

Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association

# ISOLATING SEED FIELDS in the COLUMBIA BASIN of WASHINGTON

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

- Procedures and Considerations for Isolating Seed Fields in the Columbia Basin
- 2024 Columbia Basin Seed Field Isolation Dates
- Columbia Basin Seed Field Isolation Standards
- Columbia Basin Volunteer Management Areas
- Columbia Basin Radish Seed Production Areas



These documents were reviewed at the Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association Annual Meeting on January 16, 2024. Please contact Carrie Wohleb, WSU Grant County Extension at 509-707-3510 or [cwohleb@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohleb@wsu.edu) for more information.



**Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association:**  
**PROCEDURES and CONSIDERATIONS for ISOLATING SEED FIELDS**  
**in the COLUMBIA BASIN of WASHINGTON**

**SUCCESSFUL PINNING:** The success of the field isolation program depends on the cooperation and communication of all seed companies and seed growers operating in the region. Although the program operates largely on a “first-pinned, first-priority” basis, the seed company with “priority” is still obligated to negotiate with other companies to place crops in the best interests of the growers and the seed companies operating in the Columbia Basin of Washington. Pins should be removed or “pulled” from the pinning system immediately (within 7 days) if an intended field for production is moved or cancelled before planting.

**ISOLATION DISTANCES:** Isolation standards are subject to review at the annual meeting of the Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association (CBSFRA) in January. Representatives of seed companies placing seed crops in the region are members of the Association and may propose modification of the standards; the standards can be changed by a majority vote of CBSFRA members.

**PRODUCTION AREA:** The seed isolation area includes fields within the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project, and fields in the surrounding areas within Grant, Adams, Benton, Franklin, and Lincoln Counties. This area may be modified by the CBSFRA members. Seed field isolation maps are shared via email to participants of the seed field reservation program as placemark files (kmz) that can be opened in Google Earth.

**RELEASES:** Prior to participating in the field reservation system, seed companies must present a release at the pinning meeting or prior to the pinning meeting. The release should include:

- Crop and type
- Year of production
- Number of seed fields or acreage planned for production in the Columbia Basin

All releases are confidential and are maintained at the extension office. Only one pin is allowed for each intended planting (i.e., multiple locations are not to be pinned for one intended seed crop, and then pulled later). Releases can be emailed to [cwohle@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohle@wsu.edu) or mailed/dropped off at the WSU Grant County Extension office.

**WHO CAN RESERVE SEED FIELDS?** Only designated representatives of seed companies can pin seed crops. Growers who contract to grow crops with seed companies cannot reserve fields – they must do so through the designated representative of the seed company.

## **PINNING PROCEEDURES:**

1. Seed fields are reserved initially on a drawing or lottery basis at “pinning” meetings usually held in Moses Lake, WA (sometimes via conference call or video call). The pinning meeting dates for annuals, biennials, onion seed, carrot seed, and sugarbeet seed are usually announced at the annual Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association Meeting in January. At the pinning meetings, each seed field representative is allowed to pin two fields in a turn. Pinning rotates in this fashion until all pins have been placed. After the pinning meeting, fields may be reserved by emailing ([cwohlebs@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohlebs@wsu.edu)).
2. Each person or company who participates in the field reservation system is asked to pay an annual service fee. The fee of \$25.00 should be submitted in a check payable to WSU Grant County Extension. Invoices and receipts can be provided upon request ([cwohlebs@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohlebs@wsu.edu)).
3. The following types of seed crops should be pinned: carrots, parsley, coriander, radish (in restricted locations), Daikon (in restricted locations), canola and other oilseed types, collard, kale, turnip, kohlrabi, mustard, arugula, cabbage, onions, chives, leeks, beets, sugarbeets, and sunflowers.
4. The following information is needed to pin a seed field: crop (eg. onion seed); group (hybrid or OP); type including color and/or shape when applicable (eg. Yellow Globe); and GMO designated when applicable; location (GPS coordinates are preferred, but block and unit locations within the irrigation district or township/range/section-quarter will also be accepted).
5. Check pinning reports for mistakes and send corrections to [cwohlebs@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohlebs@wsu.edu) as soon as possible.
6. Pins should be removed immediately upon cancellation of an intended planting.

**OFF-TYPE ROUGEING:** Companies have the responsibility to rogue all seed fields to remove wild or off-type plants to a minimum of 1% each growing season.

**MEMBERSHIPS:** Seed company field representatives are expected to encourage contracted seed growers to participate as members of the Columbia Basin Vegetable Seed Association (CBVSA) and to participate with their own company as members.

