



COFFEE BOARD : BANGALORE

No.EXT/BAN/P&C CELL-59/2014-15/ 470

Date : 19.12.2014

CIRCULAR

Sub: Modalities for gap / vacancy filling in the Arabica estates due to removal of White Stem Borer infested plants and raising of group nurseries under the action plan to combat White Stem Borer – Reg.

Ref: No.04/03/2010-Plant – B dated 22.08.2014 of MoC & I.

The extended drought condition and high temperature from November 2013 onwards provided ideal conditions for the flare up of the White Stem Borer. Due to high level of infestation around 96 lakh plants were estimated to be uprooted contributing to an area of 3,200 ha. In order to tackle the problem, the Board evolved an Action Plan to combat Coffee White Stem Borer in consultation with the stakeholders, Research Committee and Expert Committee on WSB and submitted to the Ministry.

The Ministry vide letter cited under reference communicated approval of the said action plan. As per approval, the following components are to be implemented:

- 1) Support for Gap / Vacancy filling in the estates due to removal of White Stem Borer infested plants, spread over the planting season 2014-15 and 2015-16.
- 2) Support for Self Help Groups for setting up of Community Nurseries during 2015-16.

The extension officers sought guidelines for implementation of the above components. Accordingly, the modalities for the above two components are enclosed.

Under the community / group nursery programme, a total of 50 lakh seedlings are to be raised during 2015-16 to cater to the needs of the growers for carrying out gap / vacancy filling in the Arabica coffee estates due to removal of White Stem Borer affected

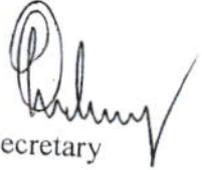
plants during the planting season 2015-16. The allocation of seedlings to be raised is as under :

- 1) Joint Director (Extn.), Hassan – 40 lakh seedlings
- 2) Joint Director (Extn.), Kalpetta – 10 lakh seedlings

The Joint Directors (Extn.) shall allot the required number of seedlings to be raised in each of the regions of the Deputy Directors (Extn.) under their administrative control with reference to the Arabica coffee area in the concerned region.

The Joint Directors (Extn.) shall make arrangements to procure the required quantity of seed coffee immediately so as to take up the work of raising of primary beds in the identified group nurseries in each of the Arabica Liaison Zones.

Encl: As above.


Secretary

To : The Joint Directors (Extension), Hassan / Kalpetta

Copy to:

- 1) DS to Chairman
- 2) PA to Secretary / Director of Finance / Director of Research, CCRI / HO
- 3) The Deputy Directors (Extn.), Hassan, Chikmagalur, Madikeri, Virajpet, Coimbatore
- 4) All the Senior / Junior Liaison Officers of Karnataka & Tamil Nadu.

MODALITIES FOR GAP / VACANCY FILLING IN THE ARABICA ESTATES DUE TO REMOVAL OF WHITE STEM BORER INFESTED PLANTS UNDER ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT WHITE STEM BORER

Objective

To provide incentives to Arabica coffee for taking up vacancy filling due to removal of White Stem Borer plants during the planting season 2014-15 and 2015-16 in traditional areas.

Eligibility:

1. All category of growers including Corporates and Co-operatives.
2. As a special provision, to mitigate the problems faced by the growers due to White Stem Borer menace, financial support will be extended for the gaps / vacancies filled during the 2014 and 2015 planting seasons.
3. The subsidy for vacancy filling is admissible only when the number of vacancies filled in Arabica coffee are to an extent of 25% or more in a given block.
4. The unit area for consideration of vacancy filling in a given estate should be a minimum of one acre spread over in one block or more than one block. If the estate itself is one acre or below, then the actual area of vacancy filled can be treated as the unit area for the purpose of subsidy subject to the condition that a minimum of 25% vacancies are filled.
5. Subsidy is eligible only for the actual extent of area calculated based on the actual number of gaps/ vacancies filled during 2014 and 2015 seasons.
6. Gaps / vacancies filled in Robusta blocks and gaps / vacancies in Arabica blocks filled with Robusta material are not eligible for support under vacancy filling activity.
7. The age of the plants existing in the estate need not be the criterion for considering subsidy through gap / vacancy filling.

