



**TOBACCO BOARD**  
(Government of India)

(Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce)  
Post Box No.322, G.T.Road, GUNTUR-522 004  
Phone: 0863-2358399, Fax:0863-2354232  
(AN ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED ORGANISATION)



F.No.1(2)/2019-20/PDN/KK

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**CIRCULAR**

Sub:- 2019-20 Karnataka crop season – Criteria for Registration or renewal of registration as growers of Virginia Tobacco and grant of license for operation of barns in Karnataka – Reg.

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The Board in its **147<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26.03.2018 at 11.00 AM fixed a crop size of 100 million kg** for cultivation of Flue Cured Virginia tobacco during **2019-20 crop season in Karnataka.**

Basing on this production policy, the Committee for registration of growers and others in its 87<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26.03.2019 at 3.00 PM has laid down criteria for registration/renewal of registration as growers of Virginia tobacco and grant of license for operation of barns in Karnataka for 2019-20 crop season. The registration criteria along with administrative instructions/ guidelines for grant of registration or renewal of registration as Virginia tobacco growers and barn operators for 2019-20 season are enclosed herewith for initiating the process of registration for 2019-20 as per the schedule given.

All the Auction Superintendents are requested to conduct a meeting of all F.As, F.Os and SGO before the commencement of registration for guiding them on salient features of the production policy and the criteria for accord of registration/renewal of registration for 2019-20. All the Auction Superintendents shall also ensure that the process of grant of registration/ renewal of registration to growers is transparent at all levels and should not give scope for any corruption or criticism from any quarter.

A copy of **notification on Production Policy** of the Board for 2019-20 crop season in Karnataka is also **enclosed** for displaying it in the notice board and for information of all concerned.

This issues with approval of Chairman dated **08.04.2019**.

  
(A.SRIDHAR BABU)  
Secretary

Encl: As above

To

1. **The Director (Auctions), Tobacco Board, Bengaluru**
2. All the Regional Managers & Auction Superintendents in Karnataka.

Copy to : 1. P.S. to Chairman / P.A. to E.D / P.A. to Secretary  
2. All the Managers in Head Office, Tobacco Board, Guntur  
3. Hindi Section for translation  
4. Guard File / QMS file of Production Section  
5. Internal Audit / ISO Project / Vigilance Squad  
6. Programmer (Computer Division) for instructions on Regn. Software usage

## TOBACCO BOARD

### REGISTRATION/RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION OF VIRGINIA TOBACCO GROWERS AND BARN OPERATORS IN KARNATAKA FOR 2019-20 CROP SEASON

#### 1. TIME SCHEDULE FOR REGISTRATION/ RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

The schedule for registration/ renewal of registration of growers of Virginia tobacco and licensing of barn operators for 2019-20 crop season in Karnataka is as follows.

Commencement of Registration/ renewal of registration	10.04.2019 (Wednesday)
Last date for receipt of applications with normal fee	24.05.2019 (Friday)
Last date for receipt of applications with late fee of Rs. 100/-	07.06.2019 (Friday)
Last date for receipt of applications with late fee of Rs. 400/-	17.06.2019 (Monday)

- Applications received after **last date 17.06.2019** shall be refused for registration/renewal of registration.
- All the Auction Superintendents are directed to **give wide publicity** and advise the growers to apply well **before the stipulated date**.
- The Auction Superintendent / SGO shall review the progress of registration of growers with concerned Field Assistant and Field Officer a week **before the last date of registration with normal registration** fees and ensure that all the eligible growers covering their eligible barns apply for registration within the specified period of registration to avoid unnecessary correspondence later and lessen the work load at auction platform level.
- Flexi banners may be displayed at two places i.e., one at the office of Auction Superintendent and another at auction platform about the schedule of registration / renewal of registration.
- Press meet may be organized and publicity may be given about the criteria for registration and schedule for registration / renewal of registration.
- Growers shall be reminded that the last date of registration as growers is also the last date for payment of Rs.500/- for renewal as member of Growers Welfare Fund.

