



केन्द्रीय बागवानी संस्थान

CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

GUIDELINES FOR RECOGNITION OF HORTICULTURE NURSERIES



CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF HORTICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION

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भारत सरकार
कृषि मंत्रालय
(कृषि एवं सहकारिता विभाग)
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली-110 001
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION)
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110 001

PREFACE

The achievements in the development of horticulture is laudable, as the sector now contributes more than 30.5 per cent to GDP of agriculture and has maintained the growth rate of more than 5 per cent, during the last two decades. But, in every discussion, availability of quality seeds and planting material continues to be critical issue of constraints in the development of horticulture. Due to the rising importance of this sector, planning commission has fixed seven per cent growth rate per annum for horticulture sector against four per cent for agricultural sector in this plan period. Therefore, ensuring availability of sufficient quality planting material has become of utmost importance for the success of horticulture development in India. As per government estimates, hardly 30-40 per cent of the requirement of planting materials for horticultural crops is met through public sector agencies like state agricultural universities, state seed agencies, ICAR and such others. In the past a good success has been made in accreditation of nurseries, but it is not sufficient to meet ever increasing demand of quality planting material.

With the view to meet the ever-increasing requirement and provide genuine and quality planting material especially in Northeast Region, Central Institute of Horticulture has been authorized for accreditation of nurseries, to look after overall development of horticulture in Northeast, which is presently taken care by National Horticulture Board under the Ministry of Agriculture. In order to promote production of enough quality planting material, providing recognition to more number of horticulture nurseries is essential to fill the existing gaps of quality planting in Northeast.

I am confident that accreditation of more number of nurseries by Central Institute of Horticulture will play a major role in development of horticulture sector in Northeast and establish a network of quality horticulture nurseries in the region.

(S.K. Malhotra)



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INTRODUCTION

Nursery is the base for future development of Horticulture. Quality planting material is the core of horticulture nurseries. The fate of nursery depends on quality and truthfulness of mother plants. Mother plants should be selected on the basis of its genetic traits and other factors like availability and adaptation in the growing environment. Improved quality of planting materials will contribute significantly to improved horticulture production and productivity and to global food security. Nursery is consequently the basic need of horticulture especially in Northeast Region.

Central Institute of Horticulture has been authorized for Accreditation of Horticulture Nurseries for Northeast Region for all horticulture crops by Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in the year 2014. Initially, Accreditation of Nurseries was taken care by National Horticulture Board under the Ministry of Agriculture on a voluntary system of recognition of horticulture nursery which is a system of graded certification of production system and procedure in respect of a candidate horticulture nursery. In order to facilitate accreditation of nurseries for horticulture crops Ministry of Agriculture have decided to authorized institute/organization under this department to accredit nurseries of horticulture crops in addition to the existing agency i.e. National Horticulture Board. The institute will accredit nurseries based on the guidelines and terms and conditions prepared by National Horticulture Board.

A range of fruit crops varying from highly temperate to subtropical as well as tropical fruits are coming up well in this region. Similarly, diverse types of vegetables including indigenous ones are cultivated in the region. Despite the favorable factors and the scope for cultivation of horticultural crops, the development of horticulture has not picked up momentum as desired. The productivity of the horticultural crops is very low in the region; therefore, a good network of quality nurseries is necessary for healthy propagation and distribution of quality planting materials in order to enhance productivity.

I hope this institute will justify the work of nursery accreditation for the betterment of North east Region and fill the existing gaps in producing quality planting material.

