

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 58

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO COLUMBUS GRASS & SUDAN GRASS [*Sorghum alnum* Parodi & *Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench subsp. *drummondii* (Steud.) de Wet ex Davidse (syn. *Sorghum sudanense* (Piper) Stapf)]

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 *Sorghum* have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the growing season 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 Columbus or Sudan 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

Plants shall be established in rows on a unit.

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 400 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is two hectares or less; and
 - 3.1.1.2 is at least 200 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is more than two hectares; and
 - 3.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed -
 - 3.1.2.1 is at least 200 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is two hectares or less; and
 - 3.1.2.2 is at least 100 metres wide where the area of the unit concerned is more than two hectares.
- 3.2 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any Columbus or Sudan grass variety or species of *Sorghum* 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.
 - 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 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 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 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;
 - 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 or a viability percentage of at least 70;
- 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; and
 - 6.3.2 2,0 percent other material.
 - 6.3.3 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.