

## **Endorsement of categories of cereal seed, and procedures for packaging, marketing and importation of cereal seed**

Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture of 20 April 1999 No 12

On the basis of subsections 2 (3), 12 (5), 15 (6), 18 (3) and (6), 20 (5) and 22 (9) of the Seed and Plant Propagating Material Act (RT I 1998, 52/53, 771), and taking into account the provisions of directive of the EU No 66/402/EEC (OJ L 125, 11.07.66) and the Commission Decision 89/549/EC:

I endorse the «Categories of cereal seed, and procedures for packaging, marketing and importation of cereal seed» (attached).

**Minister Ivari PADAR**

**Secretary General Ilmar TUPITS**

Endorsed by the Regulation of the  
Minister of Agriculture of 20 April  
1999 No 12

### **CATEGORIES OF CEREAL SEED, AND PROCEDURE FOR PACKAGING, MARKETING AND IMPORTATION OF CEREAL SEED**

#### **I. LIST OF SPECIES SUBJECT TO THIS PROCEDURE**

**1.** This procedure applies to the following species of cereals subject to certification:

- |                                  |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1) <i>Avena sativa</i> L.        | oats;      |
| 2) <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L.     | barley;    |
| 3) <i>Secale cereale</i> L.      | rye;       |
| 4) <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.   | wheat;     |
| 5) x <i>Triticosecale</i> Wittm. | triticale; |
| 6) <i>Zea mays</i> L. (partim)   | corn.      |

#### **II. CATEGORIES OF CEREAL SEED**

**2.** The pre-basic seed (SE) - seed for sowing, which:

- 1) is produced by and under the responsibility of the owner using methods foreseen for the maintenance of the variety;
- 2) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for pre-basic seed;
- 3) is intended for production of seed of lower categories;
- 4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**3.** The basic seed (E) – sowing seed of rye and triticale, which:

- 1) is produced under the responsibility of the owner using methods foreseen for the maintenance of the variety;
- 2) is intended for production of certified seed;

3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for basic seed;

4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**4. The first generation basic seed (E 1) – sowing seed of oats, barley and wheat, which:**

1) is produced under the responsibility of the owner using methods foreseen for the maintenance of the variety;

2) is intended for the production of second generation basic seed or first generation or, upon the written application of the owner or representative of the variety, the second generation certified seed;

3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for basic seed;

4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**5. The second generation basic seed (E 2) – sowing seed of oats, barley and wheat, which:**

1) is produced under the responsibility of the owner using methods foreseen for the maintenance of the variety;

2) is intended for the production of first generation, or, upon the written application of the owner or representative of the variety, the second generation certified seed;

3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for basic seed;

4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**6. The certified seed (C) – sowing seed of rye and triticale, which:**

1) is directly derived from basic seed;

2) is intended for use as sowing seed for final production;

3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for certified seed;

4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**7. The first generation certified seed (C 1) – sowing seed of oats, barley and wheat, which:**

1) is directly derived from first or second generation basic seed of the respective variety;

2) is intended for production of second generation certified seed or use as sowing seed for final production;

3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for first generation certified seed;

4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**8. The second generation certified seed (C 2) – sowing seed of oats, barley and wheat, which:**

- 1) is directly derived from first generation certified seed of the respective variety, or upon the written application by the owner or representative of the variety, first or second generation basic seed;
- 2) is intended for use as sowing seed for final production;
- 3) satisfies conditions laid down in Annexes 1 and 2 for second generation certified seed;
- 4) is certified by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**9.** The Plant Production Inspectorate organises the certification of cereal seed according to internationally accepted rules. Legal acts concerning certification are published in the Journal of the Plant Production Inspectorate (*Taimetoodangu Inspektsiooni Teataja*).

### III. REQUIREMENTS FOR PACKAGING, SEALING AND MARKING OF CEREAL SEED

**10.** Persons interested in market-oriented production or packaging of cereal seed must submit an application in a given format (Annex 3) to the Plant Production Inspectorate to obtain the respective activity license.

**11.** The closing point of selling package of certified seed must be sealed with lead seal or adhesive security label of the Plant Production Inspectorate, or with sewn-through official label at the closing point of the package. The package must be sealed in a manner that it can not be opened without damaging the seal (lead seal, adhesive security label or official label).

