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Directorate of Agricultural Development and
Farmers Welfare Department,
Thiruvananthapuram, Dated:03/06/2020

CIRCULAR

Sub:- Agriculture Department- Registered Seed Growers Programme (RSGP)
2020-21- Target assigned- Guidelines issued – regarding

Ref:- This Office Order No.ADFW/487/2020-TP(2) dated 08.05.2020

As per the reference cited, Continuous Administrative Sanction has been accorded for the Scheme on Rice Development during 2020-21 and an amount of Rs.125.00 lakh has been earmarked under the Head of Account 2401-00-102-90 (Plan) for implementation of Registered Seed Grower's Programme .

Kerala State Seed Development Authority (KSSDA) will co-ordinate the seed production, seed processing, seed procurement and seed distribution in Kerala and will co-ordinate the activities from foundation seed production in State Seed Farms to certified seed production by Registered seed growers. The aim of KSSDA is to raise the seed replacement ratio(SRR) to 50% in the coming seasons and coming years , ie. 9000MT quality seeds of Paddy every year.

An amount of Rs.125.00 lakh has been earmarked to KSSDA for Registered Seed Grower's Programme during 2020-21.

Objectives of the programme:

- To increase the Seed Replacement Rate (SRR) to 50% by ensuring timely supply of quality paddy seeds to the farmers.
- Supply of foundation seeds free of cost to the Registered seed Growers.
- To produce quality certified paddy seeds.
- To involve more farmers into cultivating paddy crop
- Ensure lucrative price for the procured seed to the Registered Seed Growers.

- To cultivate paddy seeds of different varieties needed by the rice farmers of Kerala.

In order to attain the above objectives, the registered seed growers programme is being implemented in the State with the co-operation of the Kerala Agricultural University, State Seed Production Centres, Krishi Bhavans and farmers of registered Padashekara Samithies at the Panchayath level. During the current year, seed production programme is to be implemented in Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam and Malappuram districts in an area of 2500 hectares. Foundation seeds will be produced in various seed production centres (State Seed Farms) from the breeder seeds obtained from the Kerala Agricultural University. These foundation seeds are supplied to the registered seed growers free of cost and are then used for raising the required quantity of registered seeds which is then distributed to the farmers. A list of Registered Seed Growers(RSG's) shall be maintained as a database at all levels from Krishi Bhavans to Directorate of Agriculture.

KSSDA will implement the scheme based on the targets assigned to districts in a total area of 2500 ha. KSSDA will also impart training on quality seed production to the stakeholders.

The district wise targets to be assigned under Registered Seed Growers Programme (RSGP) 2020-21as follows.

Table-1. District wise target for Virippu and Mundakan 2020-21

District	Virippu Area (ha)	Mundakan-Puncha Area (ha)	Total Area(ha)
Palakkad	713.18	1150	1863.18
Thrissur	64.82	200	264.82
Ernakulam		27	27
Malappuram		95	95
Kottayam		250	250
Total	778	1722	2500

Table-2. District wise, Variety wise Target for RSGP 2020-21

District	Variety	Virippu(ha)	Mundakan (ha)	Total (ha)
Palakkad	Uma	701.18	1100	1801.18
	Jyothi	12	50	62
	Total	713.18	1150	1863.18
Thrissur	Jyothi	64.82	100	164.82
	Uma		100	100
	Total	64.82	200	264.82
Kottayam	Uma		250	250
	Total		250	250
Malappuram	Uma		80	80
	Aathira		5	5
	Aiswarya		10	10
	Total		95	95
Ernakulam	Uma		27	27
	Total		27	27
GRAND TOTAL		778	1722	2500

Principal Agricultural Officers of Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam and Malappuram are requested to take urgent action to re-allot Krishi Bhavan wise targets for implementation of RSGP during 2020-21 as per the district wise, variety wise targets given in Table-2. Seed indent with variety wise requirement of paddy seeds and date of supply may be informed directly to Kerala State Seed Development Authority, Thrissur.

The seed cost of foundation seeds for certified seed production/certified seed distribution to farmers may be met by KSSDA utilizing the fund provisions during the current year. KSSDA should furnish monthly progress reports with detailed physical and financial achievements to Additional Director of Agriculture(CP) before 5th of every month.

