

Instructions No. (G / 30) for the year 2016

**Instructions for the conditions and procedures for registration of vegetable varieties
and their imported and locally produced products and the conditions for their
production issued under Article 17 / B of the Agriculture Law No. (13) for the year
2015 and its amendments**

Article (1)

These instructions shall be called (Instructions for the conditions and procedures for registration of vegetable varieties and their imported and locally produced products and the conditions for their production for the year 2016) and shall be effective from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

Article (2)

Subject to the definitions contained in Article 2 of the Agriculture Law No. (13) for the year 2015 and its amendments, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned to them below unless the context indicates otherwise:

Committee: the committee for the registration of vegetables and their imported and locally produced origins.

Imported seeds: the seeds imported from outside the Kingdom.

Local seeds: vegetable seeds produced locally by licensed companies for this purpose.

Local seed Production Company: the company licensed for the purposes of producing vegetable seeds locally.

Article (3)

It shall not be allowed to produce, import, trade or export vegetable varieties and their products that are subject to registration for commercial purposes unless they are registered with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Article (4)

The application for registration of vegetable varieties shall not be considered unless the applicant is:

- A. A company licensed to produce local seeds.
- B. A company licensed to import, export and trade seeds.

Article (5)

The vegetable seeds registration committee shall be formed and chaired by the Director of the Directorate of Plant Production, with the membership of:

1. Head of Plant Production Control Department.
2. Head of Seeds Division (Rapporteur).
3. Representative of the National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension.
4. Representative of the Agricultural Engineers Association.
5. Representative of the Agricultural Merchants Association.

Article (6)

The variety registration application shall be submitted by the representative of one of the institutions mentioned in Article (4) of these instructions to the Committee's rapporteur, with the following attachments:

- A. A certified certificate attesting that the company producing the seeds is licensed for the purpose of producing the agricultural crops, duly certified by the authorized party in the country of origin. This certificate shall be submitted once, approved to register other varieties for the same company, and renewed once every five years.
- B. A duly certified certificate from the producing company stating that the importer is a special or exclusive agent for the varieties to be registered.

C. A duly certified certificate from the producing company proving that the varieties are not genetically modified.

D. An original certified certificate identifying the varieties to be registered and the scientific name of the relevant crop, indicating the name to be registered in Jordan and the corresponding name in the producing company, if any. This certificate shall be issued by it or by the official authority authorized in the country of origin to register the seeds, to be duly certified in both cases.

E. A catalog, a technical brochure or an original certified document from the local seed producer and local production companies for local production, showing the following:

1. Scientific name of the crop and commercial name of the variety to be registered.
2. Name and address of the producer.
3. The group to which the variety belongs (open pollinated or first-generation hybrid (F1).
4. Horticultural specifications (nature of vegetative growth, date of maturity, specification of fruits) and the need to indicate the main plant characteristics for each plant species.
5. Variety resistance or tolerance to agricultural pests.
6. Uses of the variety in terms of marketing, manufacturing, fresh consumption, etc.
7. Suitable climatic and environmental conditions for production.
8. Color image of the consumed part of the variety to be registered.

Article (7)

A maximum period of sixty days shall be determined from the date of completion of the documents required to decide on the registration of the variety.

Article (8)

If the registration of the variety is approved, the concerned party shall be notified and required to complete the registration procedures within ninety days from the date of approval.

Article (9)

- The amount of 10 JD shall be collected from the value of the registration fee in return for examining the registration documents upon submission of the application and shall be non-refundable if the application is rejected. The remaining amount of the value shall be collected upon issuance of the certificate of registration in accordance with the decision of the effective agricultural services allowance.
- The re-registration fee shall be collected in accordance with the decision of the effective agricultural services allowance.

Article (10)

The varieties approved for registration shall be documented in the associated record under a serial number and the applicant shall be given a certificate thereof.

Article (11)

A- The party registering the variety shall be allowed to change its name, provided that a duly certified original document indicating the old and new name of the variety is submitted by the producing company.

B- It shall be permitted to transfer ownership of the variety to another local company, provided that a certified original document shall be submitted by the producing

company in addition to a waiver from the local company which registered the variety in its favor.

Article (12)

The Directorate of Plant Production has the right to follow up local and imported registered varieties and match their specifications in farmers' fields.

Article (13)

Registration of the variety shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of its registration. The relevant parties shall renew the registration of the variety within 90 days from the end of the registration period, provided that a document is submitted proving that the company is still producing the seeds in case of non-importation of that variety within one year prior to the end of registration.

Article (14)

Registration of the registered variety shall be canceled in the following cases:

1. If registration procedures are not completed within ninety days of the registration approval decision.
2. If the variety has been registered based on incorrect information.
3. If it is proved that the variety is not suitable for local environmental conditions.
4. If the re-registration is not made within ninety days from the date of the expiry of the registration.

Article (15)

The company that wishes to produce vegetable seeds locally shall apply for a license for this activity under the following conditions:

- Be licensed as an agricultural company for importing, exporting and trading of seeds.

- Employ an agricultural engineer specialized in plant production or general division,

Having experience in the same field of not less than five years and practicing a valid profession.