**12.** The official label satisfying conditions established in Annex 4 will be attached to the outer side of the selling package under the supervision of the official sampler or by him/her.

**13.** The official certifier is:

- 1) the inspector of the Plant Production Inspectorate; or
- 2) a person authorised by the Director General or the Deputy Director General of the Plant Production Inspectorate whose personal interests are not concerned upon performing official tasks.

**14.** The official sampler is a person authorized by the Director General of the Plant Production Inspectorate, or by the Deputy Director General of the Plant Production Inspectorate and the head of the Seed Testing Laboratory of the Plant Production Control Centre whose personal interests are not concerned upon performing his/her tasks.

**15.** The official certifier or official sampler bears responsibility for his/her activities as provided in subsection 26 (1) of the Seed and Propagating Material Act.

**16.** The package can only be opened and re-sealed under the supervision of the official sampler. Upon such case, the date of re-sealing the package and words «Plant Production Inspectorate» must be marked on the official label.

**17.** The package must bear information on chemical treatment of the seed.

### IV. QUALITY REQUIREMENTS APPLYING ON MARKETING OF CEREAL SEED

**18.** Only certified cereal seed can be marketed. The quality requirements applying on cereal seed are established in Annex 2 to this procedure. The marketable seed must be packaged as provided in the Seed and Plant Propagating Material Act and this procedure and the packages must be marked as required.

**19.** The seed field founded for production of certified cereal seed must be officially field-certified.

**20.** The application for official field-certification with the purpose of certification of the seed intended for selling must be submitted to the Plant Production Inspectorate by the owner, representative or maintainer of the variety.

**21.** In the course of field-certification the official certifier of the Plant Production Inspectorate checks the conformity of a growing plant on the seed field to the requirements specified in this annex.

**22.** The application for official seed-sampling of the lot of cereal seed under certification must be submitted to the Plant Production Inspectorate by the owner of the lot.

**23.** The official sampler takes official samples from the seed lot brought into selling condition using internationally applicable methodology to analyse the quality of the seed, and seals selling-packages or containers of the seed lot under certification with adhesive official security labels of the Plant Production Inspectorate.

**24.** The Plant Production Control Centre is responsible for analysing the official seed sample.

**25.** The results of laboratory analyses and post-control field tests are transferred to the Plant Production Inspectorate by previously agreed deadlines. Taking into account these results, the Inspectorate will issue plant certificate for a lot of certified cereal seed and official labels for marking the selling packages.

**26.** It is not obligatory to certify the seed in case of:

- 1) marketing of seed for testing and scientific purposes;
- 2) marketing of seed for selection work;
- 3) seed lots produced by the seed producer on contractual basis and delivered forward by him/her for sorting and packaging;
- 4) seed produced and marketed as industrial raw material.

**27.** The Plant Production Inspectorate can certify and allow marketing of pre-basic and basic seed not satisfying the germination requirement if the seller guarantees the real germination which must be shown on the package, together with information on the name and address of the supplier and the number of the seed lot.

**28.** The cereal seed can be marketed as mixtures of varieties and species on the condition that all components of the mixture are certified. The seed mixtures must be packaged and marked as laid down in this procedure.

## V. CONDITIONS ON IMPORTATION OF CEREAL SEED

29. The importer of the seed must have importation license issued by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

30. Exceptionally, where there is not sufficient supply of seed of varieties of cereals listed in the Official Variety List, the Plant Production Inspectorate can issue single importation license for importation of seed of a variety listed in the variety catalogue of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

31. The document specified in subsection 19 (4) of the Seed and Propagating Material Act must certify the non-presence of wild oats in the seed lot to be imported.

Annex 1 to the  
«Categories of cereal seed, and  
procedures for packaging, marketing  
and importation of cereal seed»

### **PLANT DISEASES AND HARMFUL ORGANISMS DEEMED TO BE DANGEROUS TO CEREAL SEED TO BE INSPECTED DURING THE GROWING PERIOD**

1. The plant must be of sufficient varietal identity and purity. Upon inspecting the varietal identity the official certifier compares the morphological characteristics of a growing plant to the variety description developed by the Plant Production Inspectorate.

