

# The South African Seed Certification Scheme

## ANNEXURE 61

### REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO Perennial Interspecific Forage Sorghum (*Sorghum* spp.)

#### 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 *Sorghum* have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the two growing seasons preceding the registration thereof, or if 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 perennial forage sorghum 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 500 metres wide; and
  - 3.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed is at least 400 metres wide.
- 3.2 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any *Sorghum* variety which flower at the same time as the plants on the unit concerned.
  - 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 Plants established on a unit may -
  - 4.1.1 if such unit is registered for the production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, be used for such purpose for not more than two seed crops after the year of establishment thereof, and may thereafter for not more than a further two seed crops be used for the production of certified seed, if the unit concerned is registered for this purpose; or
  - 4.1.2 if such unit is registered for the production of certified seed, be used for such purpose for not more than three seed crops after the year of establishment thereof.
- 4.2 Plants which are established on a unit, may annually be grazed after the seed crop has been removed. If grazing is allowed, the plants on the unit shall be mowed after grazing has ceased to ensure even re-growth.
- 4.3 The number of deviating plants on a unit shall -
  - 4.3.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,2 percent; and
  - 4.3.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 0,5 percent.

#### 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 percentage of at least 70; or a viability percentage of at least 80.
- 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 2,0 percent other material; and
  - 6.3.3 0,2 percent seed of deviating plants.
- 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.