#### 2. AREA AND QUOTA AUTHORIZED PER BARN IN 2019-20 CROP SEASON

The area and quantity to be authorized per a licensed barn and the maximum number of barns permitted for grant of licence per individual grower in Karnataka during 2019-20 crop season considering the crop size of 100 million kg are as follows:

Particulars	Simplex Barn	Duplex Barn
Area to be registered per barn (ha)	1.30	2.60
Quota per barn (Kgs)	1750	3500
Maximum no. of barns allowed per grower	4	2
Maximum area registered for grower(ha)	5.20	5.20

- The above quota is fixed taking into consideration the nature's bounty or production increases because of use of high yielding varieties and favourable weather conditions.
- Horizontal expansion of FCV tobacco cultivation is not permitted. The efforts shall be on increasing the per acre yields (vertical expansion) with focus on quality of the product. With these objectives in mind the area authorised is fixed as 1.30 ha. per simplex barn.

- The area authorised per barn is indicative only. The registered grower is required to reduce the area to be planted per each barn wherever per hectare productivity levels are high on account of high yielding varieties, soil fertility, favourable climatic factors etc., so as to match the ultimate production with the corresponding quota per barn and avoid excess/ unauthorized production. In any case, he should not plant tobacco in more extent than allowed.
- The growers may be advised to strive for increasing productivity by adopting Good Agricultural Practices for cultivating tobacco within the authorised area to achieve the authorised quota/production rather than by undertaking cultivation in excess area.
- Farmers shall strive for enhancing productivity and quality, while using eco-friendly agro technologies to produce clean tobacco for improving the profit margin.
- Farmers are advised to go for green manuring in a big scale. Crop rotation in tobacco growing areas is to be done to ensure rejuvenation of soil.
- Farmers are prohibited to take up FCV tobacco cultivation in unsuitable/ saline/ low lying lands/ paddy fallows. The field staff shall take all measures to prevent cultivation of tobacco in unsuitable soils.
- The farmers shall produce tobacco free from pesticide residues and Non Tobacco Related Materials (NTRMs). Farmers are advised to take up IPM practices to reduce use of pesticides. The growers may be encouraged to use Bio pesticides or alternative methods of pest control.
- Tobacco Board is a facilitator. It assists the farmers in crop production and conducts auctions for sale of tobacco. The grower prices are determined by demand and supply forces in global and domestic markets. The growers are therefore advised to consider all risks involved and make an informed decision regarding cultivation of tobacco in 2019-20.
- Government of India vide letter No.9/11/2016-EP(Agri-III), dated 17.01.2018 directed the Board to disseminate the agenda of the Government of India to promote appropriate economically viable alternatives for tobacco workers and growers through all available means. Hence, the Auction Superintendents and their field staff shall make all efforts to promote cultivation of alternative crops in place of FCV tobacco among FCV tobacco growers, by suitably educating them.
- The Auction Superintendents shall work in coordination with Karnataka State Agricultural Department to implement the scheme of '**Crop Diversification**' for tobacco under **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (R.K.V.Y)** and ensure that farmers shift some of their area to alternative crops.

### 3. CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OR RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION OR AS GROWERS OF VIRGINIA TOBACCO AND CURER OF VIRGINIA TOBACCO (RULE 33-A & 34-A) FOR 2019-20 CROP SEASON

#### A. Eligible categories:

- i. All growers and barns registered with the Board in 2018-19 season will be considered for renewal of registration in 2019-20 season subject to the following conditions.
  - a) The grower should have only one registration at one platform.
  - b) The Grower applicant **shall possess suitable lands** for growing Virginia tobacco on his own or taken on lease in the existing areas of tobacco cultivation.
  - c) The Grower applicant shall **possess a fit curing facility (barn) on his own** or taken on lease, registered with Board during 2018-19 season and eligible for registration for the current year.
  - d) The Grower applicant shall also **possess allied structures for storage and grading** of FCV tobacco.