Dr. Lallan Ram
Director, CIH



GUIDELINES FOR RECOGNITION OF HORTICULTURE NURSERY

1.0 BACKGROUND

Availability of true to type, quality planting material is crucial for success of commercial horticulture. This necessitates having a net-work of Horticulture Nurseries which conform to Model Nursery Standards in terms of Infrastructure, Quality of Seed and Planting Materials and adoption of Nursery Management Practices. State Governments ensure supply of quality planting materials for fruit crops by enactment of Fruit Plant Nursery (Regulation) Act and enforcement of its provisions through licensing of horticulture nurseries. However, all the States have not enacted Horticulture Nursery Acts. As per the information available in report of the working group on Horticulture for the XI Five Year Plan, at present only 8 states have adopted Nursery Act and in 9 states some system of registration/ monitoring exists for nurseries whereas in 13 states there is no nursery act at present. Status of adoption of Nursery Act is given at Annexure I. Further, rules framed under existing acts generally do not provide for Technical Specification for Quality of Planting Material and Process of Production, Infrastructure required for production of quality planting material and Good Nursery Management Practices. The Acts in present form also do not deal with planting materials of flowers, ornamental plants, plants and vegetables. Therefore, it has become necessary to find a solution to the problem by putting in place a system of Recognition of Horticulture Nurseries. National Horticulture Mission has taken initiative to specify the Nursery Standards by specifying Infrastructure required for setting up of Model Horticulture Nursery etc. ICAR has recently come out with technical specification of horticulture planting material and its production procedure in a recently published document titled as “Handbook of seed and planting material testing manual for Horticultural crops”. Existing Rules framed under Horticulture Nursery (Regulation) Acts provide for record keeping part for such nurseries. However, each one of them individually does not completely define a Model Horticulture Nursery. Therefore, it is imperative to define a Model Nursery in all the three aspects of Nursery Infrastructure, Production System & Quality Parameters of Planting Material and Good Nursery Management Practices in a comprehensive manner and put a Nursery Recognition Regime in place. A recognized Model Horticulture Nursery should function as a reliable source of supply of quality planting material for horticulture crops. With a view to ensure availability of Good Quality planting material as outlined above, NHB has started a system of Recognition of Horticulture Nurseries on voluntary basis.

2.0 SCOPE

- 2.1 The scope of the scheme is to establish a network of quality nurseries across the country for the purpose of propagation and distribution of quality planting material of specified horticulture crops. The recognition shall be accorded to the nurseries for:
- Production of quality planting material of one or more specified crops by adopting Good Nursery management Practices,
 - Nursery Premise only where sale of specified quality planting material of recognized source are being carried out by creating necessary infrastructure facilities and proper record keeping.

Note: If different premises are being used for nursery, recognition of all these are required to be obtained separately and individually.

- 2.2 The recognition shall be accorded to the nurseries for the crops specified in the Document of recognition
- 2.3 Recognition shall be granted as such or after up gradation as per requirement.
- 2.4 Nursery Farms licensed under State Act by Competent Authority shall be given Provisional Recognition for a period of one year under the purview of this scheme but their Final Recognition will be subject to assessment by Technical committee.
- 2.5 Recognition of Nursery with CIH shall be period specific.

3.0 PROCEDURE FOR NURSERY RECOGNITION AND RENEWAL OF RECOGNITION

- 3.1 The Nursery seeking CIH Recognition shall apply in Form- I to CIH at Medziphema. Each such application shall be accompanied by layout of Nursery showing location of infrastructure components and land utilization plan, details of technically qualified staff in the nursery, major farm machineries and operational manual prepared by nursery for selection and maintenance of mother plants, process followed for production of planting material and management of inventory of planting material. The Nursery shall submit details regarding source of Mother Plants used for propagation of Horticulture plants in prescribed form (FORM- 1) and shall also maintain a register for sale of horticulture plants.

- 3.2 The application form duly completed along with necessary enclosures shall be submitted to CIH, Office at Medziphema
- 3.3 Each application will be considered by CIH based on criteria specified for recognition of nursery.
- 3.4 The recognition of nursery by CIH shall generally be considered product wise/aspect wise as required.
- 3.5 On receipt of the application for recognition, assessment would be done by agency identified by CIH with the help of a Technical Committee.
- 3.6 Agency shall submit its assessment report to CIH along with recommendations.
- 3.7 On the basis of the assessment report CIH shall decide whether to register the nursery with or without up-gradation.
- 3.8 The decision of CIH shall be conveyed to the concerned nursery. In case of recognition, the period of validity of recognition with other terms and condition shall be indicated. In case of any deficiency, the nursery shall be given time frame for compliance; failing which, the application shall be rejected. In case of requirement, additional assessment visits may be undertaken.

4.0 CRITERIA FOR NURSERY ASSESSMENT

The criteria have been aligned with Infrastructural requirement of Modal Nursery and Product specific technical requirement and adoption of Good Nursery Practices for propagation of good quality planting material as detailed below:

- a) Product specific criteria to assess for capability and competence of nursery follow technical programme for specific crop as laid down in “Handbook of Seed and Planting Material Testing manual for Horticulture crops” prepared by ICAR.
- b) Prescribed Nursery Management Practices and Adoption of Model layout plan.