Financial outlay:

1. Cost of foundation seeds:

Season	Area(ha)	Seed rate (kg/ha)	Foundation seed requirement (MT)	Rate Rs/kg	Total cost (Rs in lakh)
Virippu	778	80	62.24	40	24.896
Mundakan	1722	80	137.76	40	55.104
Total	2650		212		80.00

2. Training expenses: *

Sl. no.	No. of trainings	No. of participants	Amount/training (Rs)	Total amount (Rs in lakh)
1.	10	50	20,000	2.00

3. The balance fund of Rs. 43.00 lakh will be utilized for items such as cost of gunny bags required for packing processed paddy seeds, transportation, loading, unloading etc.

Monitoring and evaluation:

At the State level, the programme will be implemented by the Joint Director of Agriculture, Kerala State Seed Development Authority. Additional Director of Agriculture(CP) will be the monitoring authority at the State level and will be issuing certification tags for quality seeds. Deputy Director of Agriculture(WM) is the district level nodal officer of the RSGP programme. Principal Agricultural Officers and Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) will conduct random inspections in the field of farmers as well as in the State Seed Farms where the foundation seeds are produced.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR REGISTERED SEED GROWERS PROGRAMME

Seed being the critical input in crop production, ensuring supply of quality seed decides the success of any crop production programme. In Kerala, there is an increase in demand for quality paddy seed due to the higher targeted Seed Replacement Ratio (SRR) and demand from farmers. To meet the high demand, co-ordination of agencies involved in production, procurement and distribution process of all classes of seed need to be strengthened and streamlined.

The Registered Seed Growers Programme (RSGP) is being implemented by the Department in selected areas involving farmers in the production of quality seeds and as a result there has been considerable progress in the production and distribution of quality seeds. In order to ensure the quality of seed produced and procured from registered seed growers, the following guide lines are issued for strict adherence by the Agricultural Officers and Assistant Directors of Agriculture implementing RSGP.

1. At Krishi Bhavan level, RSGP is to be implemented by the Agricultural Officers.
2. KSSDA is the nodal agency for procurement and marketing of the seed produced under the programme.
3. Foundation seed required for multiplication should be distributed to the selected farmers, free of cost by KSSDA.
4. Individual Farmers can register up to 2 hectares. If the area exceeds 2 ha, registration may be permitted only in favour of the concerned Padasekhara Samithy.
5. The padasekhara samithy/ individual farmer should register as a 'Registered Grower' by remitting Rs.25/- under the head of account "0401-800-84-other services and services fees" through treasury chalan. Application for registration in the prescribed form along with the treasury challan should be submitted to the State Seed Certification Agency, the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP), Directorate of Agricultural Development and Farmers Welfare, Vikas Bhavan, Thiruvananthapuram-695033.
6. The Padasekhara samithy/individual farmer need to take membership with the KSSDA remitting a fee of Rs.2010/- and Rs.510/- respectively and should execute an agreement with KSSDA.
7. The Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA should arrange to conduct necessary trainings to the padasekhara samithies and officers based on the need. The training schedule should be chalked out by the Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA in consultation with the Principal Agricultural Officers well in advance of the programme implementation.
8. The Agricultural Officer of the concerned Krishi Bhavan should ensure that the registered seed growers adopt all the scientific cultivation practices, in the area selected for seed production programme. Care should be taken to see that proper isolation distance is maintained and timely roguing of off types is done.

9. Block level Assistant Director of Agriculture is the designated Seed Inspector and should conduct three field inspection at particular time intervals as detailed below:

Variety	1st	2 nd	3 rd
Short duration	Within 60 DAS	Within 85 DAS	Within 100 DAS
Medium duration	Within 80 DAS	Within 100 DAS	Within 125 DAS
Long duration	Within 90 DAS	Within 125 DAS	Within 150 DAS
(DAS- Days After Sowing)			

- The Assistant Director of Agriculture should inspect the field and furnish the dated inspection report in the prescribed format.
10. The Agricultural Officer should ensure that proper drying and pre cleaning of harvested paddy is done before the drawal of seed samples by the Assistant Director of Agriculture.
11. As envisaged in the Seed Act (1966), the Seed Inspector, (the Assistant Director of Agriculture) should inspect the seed lot produced by the registered seed growers and draw samples. The Assistant Director of Agriculture should furnish the following certificate.

'Certified that(name), ADA of Block has drawnNo. of samples from No. of lots kept at the premises of Sri..... (Name and address) on(date and time) in the presence of(witness).

Guide lines for drawal and dispatch of seed samples are given in Annexure-I.

