

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 70

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SWEET CORN (*Zea mays* L. var. *saccharata* Baily)

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 *Zea* of have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the growing season preceding the registration thereof.
- 1.2 Only in the case of an open-pollinated variety, may a field which is intended for the production of basic seed or certified seed of a particular maize variety 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 800 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 sweet corn variety or species of *Zea* which shed pollen at the stage on which the plants on the unit concerned show pollen-susceptible silk, unless -
 - 3.2.1 in the case of the intended production certified 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

- The number of deviating plants on a unit shall -
- 4.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,5 percent; and
 - 4.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 1,0 percent.

5 Inspection requirements

- 5.1 Plants which have been established on a unit shall be inspected -
 - 5.1.1 before the flowering stage thereof;
 - 5.1.2 at the stage on which 5,0 percent or more thereof show pollen-susceptible silk; and
 - 5.1.3 during the full seed stage thereof.
- 5.2 The ripe seed cobs of the plants, which have been established on a unit, shall be inspected prior to the harvesting thereof.
- 5.3 An inspection referred to in paragraph 5.2, shall only be done after the seed cobs concerned have been defoliated.
- 5.4 A seed grower shall notify the authorised person at least 10 days prior to the date on which seed cobs will be ready for inspection referred to in paragraph 5.2.

6 Physical requirements

- Seed shall -
6. 1 have a germination 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 0,05 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.