
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS


DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. R. 7523

29 May 2026

**PLANT IMPROVEMENT ACT, 2018
(ACT No. 11 OF 2018)****REGULATIONS RELATING TO KINDS OF PLANTS AND PROVISIONS OF THE ACT APPLICABLE AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEED AND SEED SAMPLES: AMENDMENT**

I, John Steenhuisen, Minister of Agriculture, acting under Section 58 of the Plant Improvement Act, 2018 (Act No. 11 of 2018), after consultation with the Minister of Finance, hereby further amend the Regulations published under Government Notice No. R. 6852 of 21 November 2025 to the extent set out in the schedule.



**MR JOHN STEENHUISEN, MP
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE**
DATE: 06-05-26

SCHEDULE

Definition

1. In this Schedule, "the Regulations" means the Regulations published under Government Notice No. R. 6852 of 21 November 2025.

Amendment of Table 1 of the Regulations

2. Table 1 Kinds of plants and provisions of the Act applicable is hereby amended by the insertion of the following expressions in the alphabetically correct position in the table:

TABLE 1
KINDS OF PLANTS AND PROVISIONS OF ACT APPLICABLE
[Reg. 2]

1 Kind of plant		2	3	4	5
Scientific name	Common name	Sections of the Act not applicable	Status of varietal list (closed / open)	Type of propagation (seed / vegetative)	Use (Agriculture Vegetable Fruit)
<i>Bracharia</i> (Trin.) Griseb. (All/Alle spp.)	Bracharia, signal grass	24-38	open	S	A
<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicory/Sigorei		closed	S	V
<i>Rubus</i> L. (All/Alle spp.)	Bramble, Raspberry/Braam, Framboos		closed	V	F
<i>Urochloa brizantha</i> (Hochst. Ex A. Rich.) R.D. Webster (=Bracharia brizantha (Hochst. ex A. Rich.) Stapf)	Bread grass	24-38	open	S	A
<i>Vaccinium</i> L. (All/Alle spp.)	Blueberry, Cranberry/Bosbesie		closed	V	F
<i>Zea mays everta</i>	Popcorn	24-38	open	S	V

Amendment of Table 4 of the Regulations

2. Table 4 Requirements for seed and seed samples is hereby amended by the insertion of the following expressions in the alphabetically correct position in the table:

**TABLE 4
REQUIREMENTS FOR SEED AND SEED SAMPLES [Reg. 27]**
(*No. of footnote)

Kind of plant		Maximum content (%)			Minimum percentage		Minimum number per weight (kg)		Prepacked seed		Exempted from indication "Prepacked seed"		Maximum mass (kg) of a seed lot
Botanical name	Common name	Other matter	Other seed	Weed seed (%)	Germination by number	Viability	Germination by weighed replicate	Max. mass (g) per container	Approx. no. of seed per container	Max. mass (g) per container	Approx. no. of seed per container		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
<i>Brachiaria</i> (Trin.) Griseb.	Brachiaria, signal grass	4	0,2		60			500		50		10 000	
<i>Brachiaria brizantha</i> - see <i>Urochloa brizantha</i>													
<i>Urochloa brizantha</i>													
<i>Cichorium intybus</i> L.	Chicory	4	0,2		60			500		50		10 000	
<i>Urochloa brizantha</i> (Hochst. ex A. Rich.) R.D. Webster (syn. <i>Brachiaria brizantha</i> (Hochst. ex A. Rich.) Staf	Beard grass, Palisade grass	4	0,2		60			500		50		10 000	
<i>Zea mays everta</i>	Popcorn	4	0,1		70			10 000		1 000		40 000	

FOOTNOTE

1.	In the case of <i>Lespedeza cuneata</i> (Dum. Cours.) G. Don, <i>Kummerowia striata</i> (Thunb.) Schindl. [Syn.: <i>Lespedeza striata</i> (Thunb.) Hook. et Arn.], <i>Ornithopus compressus</i> L., <i>Stylosanthes hamata</i> (L.) Taub. and <i>Trifolium vesiculosum</i> Savi, up to 60 % hard seeds may be counted as germinated or viable seeds.
2.	In the case of <i>Desmodium infortum</i> (Mill.) Urb., <i>Desmodium uncinatum</i> (Jacq.) DC., <i>Medicago littoralis</i> Rohde ex Loisel., <i>Medicago polymorpha</i> L., <i>Medicago rugosa</i> Desf., <i>Medicago sativa</i> L., <i>Medicago scutellata</i> (L.) Miller, <i>Medicago truncatula</i> Gaertn. and <i>Trifolium repens</i> L., up to 40 % hard seeds may be counted as germinated or viable seeds.
3.	In the case of <i>Lotus corniculatus</i> L., <i>Lupinus albus</i> L., <i>Lupinus angustifolius</i> L., <i>Lupinus luteus</i> L., <i>Ornithopus sativus</i> Brot., <i>Trifolium hirtum</i> All., <i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> L., <i>Trifolium pratense</i> L., <i>Trifolium resupinatum</i> L., <i>Trifolium subterraneum</i> L., <i>Vicia faba</i> L., <i>Vicia sativa</i> L., <i>Vicia villosa</i> Roth and <i>Vigna unguiculata</i> (L.) Walp., [syn. <i>V. sinensis</i> (L.) Savi ex Hassk.; incl. <i>Dolichos biflorus</i> L.] up to 20 % hard seeds may be counted as germinated or viable seeds.
4.	In the case of <i>Sorghum</i> spp. the test for viability is only applicable where seed is still enveloped by the flower parts.
5.	In the case of <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> (Schrad.) Nees, not more than 0,2 % nematode galls caused by <i>Anguina</i> spp., are allowed.
6.	In the case of <i>Avena nuda</i> L., <i>Hordeum vulgare</i> L. subsp. <i>vulgare</i> , <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L. subsp. <i>aestivum</i> and <i>Triticum turgidum</i> L. subsp. <i>durum</i> (Desf.) van Slangeren [syn. <i>Triticum durum</i> Desf.], TR means trace components amounting to less than 0,05 %.
7.	In the case of <i>Anthephora pubescens</i> Nees and <i>Sporobolus fimbriatus</i> (Trin.) Nees, seed sampling and testing methods are available from the Official Seed Testing Laboratory.
8.	In the case of <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. (hemp), the maximum THC content is 2%.
9.	If any seed of the following Restricted Weed Seed species are found during purity analysis, then other seed-by-number-determination must be carried out and no more than one seed of any of these species may be present in the working sample: <i>Datura</i> spp., <i>Cuscuta</i> spp., <i>Stipa trichotoma</i> Nees [= <i>Nasella trichotoma</i> (Nees) Hack. Eex Arechav.], <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> Cav