- 4.1 **Assessment Criteria: A system of Graded Certification:-** It is essentially different from licensing of Horticulture Nurseries under provision of some Act or administrative orders. It is based on continuous evaluation of source of parent material, propagation in disease free condition by adoption of technically prescribed method, adoption of Good Nursery Management Practices, Reliable record keeping and training of staff. Each parameter will be critically examined by assessment team as per laid down criteria.

Following grading shall be provided:

Outstanding	-	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Excellent	-	★ ★ ★ ★
Very Good	-	★ ★ ★
Good	-	★ ★
Satisfactory	-	★

5.0 PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION TO HIGHER GRADE

- 5.1 On receipt of an application for recognition, to higher grade from existing lower grade the application will be considered to register the nursery, for fresh assessment.
- 5.2 On the basis of the report submitted and the recommendations of the pre assessment of the Committee, the Competent Authority will decide on the need to proceed with processing the case of the nursery for up gradation and subsequent recognition or otherwise.

6.0 RENEWAL OF RECOGNITION

- 6.1 The Nursery seeking renewal of recognition shall apply in prescribed form.
- 6.2 The renewal of recognition shall be done based on the satisfactory performance reported as per the surveillance/periodic inspection carried out during the validity period and fresh assessment if felt necessary by CIH.

7.0 PROCESSING FEE

- 7.1 Processing Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (non-refundable) shall be submitted in the form of demand draft payable to Director CIH, Dimapur along with the application for recognition.
- 7.2 In case of renewal of recognition, processing fee of Rs. 3000/- (Non-refundable) shall submitted in the form of demand draft payable to Director CIH, Dimapur along with the application for renewal
- 7.3 Government/ SAUs/ ICAR nurseries shall be exempted from Processing Fee

8.0 ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

- 8.1 CIH shall nominate one Agency to coordinate the process who will take in to consideration assessment report from a Technical Committee, hereinafter referred to as Assessment Committee which may have Representatives from:
 - i. State Agriculture University in the State concerned
 - ii. Apex Horticulture Institute, NRC or Regional Station of ICAR
 - iii. Nursery Men Association
 - iv. Central Institute of Horticulture
 - v. State Directorate of Horticulture/ Agriculture

The members in the Assessment Committee shall be nominated by CIH in consultation with agencies concerned. Assessment Committee shall conduct pre assessment, final assessment and periodic / surveillance of the nurseries. The committee shall submit report and their recommendations to Agency designated by CIH for this purpose.

9.0 VALIDITY PERIOD OF RECOGNITION

- 9.1 In case of approval, initially, recognition shall be granted for a period of two year.
- 9.2 The effective date of recognition shall be considered from the date of issuance of certificate.

10.0 SURVILLANCE / MONITORING

- 10.1 Surveillance visit shall be carried out at least once in a year or as required depending on the performance of the nursery.
- 10.2 The designated team shall essentially conduct surveillance visit during validity of recognition.

11.0 ISSUE OF RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

- 11.1 In case, Technical Committee satisfies that the Nursery conforms to the requirements of this recognition, it will recommend for recognition of the nursery. The recognition shall bear an identification number. Recognized Nursery shall have to sign a MOU with CIH for terms & conditions of recognition.
- 11.2 Any change in the location, layout, design or capacity of the nursery shall be intimated to CIH.
- 11.3 The date of validity of the nursery recognition shall be specified on the recognition certificate
- 11.4 The recognition certificate once issued shall continue to be in force till the date specified in the certificate unless suspended or cancelled at earlier date by Competent Authority. The issuing Authority may institute surprise checks through its officers in order to ensure that the nursery has maintained the standard as required for issue of the recognition certificate.

12.0 REFUSAL/CANCELLATION OF NURSERY RECOGNITION

Issue of recognition certificate may be refused or, if issued, may be cancelled or suspended:

- i. If the nursery does not conform/fail to perform as per requirements of this scheme
- ii. If there are adverse reports from the farmers/users or any other complaints made to CIH by any other entity and upon enquiry duly conducted it is established that the Nursery has breached any of the conditions of recognition,
- iii. On expiry of the recognition date specified in the Recognition Certificate the recognition ceases to be valid unless renewed.



