SEEDS (CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDS) REGULATIONS, 2018

EPISODE 33

Packaging of seeds and labelling

148. Packaging of seeds

1) Seed presented or sold by a person as breeder seed, foundation seed or certified seed shall
   a) Be bagged by that person in new bags, and
   b) Have affixed two official certification tags one properly affixed outside and the other inside the
      bag.

2) A certification tag is void if the person does not use the certification tag in accordance with these
   Regulations and the certifying authority shall, in that circumstance, withdraw the tag.

3) The responsibility for properly tagging a breeder seed, foundation seed and certified seed rests on
   the certifying authority and on an accredited entity as described in regulation 147.

4) A certification tag is invalid where it is transferred in any manner other than being attached to the
   eligible seed bag.

5) The certifying authority shall limit the number of bags that make each certified seed lot.

6) The certifying authority shall authorize the type of packaging to be used for seeds,

7) The certifying authority shall ensure that the packaging is clean and appropriate for seed protection
   and viability.

8) A producer of seeds shall ensure that the packaging of the seeds is marked.

9) The package markings shall indicate in clear and easily legible print, the
   a) Name the address of the producer or distributor;
   b) Logo or trade name of the producer or distributor, where applicable;
   c) Name of the species and of the variety as listed in the West African Catalogue of Plant Species
      and Varieties;
   d) Category, generation and production cycle;
   e) Net weight;
   f) Certification label; and
   g) Name of the active ingredient used for treatment.

10) Where a seed batch is assembled and labeled, a subsequent splitting or re-packaging shall be
    undertaken in the presence of agents of the quality control and certification authority failing which
    the respective seed batch shall be rejected.

149. Tagging

1) A person shall not sell breeder seed, foundation seed or certified seed unless the seed is tagged and
   sealed with the seal of the certifying authority.

2) Only a person authorized by the certifying authority shall tag and seal seeds.

3) A person authorized by the certifying authority to tag and seal seeds shall ensure that the following
   information is shown on each tag:
   a) Name of crop;
   b) Variety of crop;
   c) Year of production;
   d) Name and address of the grower;
   e) Purity analysis;
   f) Percentage germination;
g) Date of certification;
h) Batch number;
i) Name of active ingredient used for the treatment of the seed, conspicuously marked “POISON”;
j) Code of number of the inspector;
k) Weight of seed;
l) Field location; and
m) Moisture content of seeds.

150. Carry-over seed and retesting
1) The seed producer shall submit carry-over seeds to the certifying authority for re-testing before they are sold
2) Carry-over seed which have already been certified by the certifying authority shall be resubmitted to the certifying authority for retesting.
3) An inspector shall test a carry-over seed for germination and moisture before the inspector issues a new certified seed tag for the seed.
4) Subject to sub-regulation (1), an inspector shall test a carry-over seed
   a) After every nine months for seeds in cold storage; and
   b) Quarterly for seeds not in cold storage.

EPISODE 34

151. Labelling
1) A person who grows a seed of a class specified under these Regulations shall ensure that the seeds that person offers for sale have the official certification label.
2) The person shall ensure that the seed certification label tagged on bagged seeds states the
   a) Species suitable as listed in the National Variety List;
   b) Variety;
   c) Lot number;
   d) Maximum moisture content;
   e) Minimum germination rate in percentage;
   f) Date of analysis;
   g) Purity percentage;
   h) Weight of the seeds;
   i) Month and year of production;
   j) Name and address of the producer;
   k) Code of the analyst;
   l) Warning text or symbol of the place if the seed is treated;
   m) Variety registration number; and
   n) Minimum genetic purity.
3) Where a seed batch is splitted or re-packaged, the new label shall bear the same particulars as the original label with additional annotation indicating that the batch has been re-packaged.

152. Issuance of certification attestation
Where a person requests to use a seed batch, the certifying authority or an accredited private body shall issue a certification attestation which is an official document issued in respect of a seed batch.
153. Exceptional issuance of certification label

1) The certifying authority may exceptionally issue a certification label for a pre-basic seed or basic seed where germination capacity falls short of the required standards.

2) The certifying authority shall indicate the real germination capacity on the label referred to in sub-regulation (1).

3) The certifying authority may exceptionally issue a certification label for a non-conforming seed batch in the case of emergency or dormant seeds after a preliminary and summary evaluation of viability.