

Seed Certification



COTTON RULES

Ref SR 005

20 November 2004

The following Rules are to be applied in conjunction with the "General Rules" for the Certification of Seed for sowing that contain the general procedures.

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the production of basic and certified seed of hybrid & open pollinated cotton (*Gossypium barbadense* & *G. hirsutum*) true to type and free from the proscribed diseases for export in accordance with the international and domestic requirements.

ELIGIBILITY OF AREA

An area will not be eligible for registration for the production of basic or certified seed if the area is known to be infected with the disease Fusarium or any part of the area nominated has grown a cotton crop in the last 12 months, unless the previous crop was a basic or certified seed crop of the same cultivar.

In addition, the area must not be located on a flood plain downstream from a known infected area or where the area is irrigated from a downstream watercourse.

ISOLATION

Basic Seed – distance from source of contaminating pollen:-

G. barbadense 800 metres

G. hirsutum 600 metres

Certified Seed - distance from source of contaminating pollen:-

G. barbadense 600 metres

G. hirsutum 200 metres

In addition crops must be isolated by at least 100 metres from other non-registered cotton crops and 2 metres from crops of the same cultivar.

INSPECTIONS

Basic seed -Three inspections are required:-

The first at one week after emergence to check if off types are present.

The second at early flowering.

The third at the end of flowering to check if the disease fusarium is present.

Certified seed - One inspection is required immediately prior to harvest to determine if off-types, or fusarium disease is present.

HARVESTING CLEANING AND PACKING

To ensure the seed does not become contaminated with fusarium disease, all bags must be new and every machine, bulk seed container or seed storage facility used for planting, harvesting, transporting or storage of seed must be free from all crop residues, cleaned and treated in an approved manner.

CROP REJECTION

Seed shall be rejected for the purposes of Certification if:-

- The proscribed diseases have been detected in the crop or in the seed lot.
- Off-types exceed 0.2 % in basic seed crops or 0.5 % in certified seed crops.
- Male fertile plants exceed 0.1 % in basic seed bearing crops and 0.3 % in certified seed bearing crops.

SEED QUALITY STANDARDS

Seed must meet the minimum standards as listed hereunder to be eligible for labelling as certified seed.

Minimum Germination	70 %
Minimum Purity	97.8 %
Maximum other seed	0.2 %

PROSCRIBED DISEASES

Seed Bourne disease

Fusarium oxysporum (F.Sp) *vasinsectum*

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