



CASHEW SEED SYSTEMS AND REGISTRATION OF CASHEW NURSERIES



Introduction

Seed systems are the vehicle through which farmers get high-quality seed of crop varieties. In cashew industry seedlings are raised in registered nurseries (private & public) which make up the formal seed system.

In Cashew production, informal seeds and seedlings systems are highly discouraged because they contribute, significantly, to low yields and the spread of pests and diseases between farms. Cashew is a cross-pollinated crop and exhibits wide variation in respect of characteristics of the nut, apple and yield of seedling progenies. Farmers have a tendency of sharing planting materials, which are not inspected and approved to have a genetic potential to produce.

Selection of planting material is important in cashew cultivation hence the importance of the production of certified planting material for cashew. The process of registering a nursery involves a systematic evaluation of the nursery's compliance with the requirements for domestic and/ or international movement of nursery stock. The Legislative Authority-Plant protection Act Cap 324 instructs that each nursery to be registered must inspected and certified as supplier of clean planting materials.

Nursery Certification process involves inspection, registration, licensing and issuance of certificates in the following steps:

CASHEW NURSERY OPERATOR

Applies for Inspection, Registration, and Certification



AFA - Horticultural Crops Directorate

Inspects, Registers and issues the Nursery License



Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS)

Inspects, Issues an inspection report and certificate for the nursery

Requirements from the nursery operator for registration

- Nursery name
- Name of the applicant(s) (Nursery operator)
- National Identification Number (ID No)
- Kenya Revenue Authority Pin No.
- Physical address/ nursery location
- Contacts (Postal address/ mobile (telephone) number/ e-mail address
- Source of nursery propagation materials
- A list of the crop varieties/ species being raised in the nursery
- Copy of receipt for seed acquisition
- A copy of Plant Import Permit (for all imported nursery mother plants)
- Certified copy of HCD nursery mother-block registration

Why registration, inspection/ certification of Cashew Nursery

- Help prevent pest introductions into the country and between farms
- Ensure compliance with HCD, GAP and other relevant standards
- Helps in market access
- Helps facilitate continual improvement and updating of the Nursery's Phytosanitary Management Systems (PSMS)
- Help protect growers against major crop losses associated with diseases and pests
- Prevent exchange and transfer of diseases from one farm to another/one area to another
- Ensure compliance with nursery stock pest cleanliness, labeling, and quality standards
- Identify any gaps/ needs in the Nursery



Sample certificate for a nursery

List of certified cashew nurseries

- KALRO Mtwapa Nursery
- KALRO Matuga Nursery
- KALRO Msabaha Nursery
- Coast Nurseries
- Growfairly Nurseries



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