**VOLUNTEER CONTROL PROGRAM:** The Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association operates a volunteer seed plant control program aimed primarily at elimination of volunteer or wild carrot plants. (Wild carrot or Queen Anne’s lace is not established in the Columbia Basin).

**QUARANTINE:** A white-rot quarantine for all alliums is in effect for Grant, Adams, Benton, and Franklin counties which restricts movement of vegetative propagating material into the area (see WAC 16-470-320).

**RADISH SEED PRODUCTION AREAS:** In accordance with agreements by members of the Columbia Basin Vegetable Seed Field Representatives Association, radish seed production areas have been established. The areas are described on a separate sheet.

This page is intentionally left blank

## 2024 COLUMBIA BASIN SEED FIELD ISOLATION DATES

The time and location of pinning meetings will be announced via email.

With a valid “release” seed company representatives and seed crop growers may reserve fields for seed production upon or after the following dates:

Annuals	Thursday, February 1 <sup>st</sup>
Onions and other Biennials seed to seed crops only	Monday, March 4 <sup>th</sup>
Carrots seed to seed crops only	Monday, June 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Sugar beets from stecklings, Carrots from stecklings, and Onions from bulbs	Tuesday, October 1 <sup>st</sup>

1. A release should include the crop and crop year for placement in the Columbia Basin production area and either the number of fields or number of acres. Releases should be submitted to the WSU Grant County Extension office prior to or at the pinning meeting. They can also be sent via email to [cwohlebs@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohlebs@wsu.edu). Releases are confidential.
2. Each person or company who participates in the field reservation system is asked to pay an annual service fee to WSU Grant County Extension. The fee of \$25.00 should be submitted in a check payable to WSU Grant County Extension. Include your e-mail address if you wish to receive emailed notifications about pins that have been placed.
3. Carryover onion crops may be repinned with priority between February 1 and March 1, after which priority is lost.

This page is intentionally left blank.



## COLUMBIA BASIN SEED FIELD ISOLATION STANDARDS

## CARROT FAMILY (Apiaceae)

**CARROT** (Pinned by Group and Pollinator Type)

Groups: Hybrid and Open Pollinated

Types: Chantenay (Danvers, Red Cored, Royal, etc.)  
Cut and Peel  
Cello  
Amsterdam  
Nantes  
Flakkee  
Berlicum  
Round and Odd Shapes (Paris Forcing, etc.)  
Kuroda  
Colors other than orange

Distance: Between Hybrids.....	2 miles
Between Hybrids and Open Pollinated of same Type .....	2 miles
Between Hybrids and Open Pollinated of different Types .....	3 miles
Between OP Types .....	1 mile
Between Varieties of same OP Type .....	½ mile
Between same Varieties for different companies .....	¼ mile
Orange to other color .....	5 miles

▲ Carrots other than orange should be grown outside of the main production area. Reduced or increased isolations are acceptable with agreement between pinning seed companies.

## PARSLEY

Between all types and varieties ..... 1 mile

**CORIANDER** (cilantro or Chinese parsley)

Between all types and varieties ..... 1 mile

## MUSTARD FAMILY (Brassicaceae)

**RADISH** (Pinned by Group and/or Type...Understood to be O.P. unless otherwise noted)

Groups: Hybrid and Open Pollinated

Types:	Round Red Crimson Giant	Round Red White Tip Half Long White Tip
--------	----------------------------	--

Other Long Red  
 Icicle (and related forms)  
 Round White  
 Purple  
 Black  
 Forage Radish

Daikon (white unless specified)  
 Daikon, Sprouting  
 Daikon, Red  
 Daikon, Green

Distance:      Between Hybrid and Open Pollinated ..... 2 miles  
                     Between same Type or Color ..... 1 mile  
                     Between Colors ..... 3 miles  
                     Between Shapes ..... 3 miles

## **CANOLA/RAPESEED**

Canola and other Oilseed types..... 2 miles

Genetically modified Canola and other Oilseed types will be designated as GMO

## **OTHER BRASSICAS**      (Pinned by crop name or chromosome number)

All Groups or Types.....2 miles

## **ONION FAMILY (Alliaceae)**

**ONION**      (Pinned by Group and Type)

### **ONION (*Allium cepa*)**

Groups: Hybrid and Open Pollinated

Hybrid: (Should be posted as male parent)

