

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 46

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO TOBACCO (*Nicotiana tabacum* L.)

1 Field requirements

Any field may be registered as a unit.

2 Planting requirements

2.1 Plants shall be established in rows on a unit.

2.2 Gap filling shall not be permissible.

2.3 In the case of the intended production of seed of a hybrid variety -

2.3.1 the plants of the seed parent and those of the pollen parent shall be established in separate rows; and

2.3.2 rows containing plants of the pollen parent shall be clearly marked.

3 Isolation requirements

3.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 3.3, 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 of an open-pollinated variety, is at least 400 metres wide;

3.1.2 notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3.1.1, a unit may be established within any commercial crop of the same variety; with the condition that the florescence or flowers of the seed parents are covered in such a way that contamination by unwanted pollen is prevented; and

3.1.3 in the case of the intended production of certified seed of an open-pollinated variety, is at least 400 meters wide;

3.2 notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3.1, a unit may be established within a commercial crop of the same variety established from certified seed, or within any commercial crop in which male sterility occurs in the variety.

3.3 In the case of the intended production of a hybrid variety, the plants may be established within any commercial crop in which male sterility occurs in the variety.

3.3.1 The production of the seed and pollen parents of a hybrid crop in which male sterility occurs can be multiplied on the same unit if a two-metre strip is kept clean between the multiplications.

3.4 During the production of certified pre- basic, basic or certified seed of both open-pollinated or hybrid varieties within commercial crops, a five metre strip should be maintained at all times between the seed and commercial crop.

3.5 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any tobacco variety which flower at the same time as the plants on the unit concerned, unless -

3.5.1 in the case of the intended production of basic seed, they have been established from certified pre-basic seed of the same variety;

3.5.2 notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3.1.1, a unit may be established within any commercial crop of the same variety; with the condition that the florescence or flowers of the seed parents are covered in such a way that contamination by unwanted pollen is prevented; and

3.5.3 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.

3.6 Plants of different seed parents of a hybrid variety may be established on adjoining units if -

3.6.1 a common pollen parent is used; and

3.6.2 a distance of at least five metres wide, which is free from plants of the seed parent concerned, is maintained between the units concerned.

4 Requirements for plants

4.1 Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4.2, 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 If male sterility is used in the seed parent of a hybrid variety –

4.2.1 the number of deviating pollen-shedding plants of the pollen parent on a unit shall –

4.2.1.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,2 percent of the plants of the pollen parent at the stage at which the pollen is being collected; and

4.2.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 0,5 percent of the plants of the pollen parent at the stage at which the pollen is being collected;

- 4.2.2 the number of deviating plants of the seed parent on a unit shall -
- 4.2.2.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,5 percent of the plants of the seed parent; and
- 4.2.2.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 1,0 percent of the plants of the seed parent; and
- 4.2.3 the number of pollen-shedding plants of the seed parent on a unit shall -
- 4.2.3.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,1 percent of the plants of the seed parent; and
- 4.2.3.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 1,0 percent of the plants of the seed parent.

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 tobacco shall be inspected -
- 5.2.1 two weeks before the flowering stage thereof; and
- 5.2.2 two weeks before harvesting of the seed.
- 5.3 If plants of a hybrid variety have been established on a unit -
- 5.3.1 the seed grower concerned shall notify the authorised person at least 21 days prior to the date on which -
- 5.3.1.1 the plants of the seed parent is expected to start flowering; and
- 5.3.1.2 the plants or florescence of the pollen parent are to be removed; and
- 5.3.2 The seed of the plants of the seed parent may not be harvested before the inspection referred to in paragraph 5.3.1.2 has been carried out.
- 5.4 In the case where the unit has been established within a commercial planting, no more than 0,1% plants or suckers with flowers will be allowed within the commercial planting during the seed production process.
- 5.5 All senesced and diseased leaves should be removed before harvesting.
- 5.6 Florescence of plants infected with the following pathogens must be removed before harvesting of the seed commences:
- Viruses
 - *Colletotrichum destructivum*

6 Physical requirements

- Seed shall -
- 6.1 have a germination percentage of at least 80;
- 6.2 have at least 99,9 percent pure seed; and
- 6.3 be free from any other seed; and
- 6.4 not contain more than 0,1 percent other material.