12. On receipt of the sample, the Seed Analyst will conduct the analysis of Seed samples and furnish the test results within 30 days.
13. On receipt of test results of seed samples, the Seed Inspector should furnish the complete documents required for obtaining seed tag (Application in prescribed proforma, chalan, sowing report, three field inspection reports, original seed sample analysis reports of both standard and nonstandard samples) to

- the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) for obtaining certification tag for the particular quantity of seed to be procured.
14. On receipt of all the required details for the issue of certification tag, the certification agency viz, the Additional Director of Agriculture (CP) will issue the same within 10 days of receipt of the requisition from the Seed Inspector. The Certificate of Registration will be communicated to the concerned Seed Inspector, the Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA and the Principal Agricultural Officer of the district.
 15. Immediately after receipt of certification tag, the Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA will make arrangement for the processing, packing and lifting of the certified seed with necessary labeling. The Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA in consultation with the concerned Principal Agricultural Officers will see that the certified seed produced in the district will be distributed to meet the demand of that particular district and then only will be transported to the godown/ware house as the case may be.
 16. On receipt of certified seed in Krishi Bhavan, the concerned Agricultural Officers should ensure the viability of the seed by conducting germination test before distribution to farmers. Complaints in respect of the viability of the seed should be informed to KSSDA within 10 days of receipt of the seed.
 17. The Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) is the district level nodal officer of the RSGP. The Principal Agricultural Officer and Deputy Director of Agriculture (WM) should conduct random field inspection to the tune of 10% and 25% respectively. The Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP) should inspect the Foundation Seed Production Programme conducted in the Departmental Seed Farms.
 18. The above guide lines are applicable to seed production programme in Departmental Seed Farms also. Since the quality of the FS II Seed produced in the Seed Farms decide the quality

of certified seed produced by Registered Seed Growers, utmost care should be taken in the production of Foundation Seed. The concerned Deputy Director of Agriculture (YP) and Principal Agricultural Officers should issue proper instructions to officers in charge of State Seed Farms, for the proper handling of Foundation Seed from production till distribution.

19. Since Seed is declared as an Essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, the seed produced and distributed under RSGP should possess the assured quality for which the above guidelines should compulsorily be adhered to.

Since Seed multiplication procedures play an important role in deciding the quality of seed, utmost care should be taken at all levels of seed production which may reflect in the ultimate crop yield.

Sd/

Director of Agriculture

Joint Director of Agriculture, KSSDA, Thrissur.
All Principal Agricultural Officers
All Farm Officers
All Assistant Directors of Agriculture
TA to the Director
CAs to all Additional Directors of Agriculture
IT Cell for publishing in Website

Additional Director of Agriculture (CP)

ANNEXURE - 1

(Schedule 1 of the Seeds (Control) Order 1983) Sealing, Fastening, Dispatch and Analysis of Samples

I. Manner of taking samples

Samples of any seed for the purpose of analysis shall be taken in a clean dry container which shall be closed sufficiently tight to prevent leakage and entrance of moisture and shall be carefully sealed.

II. Sampling Intensity

Bulk sampling- when sampling seed lots are stored in bulk (heaps, bins, wagons etc) the following sampling intensity should be regarded as a minimum requirement for obtaining the "bulk sample"

- (a) Upto 500 kilograms – at least 5 individual samples except in case of small lots upto 50 kilograms where a smaller number of samples is sufficient, not less than 3 samples need be taken.
- (b) 501 to 3000 kilograms- one individual sample for each 300 kilograms, but not less than 5 individual samples.
- (c) 3001 to 20,000 kilograms- one individual sample for each 500 kilograms, but not less than 10 individual samples.

For seed in bulk the individual samples should be distributed at random all over the bulk and the samples drawn from varying depths.

Bag sampling – For seed lots in bags or other containers the following sampling intensity should be regarded as a minimum requirement.

- (d) Upto 5 containers- sample each container but always take at least 5 individual samples.
- (e) From 6 to 30 containers- sample at least one in every three containers but never less than 5.
- (f) 31 containers or more – sample at least one in every five containers but never less than 10.

Unless doubt exists about the homogeneity of a lot, all such primary samples should be combined a composite sample of the lot for submitting to the seed testing laboratory. If the individual or primary samples are not sufficiently homogenous, they may be sent to the laboratory for a heterogeneity test.

