

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 25

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SMUTS FINGER GRASS (*Digitaria eriantha* Steud.)

1 Field requirements

- 1.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 1.2, a field may be registered as a unit only if -
 - 1.1.1 no plants of any species of *Digitaria* have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the two growing seasons preceding the registration thereof; or
 - 1.1.2 the plants which are already established thereon have also during the preceding growing season been used for the production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed or certified seed, as the case may be.
- 1.2 A field which is intended for the production of basic seed or certified seed of a particular Smuts Finger grass 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 Seed shall be sown or be established in rows on a unit.
- 2.2 All vegetation within a distance of three metres around a unit shall be kept short from the full seed stage thereof until seed has been harvested from the plants on the unit concerned.

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 -
 - 3.1.1.1 is at least 200 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is two hectares or less; and
 - 3.1.1.2 is at least 100 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned exceeds two hectares; and
 - 3.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed -
 - 3.1.2.1 is at least 100 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is two hectares or less; and
 - 3.1.2.2 is at least 50 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned exceeds two hectares.
- 3.2 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any Smuts Finger grass variety 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 certified 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 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 one plant per 30 square metres; and
 - 4.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed one plant per 10 square metres.
- 4.2 Plants established on a unit registered for the production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, may, after the establishment thereof, be used for such purpose for a period of not more than two years.
- 4.3 After the use of plants on a unit for the production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, these plants can be used for the production of certified seed provided the unit has been registered for the production of certified seed.
- 4.4 Plants established on a unit for the production of certified seed -
 - 4.4.1 may be used for this purpose for a period of not more than four years; and
 - 4.4.2 may, with the written approval from the Authority, be used for that purpose for a further period of two years.

5 Inspection requirements

- Plants which are established on a unit shall be inspected -
- 5.1 before the flowering stage thereof; and
 - 5.2 during the flowering stage thereof; and
 - 5.3 during the full seed stage thereof.

6 Physical requirements

- Seed shall -
- 6.1 have a germination percentage of at least 15;
 - 6.2 in the case of coated seed, have a germination percentage of at least 20;
 - 6.3 have at least 94,0 percent pure seed; and
 - 6.4 not contain more than -
 - 6.4.1 0,1 percent other seed;
 - 6.4.2 6,0 percent other material.
 - 6.4.3 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.