Agricultural station of not less than ten dunums containing the following:

A. Protected, covered houses and insect proof, as well as double doors at the entrances, provided that they are not less than five houses with a total area of not less than 2.5 dunums.

B. Suitable source for irrigation water (artesian well, concrete well, pond, concrete tank).

C. A fence surrounding the entire area.

D. Contains a building with an area of not less than 150 square meters consisting of six rooms in addition to the following facilities:

- Management room.

- Equipment room fitted with suitable water basin and drainage for washing water.

- Laboratory suitable for germination and purity inspection containing incubator and a fridge.

- Special packaging room.

- Room suitable for storing the seeds after processing, containing a cooling device so that the temperature does not exceed 15 ° C and humidity does not exceed 30%.

- Suitable workers accommodation.

However, the laboratory room and the packaging room may be located at the company's premises and not at the station, provided that the remaining area in this case shall not be less than 100 square meters. The seed can be preserved in a place as described above at the company's premises provided that there is a storeroom at the station.

E. Contains the following tools and equipment:

- Seed extraction machine.
- Seed air separation machine.
- Seed grading machine.
- Drying machine or special tables for drying seeds in a high ventilation area suitable for this purpose.

4. A field visit shall be conducted to inspect the infrastructure prior to licensing.

5. The license of the company that wishes to produce the seeds locally shall be granted and renewed by the Directorate of Plant Production at the Ministry's center. The fees for licensing and renewal of license shall be paid in accordance with the effective decision of the agricultural services allowance. The license shall be renewed annually between first of January until the end of March of each year. In case of delay in renewing the annual license after the abovementioned date, the violator shall be punished under the provisions of Article 18 / F of the Agriculture Law No. (13), for the year 2015 and its amendments.

- 3. In the event of any defect in the conditions mentioned in the above article, the owner of the company shall correct the situation within two months from its date, otherwise the license shall be nullified and the fines stated in the applicable Agriculture Law shall be met.
- 4. The companies currently licensed for this purpose shall correct their situation within a maximum period of six months from the date of publication of these instructions in the Official Gazette.

Article (16)

If the license is lost or damaged, the Directorate of Plant Production shall issue a new license in return for payment of the agricultural services allowance and shall be effective for the remainder of the fiscal year concerned.

Article (17)

The concerned parties in the Plant Production Control Department / Directorate of Plant Production shall have the right to enter the company, view records and invoices, roam therein, make written observations and organize seizures and fines, and the owner and employees of the company shall facilitate their duties.

Article (18)

If the seeds are brought into the kingdom after being propagated abroad, they shall be treated in accordance with the established regulations. The packages shall be referred to "Product of Jordan" and the country of origin in which they were produced shall be specified.

Article (19)

A. A contract shall be brought, in the event of propagation in another country, showing the area and the variety to be propagated.

B. The production company shall inform the Directorate of Plant Production about the start of the production process, give a detailed program on the production steps and open the door of the company to the concerned persons in the Directorate to monitor any process, where the concerned persons in the Directorate of Plant Production can conduct inspection field visits to the local production companies at any time.

C. Each stage of harvest (Lot No.) should be separate. A sample should be taken to check the germination before being sold to the local market.

D. The seed production company shall not trade any variety in the local market unless it has been inspected for germination by the Directorate of Plant Production through the official methods and has passed the inspection. Any other inspection, such as seed health and humidity and purity rates, may be requested. The Ministry shall carry out any inspection to show that the locally produced seeds are free of pests. The trade of seeds shall only be allowed after the result of the required inspection appears.

Article (20)

No variety shall be registered in the name of the producing company except after at least one year from the date of its licensing as a local production company, provided that the number of varieties to be annually registered does not exceed 5 hybrid varieties and 15 ordinary varieties for each company.

Article (21)

Vegetable seed production companies shall have the right to import what they need for production.

Article (22)

In order to grant special permits for seed packaging for seed companies, the following conditions shall be observed:

- Provide the packing site with the equipment and machinery necessary for packing and the suitable conditions for storage.
- The seed variety to be filled for local trading shall be registered in the Ministry for the benefit of the applicant company.
- A power of attorney or certified authorization shall be brought from the company producing the seeds abroad to allow the importing company to repack.
- Provide the company with records documenting all procedures for the seed shipment (received quantity, package weight, number of packages after packing, batch number, date of production, etc.). The Directorate of Plant Production shall be provided with a detailed weekly inspection of all seeds.
- Take a sample for germination inspection and any other inspections required before and after packing by the concerned persons in the ministry.

- The concerned persons in the Ministry shall be entitled to disclose the place of packing at any time during and after packing.
- The application to allow packing shall be submitted before the import of each variety and consignment, separately, and the prior approval shall be taken according to a special form after the payment of the required fees.
- The packages shall (after packing) indicate the country of origin in addition to the phrase "Packed in Jordan" and the label shall show the information mentioned in Article (23) of the Instructions for Import, Export and Trade of Agricultural Crops.

Article (23)

Anyone who violates the provisions of these instructions shall be punished by the penalty provided for in Article (17) of the Agriculture Law No. (13), for the year 2015 and its amendments.

Article (24)

Any instructions inconsistent with the provisions of these Instructions shall be canceled.

Minister of Agriculture

Dr. Akef Al - Zoubi