

SEEDS (CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS, 2018

EPISODE 1

In exercise of the power conferred on the Minister responsible for Food and Agriculture by section 123(1) (b) of the Plants and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803), these Regulations are made this 5th day of October, 2018.

General provision

1. Purpose of Regulations

The purpose of these Regulations is to

- a) Safeguard the interest of farmers against the use of poor-quality seeds and misleading claims;
- b) Safeguard the interest of seed producers and dealers; and
- c) Contribute to the monitoring of exportation, importation and commercial transactions in seeds and related matters.

Regulation of seeds

2. Object of seed certification

The main object of seed certification is to maintain high quality seeds of crop varieties produced and handled, and make them available for distribution so as to ensure proper identity and genetic purity.

3. Seed certification

- 1) The Ghana Seed Inspection Division of the Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate of the Ministry shall certify seeds in Ghana.
- 2) The Ghana Seed Inspection Division shall apply general and specific rules and regulations as well as field and seed standards to a crop grown for the purpose of producing a seed certified in Ghana.
- 3) The standards for field and seed certification of a crop issued by the Economic Community of West African States shall apply to the certification of the crop in the country, where field and seed certification standards do not exist in the country in respect of that crop

EPISODE 2.

4. Eligibility and contracting requirements for production of seeds

- 1) A person shall not produce basic seed or certified seed from a seed crop that is planted on land on which a lower class of that seed crop was grown previously for the number of years prescribed in the specific crop standards.
- 2) Subject to the approval of the certifying authority, a grower may sub-contract the growing of seeds the grower is registered to grow, to another person.
- 3) The certifying authority shall not approve a sub-contract presented by a grower to the certifying authority for approval, unless the certifying authority has adequate knowledge of the crop which is the subject matter of the sub-contract.
- 4) Where a seed producer and a farmer enter into a contract for multiplication of seed, the seed producer and the farmer shall ensure that the contract contain,
 - a) a commitment by the farmer
 - I. to comply with the Act and these Regulations;

- II. to allow the certifying authority to inspect the crops of the farmer; and
 - III. not to cause an inconvenience to neighboring seed farms;
- b) an undertaking by the producer to
- i) provide the farmer with the necessary technical instructions; and
 - ii) deliver the parent seeds within a reasonable time.
- 5) The certifying authority shall develop a template of a model seed multiplication contract which shall be used by the seeds industry until a template is developed by the Economic Community of West African States for use by Member States.
- 6) The certifying authority shall certify a seed lot that is of a variety listed in the West African Catalogue of Plant Species and Varieties and that is normally eligible for quality control.
- 7) A person may market in the sub-region, only seeds that are registered in the West African Catalogue of Plant Species and Varieties.