2. In case of barley, oats, wheat, rye and triticale, the seed field founded for production of certified seed must be officially field-certified for at least once.

3. The agro-technological status and development stage of plants must enable adequate assessment of identity to and purity of species, varietal identity and purity and distribution of diseases.

4. The minimal distance from neighboring fields of other species or fields not satisfying the requirements on varietal purity of seed of same category must be as follows:

	in case of pre- basic and basic seed	in case of certified seed
1) in case of production of rye, at least	300 m	250 m;
2) in case of production of triticale, at least	50 m	20 m.

5. In case of self-pollinating species all possibilities for mixing the cultivated seed with seed originating from neighboring fields must be excluded.

6. The official certifier may allow shorter distances if adequate protection from outside pollination is provided.

7. Production of seed in a field contaminated with wild oats is prohibited.

8. The maximal acceptable levels of diseases that may lower the quality of seed are as follows:

In case of pre- basic and basic seed	In case of certified seed
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1) loose smut of wheat ( <i>Ustilago nuda</i> (Jensen) Rostrup)	0.0 %	0.2 %
2) loose smut of barley ( <i>Ustilago nuda</i> (Jensen) Rostrup)	0.0 %	0.2 %
3) loose smut of oats ( <i>Ustilago nuda</i> (Pers.) Rostrup)	0.0 %	0.2 %
4) leaf stripe of barley ( <i>Pyrenofora graminea</i> Ito et Kurib)	0.5 %	0.5 %
5) covered snut ( <i>Tilletia caries</i> (DC) Tul.)	0.0 %	0.0 %

9. In case of production of basic seed the period of at least two years must have been passed from growing the seed lot of another variety of the same species or the seed lot of the same variety but not of sufficient varietal identity on the same field, in case of production of certified seed at least one year.

Annex 2 to the  
«Categories of cereal seed, and  
procedures for packaging, marketing  
and importation of cereal seed»

### QUALITY REQUIREMENTS ON CATEGORIES OF CEREAL SEED APPLYING UPON MARKETING

1. The seed lot under certification must be of uniform quality, separated from other lots and marked by the owner as required.
2. The maximal weight of seed lot is 25 tons and minimal weight of seed sample is 1000 g. Maximal weight of seed lot can exceed the allowed maximum by 5%.
3. The seed must be certified within 18 months from harvesting.
4. Quality requirements applying on categories of cereal seed are specified in annex to these requirements.
5. In case of seed lot treated against loose smut and leaf stripe of barley it is not obligatory to inspect the presence of diseases in case of varieties sensitive to diseases.
6. Upon application, the Plant Production Inspectorate will certify in accordance with international treaties a seed lot, which:
  - 1) is directly derived from in a country member to the OECD seed schemes certified pre-basic or first generation certified seed;
  - 2) is harvested in this country;
  - 3) in the course of field-certification performed in the country of production is declared to satisfy the requirements of respective category established by this annex, and is packaged in a manner that its packages are marked and the lot accompanied by label and document specified in Annex 4 to this procedure.

Annex 3 to the  
«Categories of cereal seed, and  
procedures for packaging, marketing  
and importation of cereal seed»

APPLICATION FOR ACTIVITY LICENSE

Applicant: Commercial Registry Code/Personal ID Code:

Address: (County, parish, village, postal code)

Telephone Fax E-mail

Contact person

First application Amendment of previous license

Description of production conditions:

List of areas of activity:

Production Packaging Marketing Importation

Cereal seed ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Hay seed ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Seed of fodder crops ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Seed of oil crops ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Seed of fibre crops ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

In addition to seed intended for certification there are also processed and stored in the production unit:

Seed for use by own production unit: ☐

Other seed: ☐

Imported seed: ☐

Additional information:

Date: Signature:

Annex 4 to the  
«Categories of cereal seed, and  
procedures for packaging, marketing  
and importation of cereal seed»