Scale of Support

- (1) The total number of gaps / vacancies filled (subject to the condition of a minimum 25% vacancies in a given block) in a given estate should be converted in terms of area by considering the existing spacing adopted in that block and subsidy shall be calculated and paid as per the norms of XII plan replantation sub-component under the component "Development Support for Traditional Areas".



Typically, the number of plants per unit under different spacing are indicated below:

Spacing (in feet)	No. of plants / Ha	Remarks
7 x 7	2195	Generally preferred for tall varieties
7 x 6	2562	- do -
6 x 6	2989	Preferred for both tall & dwarf varieties
5 x 5	4300	Generally preferred for dwarf varieties
5 x 3	7173	Hedge row method for dwarf varieties
6 x 3	5977	- do -

(2) Subsidy will be released in one installment during the 1st year of the gap / vacancy filling.

Procedure for claiming subsidy

1. The applicant shall submit an application in the prescribed format (in duplicate) along with necessary documents to the concerned office of JLO / SLO of the Coffee Board after taking up the activity.
2. The following documents are required to be submitted along with the application:
 - 1) Duly filled-in application in the prescribed format (in duplicate).
 - 2) Proof of photo identity of the applicant/s such as copy of Aadhaar Card or Ration Card or Passport or PAN Card or Driving License or Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC) by the Election Commission etc.,
 - 3) Proof of Land Ownership in the form of any one of the following:
 - i. Copy of Patta / Khatha Extract along with RTCs for all Survey Nos. having coffee in possession of the applicant in respect of Karnataka.
 - ii. Copy of Chitta & Adangal in respect of Tamil Nadu and copy of possession certificate issued by competent revenue authority in respect of Nilgiris.
 - iii. Copy of Land Possession Certificate issued by the competent Revenue authority of Kerala.
 - 4) In case the applicant is a GPA holder, copy of the Registered GPA.
 - 5) Copy of the Bank Pass Book.
3. The concerned office of the JLO / SLO will scrutinize the documents, carryout field inspection and prepare the physical verification report consisting of details of gap / vacancy filled plants in the randomly selected rows along with in-situ map as per annexure – I and forward the claim statement along with relevant records to the concerned Deputy Director (Extn).
4. The Deputy Director (Extn.) after scrutinizing the claim and records and on confirming the admissibility of the claim in all respects will release the subsidy amount to the bank account of the applicant through EFT/RTGS/NEFT.







METHODOLOGY / STEPS FOR ASSESSMENT OF GAP/ VACANCY FILLING

The systematic random sampling method with a 15% sample size is to be followed for assessment of vacancies in a given unit as under:

- (a) Ascertain the number of patches in different blocks / locations of the estate where vacancy filling has been done to an extent of more than 25% through interaction with the concerned grower and through visual assessment.
- (b) After ascertaining such number of patches, for each patch, a compact area of one acre (sample plot) has to be fixed by counting the number of plants in horizontal and vertical rows. It may be ensured that clear cut demarcation is shown in the in-situ map as to the exact place of commencement and ending of the selected patch.

A hypothetical example is as under:

- (i) If the spacing adopted is 6'x6', the total number of plants should be around 1200 per acre covered in 30 rows x 40 plants or vice versa.
- (ii) After selecting one acre representative area within the gap/vacancy filled block, the number of vacancy filled plants have to be physically counted and recorded for each selected sample plot and shown in the *in situ* mapping for records and the total number of vacancy filled plants in one acre may be arrived as per the following procedure:

Step – 1:

Determine the minimum number of plants for a sample size of 15% i.e., 15% of 1,200 plants will be 180 plants.

Step – 2:

Determine the number of rows for a sample size of 15% i.e., 15% of 30 rows will be 4.5 and hence rounded off to 5. Any decimal fraction should be rounded off to the next highest number.

Step – 3:

Select any 5 rows by adopting systematic random sampling/selection of rows from anyone side either from north/south or east/west.

Step – 4:

After the 5 rows are selected, all the plants (old plants as well as vacancy filled plants) in these 5 rows are to be counted so as to ensure that a minimum of 180 plants i.e.,