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13.0 APPEAL AGAINST REFUSAL / CANCELLATION OF RECOGNITION

- 13.1 Appeal against refusal/cancellation of recognition shall reach to the Director, CIH within 30 days from the receipt of such order.
- 13.2 In case of cancellation of recognition, the appeal shall accompany the original certificate.
- 13.3 Director, CIH will consider the application on merit and, in case, found necessary, order re-assessment of the nursery.

14.0 DISCLAIMER

CIH shall host list of recognized nurseries in its website www.cihner.org.in and promote use of its planting material through schemes implemented by it.



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Form - 1

APPLICATION FORM FOR RECOGNITION OF HORTICULTURE NURSERY

1. Name of the Nursery
2. Constitutor: Individual Partnership Central/State Govt.
 SAUs/Organisations under ICAR/CSIR Co-operative
 Society, Trust, Company, Others
3. Year of Establishment:
4. Name and Full Address:with Phone/Fax/E-mail
- (a) Owner with Phone/Fax/
 E-mail
- (b) Owner of Nursery Land
 with Phone/Fax/E-mail
5. Location of the nursery
- (a) State
 (b) District
 (c) Town or village
 (d) Nearest Railway Station
 (e) Land Survey No.

6. Total area of the nursery including Mother plants, with survey number:

A. DETAILS OF MOTHER TREES:

A1. Own Mother Plants

Area in Ha.	Crop/Variety	No. of Plants	Source of Planting Material	Age of Plants		Performance Record	
				Year	Month	Yes	No



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Note:

- ◆ In case of information about source of mother plants is not available, their performance in respect of yield and quality of fruit before being used as mother plant may be given.

A2. Mother Plants are taken from Other Source

Sr. No.	Crop/ Variety	Source of scion	Address	If source is recognised by CIH , Please give detail thereof	Performance Record	
					Yes	No

B. DETAILS OF MOTHER PLANTS OF ROOT STOCK:

Area in Ha.	Crop/Variety of Root- Stock	Source of Mother Plants	No. of Plants	Age	Performance Record	
					Yes	No

- ◆ If root stock plants are not his own, please give particulars of the source from which they will be obtained.

Sl. No.	Variety	Source of Stock	Address	No. of Plants	Performance Record	
					Yes	No

C. NUMBER OF GRAFTED, BUDED OR ROOTED CUTTINGS:

Give the details of varieties of each horticultural crop, the applicant wants to produce every year.

Crop	Variety	Method of Propagation	Details of Last two years sales, if any	
			1st Year	2nd Year

7. Future Action Plan for Horticulture Crop Production for next three years:-

Crop	Variety	Method of Propagation	No. of plants proposed to be propagated during next three year		
			1st Year	2nd Year	3rd year

8. Details of the facilities for production of disease free planting material

i) Tools & Equipments:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Equipments	Year of Purchase	Number

ii) Plants & Machineries including tunnels, shade-house and Poly-House:-

Type of Infrastructure	Number	Year of Erection	Area/Dimension
Tunnel			
Shade-House			
Poly-House			
Others:- Pl. Specify			

9. Source of Irrigation:-

- (a) Ground Water
- (b) Surface Water
- (c) Micro Irrigation (Drip/Sprinkler)

10. The Sketch plan of the area under nursery and trees showing location of infrastructure components and land utilization

11. Status of implementation of Operation Manual

Flow chart with Time Scale for Production Process	Identification of Input necessary for for each stage of production with specifications	Labeling of each planting material produced	Record Keeping

12. Details of Technically qualified staff in the nursery and their training level

Sl. No.	Name	Qualification	Training under went, if any

13. Trade Relationship with recognized Nursery YES/ NO

14. Particulars of application fee paid by Demand Draft in favour of OSD / Director CIH payable at Dimpaur, Nagaland (Branch Code No. 00072)

Name of Issuing Bank	Amount	DD. No.	Date

15. DECLARATION:

- I hereby declare that information given above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I have read the rules and undertaken to fulfill all the conditions prescribed in the rules or as amended from time to time.

Signature of the Applicant

Place :

Date:

A Step Towards Quality Production

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