**REQUIREMENTS ON FORMAT AND CONTENTS OF OFFICIAL LABEL AND SEED  
CERTIFICATE**

1. The minimal size of official label is 110 x 67 mm.
2. The official label of pre-basic seed must be of white color with violet diagonal stripe and bear the following information:
  - 1) «certified seed»;
  - 2) Plant Production Inspectorate, Estonia (competent authority and country);
  - 3) number of the lot;
  - 4) species;
  - 5) variety, or internal breeding line in case of corn;
  - 6) «pre-basic seed»;
  - 7) country of production;
  - 8) month and year of official sealing, marked as «Sealed in . . . . . (month and year)»;
  - 9) declared net or gross weight;
  - 10) upon use of granulated pesticides, substances of graining or other solid additives, the approximate share of pure seed in total weight;
  - 11) in case of hybrid varieties the word «hybrid»;
  - 12) in case of seed packaged in Estonia purity, germination, weight of 1000 kernels and number of packager.
3. The official label of first and second generation basic seed must be of white color, that of certified seed and first generation certified seed of blue color, and that of second generation certified seed of red color, and bear the following information:
  - 1) «certified seed»;
  - 2) Plant Production Inspectorate, Estonia (competent authority and country);
  - 3) number of the lot;
  - 4) species;
  - 5) variety, or internal breeding line in case of corn;



- 6) category;
- 7) country of production;
- 8) month and year of official sealing marked as «sealed in . . . (month and year)»;
- 9) declared net or gross weight, or number of seeds;
- 10) upon use of granulated pesticides, substances of graining or other solid additives, the approximate share of pure seed in total weight;
- 11) in case of internal breeding lines or hybrids, if the internal breeding line or hybrid of the basic seed concerned has been listed in the Official Variety List, the official label must bear the name of component under which it is registered together with reference or without reference to the final variety. In case of internal breeding lines and hybrids intended for use as a component of final variety, the word «component» must appear on the official label;
- 12) in other cases of internal breeding lines or hybrids the official label must bear the name of component which basic seed is concerned. The name can be given in coded format together with reference to the final variety and with or without reference to either it is male or female component. In addition, the word «component» must appear on the official label;
- 13) in case of certified seed of internal breeding lines or hybrids the official label must bear the name of the variety concerned and the word «hybrid»;
- 14) in case of seed packaged in Estonia purity, germination, weight of 1000 kernels and number of packager.

**4.** The official label of seed mixtures must be of green color and bear the following information:

- 1) «.....  
mixture»;  
(species and varieties)
- 2) Plant Production Inspectorate, Estonia (competent authority and country);
- 3) number of the lot;
- 4) month and year of official sealing marked as «sealed in . . . (month and year)»;
- 5) share in weight of different components in mixture;
- 6) declared net or gross weight;
- 7) words «Accepted for marketing only in Estonia».

**5.** The official label of seed not finally certified in another country must be of grey color and bear the following information:

- 1) authority responsible for field-certification and country, or respective abbreviations;
- 2) species;

- 3) variety;
- 4) category;
- 5) number of field;
- 6) declared net or gross weight;
- 7) words: «Not finally certified seed».

6. The document required to accompany seed lots not finally certified, produced in another country and foreseen to be certified in Estonia must contain the following information:

- 1) authority responsible for field-certification and country, or respective abbreviations;
- 2) species;
- 3) variety;
- 4) category;
- 5) number of seed lot used for establishing the seed field and names of country or countries that have certified the seed;
- 6) number of the field;
- 7) acreage of field in ha where the seed lot has been produced;
- 8) amount of seed harvested and number of packages;
- 9) in case of certified seed the number of generations following the basic seed;
- 10) written document from certifying body that the requirements on plant upon certification during the growing period were satisfied;
- 11) if necessary, results of laboratory analyses of seed.

7. The requirements on format and contents of the seed certificate are annexed to these requirements.

Annex to the  
«Requirements on official label and  
format and contents of seed  
certificate»

PLANT PRODUCTION INSPECTORATE

SEED CERTIFICATE NO

Owner of the seed lot

Name, address, No of packager

Species Variety Category

No of seed lot

Weight of lot, kg No of packages, pcs Net weight of package, kg

No of certification act

Date of sampling

Seed sample analysed by the Seed Testing Laboratory of the Plant Production Control Centre:

Purity Germination Moisture Weight of

% of weight No of days % of No of contents, % 1000 seeds

seeds

Real Inert Seeds Normally Hard

seeds addi- of other germinated seeds

tives plants seeds (*Papilio-*

*naceae*)

Seeds of other plants:

Remarks:

Issued on: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First and family name)

Stamp