III. Containers to be labeled and addressed - All containers containing samples for analysis shall be properly labeled and the parcels shall be properly addressed. The label on any sample of seed sent for analysis shall bear-

- (a) Serial number
- (b) Name of the sender with official designation, if any;
- (c) Name of the person from whom the sample has been taken;
- (d) Date and place of taking the sample;
- (e) Kind or variety of the seed for analysis;
- (f) Nature and quantity of preservative, if any, added to the sample

IV. Manner of packing, fastening and sealing the samples - All samples of seeds sent for analysis shall be packed, fastened and sealed in the following manner.

- (a) The stopper shall first be securely fastened so as to prevent leakage of the containers in transit.
- (b) The containers shall then be completely wrapped in fairly strong thick paper. The ends of the paper shall be neatly folded in and affixed by means of gum or other adhesive.
- (c) The paper cover shall be further secured by means of strong twine or thread both above and across the container, and the twine or thread shall then be fastened on the Paper cover by means of sealing wax on which there shall be at least four distinct and clear impressions of the seal of the sender, of which, one shall be at the top of the packet, one at the bottom and the other two on the body of the packet. The knots of the twine or thread shall be covered by means of sealing wax bearing the impression of the seal of the tender.

ANNEXURE - II

Form-I
Form of Sowing Report

Year:

Season:

- 1 Name and Address of the :
producer
- 2 Name and address of the :
Grower
- 3 Location of the Farm :
a. Village :
b. Block :
c. Taluk :
- 4 Crop :
a. Variety :
b. Area :
- 5 Class of Seed to be produced :
- 6 Quantity of seeds used Kg/Ha :
- 7 Source of Seed :
- 8 Tag No (of item 07) :
- 9 Purchase of Bill No.& Date :
- 10 Date of Sowing :

Signature of the Grower

Signature of the producer/Agricultural Officer

Enclosures:

1. Tag for source of seed
2. Purchase bill of grower

Assistant Director of Agriculture

**ANNEXURE - X
FIELD INSPECTION REPORT**

Season
REPORT No. I, II, III

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Seed Certification No. | : |
| 2 | Report No. & stage of crop | : |
| 3 | Kind and Variety | : |
| 4 | Date of inspection | : |
| 5 | Class of seed used | : |
| 6 | Time of inspection | : |
| 7 | Date of sowing | : |
| 8 | Area Registered/ Inspected | : |
| 9 | Isolated or Not Isolated | : |
| 10 | Field counts | : |

Factors of Inspection (Paddy)

No. of count	% of Weed spices	% off Type
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Average

11. Seed Farm Map:

Signature of the Producer

Signature of the SCO**

** (Must be signed by the Assistant Director of Agriculture authorized)

PROFORMA

(To be submitted with seed analytical report for seed certification)

- 1 Name of Krishi Bhavan/ Seed farm/ Block :
- 2 Name of crop :
- 3 Variety & Area sown :
- 4 Name of the farmer/Padasekharam/State :
Seed Farm/with contact no./ e-mail
address of concerned Agricultural Officer/
Assistant Director of Agriculture
- 5 Total No. of farmers involved :
- 6 Source of seed used :
- 7 Class of Seed used for multiplication :
- 8 Reg. Fee Remittance of chalan particulars :
- 9 Date of sowing :
- 10 Date of first field inspection :
- 11 Date of second field inspection :
- 12 Date of third field inspection :
- 13 Dates on which rouging done :
- 14 Problems noted during the seed production/
pest/disease attack/ natural calamity etc. :
- 15 Measures adopted to control/extend of :
damage :
- 16 Date of harvest :
- 17 Quantity of pre-cleaned seed produced :
- 18 Date of processing :
- 19 Number of lots and lot Nos. :
- 20 Date on which sample taken for analysis :
- 21 No. of samples taken for analysis :
- 22 Name and designation of the officer drawing :
sample :
- 23 Date on which sample sent for analysis :
- 24 No. of samples sent to lab :
- 25 Date of test result :
- 26 Date of receipt of test result from the lab :
- 27 No. of samples reported standard :
- 28 No. of samples reported sub standard :
- 29 Lab test report Nos & Name of the lab :
- 30 Date of seed analysis report sent to :
certification agency :
- 31 Quantity offered for certification :
- 32 Remarks :

Certificate

Certified that the seed multiplication procedure has been carried out as per the Seeds Act 1966 and the guidelines communicated from the Director of Agriculture.

Place :

Agricultural Officer

Date :

Office

Dated signature of the Assistant Director of Agriculture