

SEEDS (CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS, 2018

EPISODE 29

Rules for certifying citrus seed

129. Classes of citrus seeds

- 1) There is established by these Regulations, two grades of citrus seeds.
- 2) The grades are Grade I and Grade II.
- 3) A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that the seeds selected for the production of the citrus seeds are sound, true-to-type, free from pests and diseases.

130. Inspection of citrus fields

Without limiting regulation 161, the certifying authority shall conduct at least one field inspection of a citrus field at the time of grafting and budding or at the time of budding, but before the time of sale.

131. Standards for the isolation of citrus field

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds of a grade specified under regulation 127 (2) shall grow the seeds from a field which is
 - a) Clean and free of weeds and volunteer plants;
 - b) Not waterlogged; and
 - c) Free from diseases and pests.
- 2) The person shall ensure that the citrus seeds are nursed at a site which is kept away from natural sources of water by a distance of at least twenty meters, to avoid pollution.
- 3) For purposes of sub regulation (2), a natural source of water includes a dam, a pond and a river.
- 4) The person shall ensure that each lot of citrus seeds is of the same variety and of uniform height and colour.
- 5) The person shall ensure that the citrus plants are vigorous and green in color.
- 6) The person shall place on each citrus seed grown, a tag which is legibly marked with the name of the variety and the grafting or budding date.

132. Labelling of citrus field

A person who grows citrus seeds shall label the field by indicating on a sign post, particulars that include the following:

- a) The name of the crop;
- b) The name of the variety;
- c) The name and source of rootstock;
- d) The source of scion or budwood;
- e) The date of collection of scions or budwood;
- f) The date on which the crop is grafted or budded;
- g) The name of the producer and location of the nursery; and
- h) The lot identification number.

133. Seeds standards for citrus plant

A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that

- a) The samples of the citrus seeds submitted by that person for inspection by the certifying authority, meet the standards specified in paragraph 2 of the Seventh Schedule;
- b) The citrus seeds are true-to-type;
- c) The citrus seeds are free from pests; and
- d) There are no visible signs of a disease on the citrus seeds.

EPISODE 30

134. Damaged seeds of citrus plant

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds shall grade the seeds produced before distributing the seeds.
- 2) The person shall grade the citrus seeds into the grades established under regulation 127 (2).
- 3) The person shall ensure that there are no visible signs of damage on citrus seeds produced and graded as Grade I seeds.
- 4) The certifying authority shall, in respect of ten percent of the nursery of certified citrus seeds, allow twenty-five percent leaf defoliation for seeds graded as Grade II seeds.

135. Offshoots of citrus seeds

A person who grows citrus seeds shall not allow offshoots from the rootstock.

136. Girth of rootstock of citrus seeds

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that the girth of the rootstock just below the bud union is not less than ten centimeters.
- 2) The certifying authority shall allow a tolerance level of
 - a) Two percent of the total number of planting material inspected, for planting materials graded as Grade I planting materials, and the limit permitted for the tolerance shall be plus or minus two; and
 - b) Three percent of the total number of planting materials inspected, for planting materials graded as Grade II planting materials, and the limit permitted for the tolerance is plus or minus two.

137. Height of graft union of citrus seeds

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that the height of graft union of a seed is between twenty and thirty centimeters.
- 2) Despite sub regulation (1), the certifying authority shall allow a tolerance level of three percent of citrus seeds inspected for seeds graded as Grade II seeds and the tolerance level is a plus or minus two.

138. Number of flushes in citrus seeds

A person who grows a citrus seed shall ensure that the number of flushes

- a) In a Grade I seed is two; and
- b) In a Grade II seed is not more than five.

139. Sterilization of potting medium for producing citrus seeds

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that the potting medium for the seeds.
- 2) The person shall put the citrus seed in an appropriate potting container.
- 3) A potting container shall not be less than nine centimeters by seventeen centimeters.

140. Condition of potting container

- 1) A person who grows citrus seeds shall ensure that the container used for potting a Grade I seed is kept intact.
- 2) The certifying authority shall allow a tolerance level of two percent of the total number of containers inspected by the certifying authority for potting Grade II seeds.