

The South African Seed Certification Scheme

ANNEXURE 9

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SWISS CHARD (*Beta vulgaris* L. subsp. *vulgaris* var. *flavescens* A.DC.)

1 Field requirements

A field may be registered as a unit only if no plants of any species of a *Beta* spp., have been established thereon for seed production or otherwise during the growing season preceding the registration thereof.

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 3 000 metres wide;
 - 3.1.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, is at least 2 000 metres wide; and
 - 3.1.3 in the case of garden beet, which has been established in the proximity of swiss chard, is at least 5 000 meters wide.
 - 3.1.4 in the case of swiss chard of different colours, is at least 5 000 meters wide.
- 3.2 Such an isolation area shall be free from plants of any swiss chard variety or species of *Beta* 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 certified basic seed, it 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 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 The number of disease-infected plants on a unit shall -
 - 4.2.1 in the case of the intended production of certified pre-basic seed or basic seed, not exceed 0,5 percent; and
 - 4.2.2 in the case of the intended production of certified seed, not exceed 1,0 percent.
- 4.3 For the purposes of paragraph 4.2 "disease-infected plants" shall mean plants which are not visually free from the pathogen *Perenospora schachtii* Fckl.

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 seedlings shall be inspected -
 - 5.2.1 before the flowering stage thereof;
 - 5.2.2 during the flowering stage thereof; and
 - 5.2.3 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 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.