From Hybrid or O.P. of different Color..... 3 miles  
 From Hybrid or O.P. of same Color, but different Shape ..... 2 miles  
 From O.P. of same Color and Shape ..... 2 miles  
 From Hybrid of same Color, but different Shape ..... 2 miles  
 From Hybrid of same Color, Shape, and Type ..... 1 mile  
 From *Allium fistulosum*, Chives, or Leek ..... None

Open Pollinated:

From Hybrid or O.P. of different Color or Shape ..... 3 miles  
 From O.P. of same Color, but different Shape ..... 2 miles  
 From Hybrid of same Color and Shape ..... 2 miles  
 From O.P. of same Color, but different Type..... 1½ miles  
 From O.P. of same Color, Type, and Shape ..... 1 mile  
 From *Allium fistulosum*, Chives, or Leek ..... None

## **ONION (*Allium fistulosum*)**

### Open Pollinated:

From *Allium cepa*, Chives or Leek ..... None  
From another variety of *Allium fistulosum* ..... 1 mile

### Hybrid

From any O.P. or Hybrid *A. fistulosum* ..... 2 miles

## **ONION (*Allium cepa-fistulosum* cross) CFC tetraploid double chromosome**

### Open Pollinated:

From *Allium cepa* or *Allium fistulosum* of the same Color ..... None  
From *Allium cepa* or *Allium fistulosum* of a different Color ..... None  
From another variety of CFC of the same Color ..... 1 mile  
From another variety of CFC of a different Color ..... 3 miles

## **CHIVES**

From *Allium cepa*, *Allium fistulosum*, or Leek ..... None  
From another variety of Chives ..... 1 mile

## **LEEK**

From *Allium cepa*, *Allium fistulosum*, Chives ..... None  
From another variety of Leek ..... 1 mile

## **GOOSEFOOT FAMILY (*Chenopodiaceae*)**

### **SUGAR BEETS, TABLE BEETS, CHARD, etc.**

Between all Beets of different Color, Swiss Chard and Mangels ..... 4 miles  
From GMO to Non-GMO Sugar Beets ..... 3 miles  
From Sugar Beets of the same or different Type ..... 2 miles

Genetically modified Sugar Beets will be designated as GMO

## **SUNFLOWER FAMILY (*Asteraceae*)**

Types: Oil, Confection, Ornamental

Between all Sunflower Types ..... 2 miles

This page is intentionally left blank

## **COLUMBIA BASIN**

### **VEGETABLE SEED VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT AREAS**

#### **SOUTH BASIN** – *Harris Moran Seed*

All areas lying south of the Adams-Franklin County line.

#### **OTHELLO/ROYAL SLOPE** – *Sakata Seed*

From Franklin-Adams County line north to Grant County line (Providence Road) west to Block 80 including that portion on the North side of Road 7 SW and West on North side of Block 81 and all of Royal Slope.

#### **NORTHEAST BASIN** – *Seminis Vegetable Seed*

From Grant-Adams County line (Providence Road) north to Moses Lake-Wheeler Road, and west to Moses Lake.

#### **NORTHWEST BASIN** – *Kapa Seed, Quincy Farm Chemicals*

From the North boundary of the Othello/Royal Slope area north and east to Moses Lake.

**NOTE:** The Stratford area (from the Moses Lake-Wheeler Road northward) and the Mattawa area are not included in any volunteer management area at present. Seed companies in these areas are responsible for volunteer management.

This page is intentionally left blank

## **COLUMBIA BASIN RADISH SEED PRODUCTION AREAS**

In accordance with agreements by members of the Columbia Basin Seed Field Representatives Association, the following production areas are recognized:

### **Round red radish ONLY**

All of Blocks 70, 701, 73, 74, 75, 76 and 741 as well as those portions of Blocks 71 and 72 north of state highway 283 are set aside for round red radish seed production. An exception exists for a small area in Block 72 to allow continued daikon seed production on units 232 and 341.

### **Daikon and white icicle radish-free areas**

The following areas are identified for radish seed production other than daikon or white icicle types:

Blocks 11, 77, 78 and 79.

All of block 18 lying east of the intersection of Booker Road and state highway 17 and the intersection of state highway 17 and federal highway 395.

All of Blocks 45 and 46 between state highway 26 in the south and Providence Road in the north. A one mile buffer zone exists on either side of state highway 26 and Providence Road, inside which all companies must negotiate before planting.

All of Block 47 east of Booker Road and south Hatton Road.

**ALL OTHER AREAS OF THE COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT ARE OPEN TO ALL TYPES OF RADISH SEED PRODUCTION.**