

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 18

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO WATERMELON [*Citrullus lanatus* (Thunb.) Matsumura. et Nakai]

1 Field requirements

- 1.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1.2, a field may be registered as a unit only if no plants of any species of *Citrullus* have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the growing season preceding the registration thereof.
- 1.2 A field which is intended for the production of basic seed or certified seed of a particular watermelon variety may also be registered as a unit, if -
 - 1.2.1 in the case of basic seed, certified pre-basic seed of the same variety has been produced thereon during the preceding growing season; and
 - 1.2.2 in the case of certified seed, certified pre-basic seed or basic seed of the same variety has been produced thereon during the preceding growing season; and
 - 1.2.3 in the case of 2nd generation certified seed, 1st generation certified seed of the same variety has been produced thereon during the preceding growing season.

2 Planting requirements

- 2.1 Plants shall be established in rows on a unit.
- 2.2 Gap-filling in rows shall not be permissible.

3 Isolation requirements

- 3.1 A unit shall be surrounded by an isolation area which -
 - 3.1.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, is at least 2 000 metres wide; and
 - 3.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, is at least 1 000 metres wide.
- 3.2 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any watermelon variety or species of *Citrullus* which flower at the same time as the plants on the unit concerned, unless -
 - 3.2.1 in the case of the intended production of basic seed, they have been established from certified pre-basic seed of the same variety; and
 - 3.2.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, they have been established from certified pre-basic seed or basic seed of the same variety; and
 - 3.2.3 in the case of the intended production of an open-pollinated variety of 2nd generation certified seed, they have been established from 1st generation certified seed of the same variety.

4 Requirements for plants

- 4.1 The number of deviating plants on a unit shall -
 - 4.1.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,2 percent; and
 - 4.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 0,5 percent.
- 4.2 The number of disease-infected plants on a unit shall-
 - 4.2.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,5 percent; and
 - 4.2.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 1,0 percent.
- 4.3 For the purposes of paragraph 4.2 "disease-infected plants" shall mean plants showing virus symptoms visually.

5 Inspection requirements

- 5.1 Seedlings shall be inspected before they are established on a unit.
- 5.2 Plants which are established on a unit from such seedlings shall be inspected -
 - 5.2.1 during the green fruit stage thereof; and
 - 5.2.2 during the full ripe stage of the fruit thereof.
- 5.3 No fruit may be harvested before the inspection referred to in paragraph 5.2.2 has been carried out.

6 Physical requirements

- Seed shall -
- 6.1 have a germination percentage of at least 75;
 - 6.2 have at least 98,0 percent pure seed; and
 - 6.3 not contain more than -
 - 6.3.1 0,1 percent other seed;
 - 6.3.2 0,1 percent seed of deviating plants or fruit; and

6.3.3 2,0 percent other material.

6.3.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 6.3.1, not more than one seed of any of the restricted weed seed species may occur in an ISTA working sample for the determination of other seed by number of the specie being tested.