authority contact information.
- Inspection Certificate numbering system.
- Forage producer contact information.
- Legal description of property being inspected.
- Number of acres or hectares inspected.
- Size of package or bale.
- Number or tonnage of bales or packages.
- Type of forage.
- **"Meets NAISMA Standards"** statement.
- Inspection date.
- Designated authority's inspector signature.
- Comments section.
- Expiration Date.

Appendix C: Transit Certificate Standards and Transit Certificate Minimum Requirements: Revised
1/24/97, 10/20/03, 3/31/15

- Designated authority contact information.
- Transit Certificate numbering system.
- Transporter contact information.
- Consignee contact information.
- Specific destination.
- Reference to Inspection Certification Number (Appendix B)
- Type of Certification Marking used (Appendix D)
- Size of package or bale.
- Number or tonnage of bales or packages.
- Type of forage.
- Issue date.
- Issuer signature, title, and contact information.
- Comments section.
- **"Only Original Print / Digital Copy Approved By Designated Authority Accepted"** Statement

Appendix D: Certification Marking Revised 1/24/97, 10/30/02, 10/20/03, 5/15/08, 3/31/15, 10/23/17, 4/16/20

- Special purple and yellow colored twine as approved by NAISMA.
- Forage Tag Minimum Requirements:
 - The words **"NAISMA Weed Free Forage Certification Program"**.
 - A number system (for tracking purposes).
 - State or Province of issue.
 - Designated authority contact information.
 - **A statement that the product is "Certified to the NAISMA Standards"**.

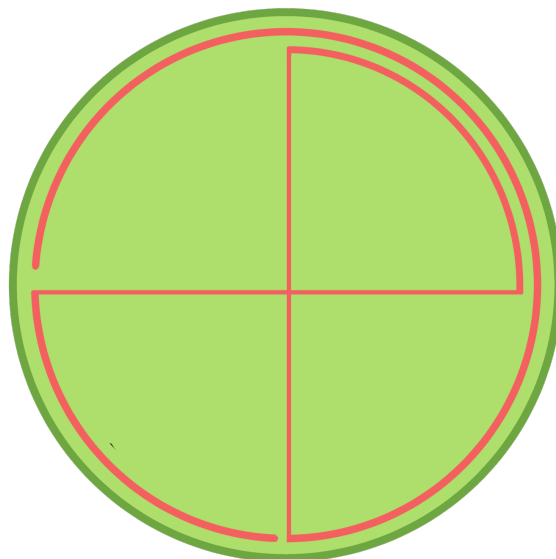
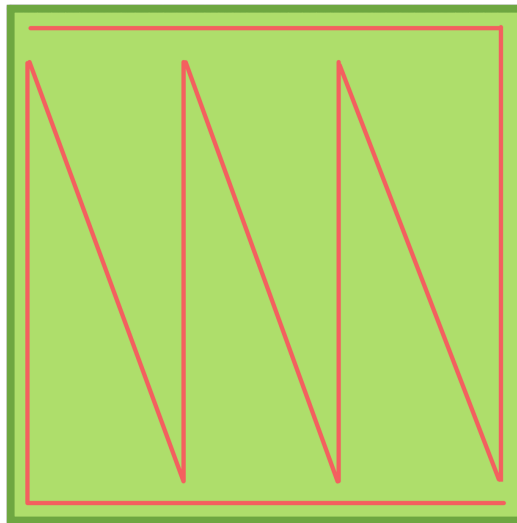
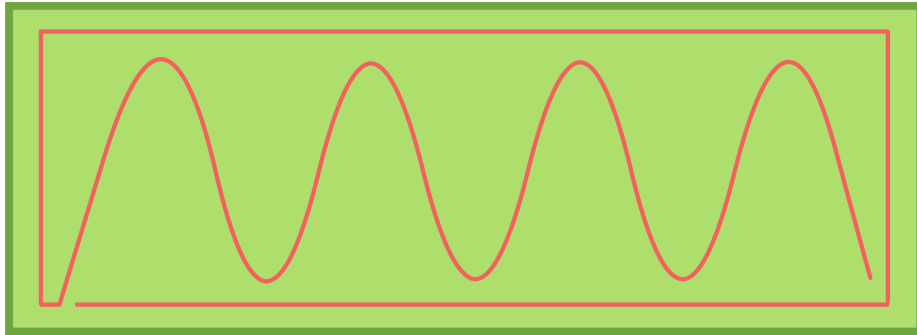
Appendix E: Field Inspection Standards and Minimum Guidelines for Field

