

# The South African Seed Certification Scheme

## ANNEXURE 62

### REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO DROP SEED GRASS [*Sporobolus fimbriatus* (Trin.) Nees]

#### 1 Field requirements

- 1.1 Subject to the provisions in paragraph 1.2, a field may be registered as a unit only if -
  - 1.1.1 no plants of any species of *Sporobolus* 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, or as the case may be.
- 1.2 A field which is intended for the production of basic seed or certified seed of a particular drop seed 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.
  - 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 is at least five metres wide.
- 3.2 Such isolation area shall be free from plants of any drop seed grass 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 70;
  - 6.2 have at least 97,0 percent pure seed; and
  - 6.3 not contain more than -
    - 6.3.1 0,5 percent other seed of which no more than 0,3 percent may be weed seed; and
    - 6.3.2 0,2 percent nematode galls.

- 6.4 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 6.3.1, -
- 6.4.1 the percentage seed of *Eragrostis tef* (Zucc.) Trotter and *Eragrostis curvula* (Schrad.) Nees in seed shall -
- 6.4.1.1 in the case of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,1 percent; and
- 6.4.1.2 in the case of certified seed, not exceed 0,2 percent; and
- 6.4.2 *E. plana* Nees in seed of all generation, not exceed 0,1 percent; and
- 6.4.3 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.