

Tier 2 Production Protocol

(b) Planting:

1. The producer shall keep any verifiable attribute as evidence of the seed grown in the planted area; such as, but not limited to, the bill of sale indicating the seed variety, seed certification number, etc.
2. Aerial application is prohibited.
3. Producers shall plant by ground seeder only or require that any person who plants for the producer do so by ground seeder only.
4. There shall be a buffer zone with a distance of at least twenty (20) feet between a field planted to rice specified in this section and a field planted with any type of rice not specified in this section. The producer shall keep the buffer zone clear of rice seedlings and rice plants by removing any such rice and avoiding irrigation of the area to prevent germination of the rice. Foundation or basic seed produced in accordance with industry seed production standards shall have a buffer zone of at least ten (10) feet from any other rice not specified in this section.
5. Producers shall use a tarp or other material at least six mil thick to cover loads of rice seed to prevent dispersal, or require that any person who performs this activity for the producer prevent dispersal of the rice seed.
6. Producers shall require that rice seed is delivered and loaded into the ground seeder at the field being planted.
7. Producers shall clean all planting equipment after it is used to plant rice, or require that any person who plants rice for the producer clean the planting equipment. Cleaning may be by compressed air, liquid or other means that removes all rice seed from the planting equipment.
8. Producers shall maintain written records known as "clean-out logs" that specify the name of the person, time, date and location that the clean-out occurred on all planting equipment, or require that any person who cleans the planting equipment maintains clean-out logs.

(c) Production:

1. Producers shall prevent dispersal of rice seed beyond the planted area.
2. Producers shall inspect all buffer zones and eliminate rice seedlings and rice plants.
3. Producers shall place screens on all drains during field flooding to prevent movement of rice seeds or rice seedlings. Screen mesh diameter shall be no larger than 1/8 inch.
4. Fields planted with rice specified in this section shall not be planted with any other rice not subject to this section in the following year. Producers shall inspect such fields for rice volunteers for one year and all rice volunteers shall be removed and destroyed.

(d) Harvesting:

1. Producers shall prevent the dispersal of rice beyond the planted area when operating harvesting equipment, or require that any person who operates the harvesting equipment for the producer prevent the dispersal of rice beyond the planted area.
2. Banking out of rice and loading of trailers shall be performed at the field being harvested or at designated areas. Designated areas mean uncultivated land adjacent to the planted area. The route from the field and the designated areas may be located in the buffer zone.
3. Producers shall clean all harvesting equipment after it is used to harvest rice, or require that any person who harvests for the producer clean the equipment in the field or designated area. All material resulting from the cleaning must be collected and returned to the field where the crop was grown. Cleaning may be by compressed air, liquid or other means that removes all rice seed from the harvesting equipment.
4. Producers shall maintain written records known as "clean-out logs" that specify the name of the person, time, date and location that the clean-out occurred on all harvesting equipment, or require that any person who cleans the harvesting equipment maintains clean-out logs.
5. The owner or operator of equipment that has harvested rice specified in this section shall notify the owner or operator of the next rice field in which the equipment is used, that the equipment has harvested such rice.

(e) Transporting:

1. Producers shall use a tarp or other material at least six mil thick to cover loads of harvested rice to prevent dispersal, or require that any person who performs this activity for the producer prevent dispersal of the harvested rice.
2. A harvest delivery receipt specifying the name of the producer, harvest location, rice variety and weight, shall accompany all rice loads to storage.
3. The person in physical possession of rice specified in this section shall ensure that the container or conveyance truck holding the rice continually exhibit a tag or mark that is clearly and immediately identifiable. The tag or mark shall specify lot number, variety, field number and grower name.
4. Producers shall clean all transportation equipment after it is used to transport rice, or require that any person who transports for the producer clean the equipment. Cleaning may be by air, liquid or other means that removes all rice seed from the transportation equipment.
5. Producers shall maintain written records known as "clean-out logs" that specify the name of the person, time, date and location that the clean-out occurred on all transportation equipment, or require that any person who cleans the transportation equipment maintains clean-out logs.

6. Laboratories that receive samples of rice specified in this section shall not mix the rice for commercial purposes after it is used for testing or analysis.

(f) Drying and Storage:

1. Handlers and warehouse operators shall maintain physical separation of each rice variety received to prevent mixing of rice samples.
2. Handlers and warehouse operators shall clean all conveyance and storage equipment to prevent mixing of rice. Cleaning may be by compressed air, liquid or other means that removes all rice seed from the conveyance and storage equipment.
3. Handlers and warehouse operators shall maintain written records known as "clean-out logs" that specify the name of the person, time, date and location that the clean-out occurred on all conveyance and storage equipment.
4. Handlers and warehouse operators shall document product receipt and delivery. Documentation shall include harvest delivery receipt and weight certification matching the field and rice variety being harvested. Final sales records and all other documentation shall be available for audit.
 - a. Compliance with the protocol used by persons subject to this section may be audited and verified by the Commission. All protocol records shall be retained for two (2) years and shall be submitted for inspection at a reasonable time upon written demand of the Commission or its duly authorized agent.

Authority: Sections 55022, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 55040(b)-(c), 55045(a)-(c), and 55047, Food and Agricultural Code.