Inspections: - Revised 1/24/97, 3/31/15, 2/1/16

- Fields shall be inspected within a maximum of 10 days prior to cutting / harvesting.
- Fields must be inspected again if circumstances prevent harvest of the forage for a period greater than 10 days from the first inspection.
- There shall be a minimum of two entry points per field.
- There shall be a minimum of one entry point per each 10 acres (4 hectares).
- Each point of entry shall be at least 150 feet (45 meters) into the field, and each additional 150 feet (45 meters) traveled shall constitute an entry point.
- Travel shall be uninterrupted, proceeding through the field being inspected.
- Field borders shall be inspected, including surrounding ditches, fence rows, roads, easements, rights-of-way, and/or a buffer zone surrounding the field as determined by the designated authority.
- The storage area for the forage shall also be inspected and meet these standards.

- An inspector may not inspect fields of which said inspector has ownership or financial interest.

Appendix F: Field Inspection Walking Patterns



Appendix 4 – Example of a Completed Weed Free Forage Inspection Form

Weed Free Forage Certificate of Inspection

Date of Inspection: June 28, 2020 Inspection Certificate Number *: 2020-01-ME-01

This certifies that the area described below has been inspected per the NAISMA WFF Minimum Standards.

Legal Land Description	QTR	1	SEC	2	TWP	3	RGE	4	MER	4	Field No./ Description	A - South Field
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Producer and Inspector Contact Information

Producer Name	Mary Smith	Phone	587 999 0954
Farm Name	Smith Farms		
Mailing address	Po Box 123 Keoma, AB T0M 1G0		
Email	Mary.smith@gmail.com		
Field Description	A - South Field.		
Producer contact information posted on AISC website?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Weed Free Forage Inspection Details

Date Hay Must Be Cut By	July 8, 2020	Spools of Twine Issued/Used	3 / 3
Total Acres Inspected	84 acres	Marking System	NAISMA twine galvanized wire, tags, none
Certified Acres	46 acres	Stack Yards Weed Free	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Not Approved
Estimated Yield per Acre	1 Ton/acre	Hay Species and Percent Present	Timothy 60% Brome 34%
Type of Bale:	5m square/round	Other Plant Species Found and Amounts Present	Dandelion 5% Foxtail barley 1%
Approximate No. of Bales	3200 5m square 50-60 round		

Level of Certification (Select one option only)

<input type="checkbox"/>	EXCEEDS requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards and contains only the specified forage material with no other plant material.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MEETS requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards.
<input type="checkbox"/>	MINIMUM requirements of the NAISMA Certification Standards are met*. This forage contains variable amounts of Prohibited species which were immature, (nonviable seed) when harvested, or were treated to prevent seed formation. These plant parts, although not desirable in the forage products, are not considered able to begin a new infestation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	FAILED

*Inspection Certificate Numbering System: Each certificate shall receive a unique number as follows:

- Year - County # (or initials)- Inspector Initials - Field # (which increases sequentially for each inspector)
- For example, the following certificate number would be issued if Joe Smith was an Inspector for the MD of Ranchland and this was his third field inspected in 2021: 2021 - 66 - JS - 3.

I agree to the following conditions:

1. I will exclude a 12 foot buffer around the field and/or other areas defined by the inspector.
2. All bales must be identified with special coloured twine, or approved tag, prior to moving them off or within the field.
3. Certified forage must be stored separately from other hay in a pre-approved stack yard.
4. I agree that this field will be cut by: July 8th, 2020, 10 days after the inspection took place.
5. The inspector reserves the right to cancel inspection of certifications if evidence is found that the standards are not being followed.
6. Other: I agree to indemnify and save harmless, the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Invasive Species Council, the Municipality and their employees, councillors, and board members in respect to any claim of demands that may in time hereafter be brought against these parties by reason of this program.

Producer's Signature	<i>Mary Smith</i>	Date	<i>June 28, 2020</i>
Inspector's Name	<i>Megan Evans</i>	Contact	<i>403 836 3015</i>
Inspector's Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	<i>June 28, 2020</i>
Municipality	<i>02</i>		

Inspector Comments	Inspection Sketch or see aerial photo
	<i>See aerial photo</i>

Disclaimer: Certified forage may not meet the forage quality standards adopted by the Hay Marketing Task Force of the American Forage and Grassland Council.

Smith Farms WFF Inspection

Write a description for your map.

