

MARKETING OF SEED OF CONSERVATION VARIETIES IN FINLAND

Kaarina Paavilainen
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Marketing of Seed in Finland

before Finland joined EU in 1995

- national list of varieties: marketing of seed only allowed for listed varieties; BUT
- trade between two farmers was not considered marketing ("neighbour trade")

Seed Act 1993 and Seed Act in force (728/2000)

- national list of varieties and/or EU Common Catalogue: marketing of seed only allowed for listed varieties

What would happen to landraces and old varieties?

Council Directive 98/95/EC of 14 December 1998

Article 22a

1. Specific conditions may be established in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 21 to take account of developments in the areas of:

- (a) conditions under which chemically treated seed may be marketed;
- (b) conditions under which seed may be marketed in relation to the conservation in situ and the sustainable use of plant genetic resources, including seed mixtures of species which also include species listed in Article 1 of Council Directive 70/457/EEC, and are associated with specific natural and semi-natural habitats and are threatened by genetic erosion;

Finland takes action

- Finnish statute on marketing of seed of ladrace varieties of cereals and fodder plants (24.11.2000)
- Finnish statute on registering conservation varieties (29.5.2001)
- subsidy for maintenance of a conservation variety *in situ*



EU follows

- Commission directive 2008/62/EC: agricultural conservation varieties (20.6.2008)
- Commission directive 2009/145/EC: vegetable conservation and hobby varieties (26.11.2009)
- Commission directive 2010/60/EU: preservation fodder plant seed mixtures (30.8.2010)



Finland updates

- Finnish statute 25/10: agricultural and vegetable conservation varieties etc. (8.12.2010)
- Finnish statute 26/11: preservation fodder plant seed mixtures (22.11.2011)
- subsidy system simplified in 2015



Variety Listing, Modern Varieties

- testing for DUS (distinctness, uniformity and stability) and variety description
 - Evira or a foreign examination office €€
 - at least two growing cycles
 - uniformity: e.g. 99.9 % on barley
- testing for VCU (value for cultivation and use)
 - Natural Resources Institute Finland Luke €€€€
 - at least two growing cycles
 - minimum requirements (yield, lodging, disease resistance..)
 - must be a clear improvement
- registration fee €

Variety Listing, Conservation Varieties

- testing for DUS (distinctness, uniformity and stability) and variety description: a simplified test
 - Evira or the applicant
 - free of charge
 - uniformity: 90 % on cereals
- testing for VCU (value for cultivation and use)
 - none
- variety must be naturally adapted to the local and regional conditions and threatened by genetic erosion
- registration: free of charge

Seed Certification, Modern Varieties

- field inspection €
- seed cleaned and packed in an licenced seed plant
- official sampling €
- official seed analyses (germination, purity, 1000 seed weight etc.) €
- post-control test for seedlots, which can used for further seed production €
- minimum requirements have to be met
- sealed containers, labels (€)
- marketing in all EU + EEA

Seed Certification, Conservation Varieties

- field inspection €
- seed cleaned and packed in an licenced seed plant
- minimum requirements have to be met (lower standards for varietal purity = uniformity), but quality analyses are not obligatory – controlled by random checks
- sealed containers, brown labels (€)
- marketing only in Finland
- quantitative restrictions

Quantitative Restrictions

- for agricultural crops the amount of seed allowed to be marketed/year/variety depends on the total demand of seed in Finland, e.g. 2015-2017
 - barley 319 500 kg
 - rye 25 000 kg
 - red clover 2190 kg
 - timothy 25 150 kg
- for vegetables, restrictions are given as a maximum no of hectars for production of vegetable per conservation variety (10-40 ha depending of species)

Conservation Varieties in Finnish National List of Varieties

Landrace varieties in the list of modern varieties:

red clover	2
white clover	1
timothy	4
potato	1
total	8

Varieties in the list of conservation varieties:

oats	1
barley	2
rye	9
alsike clover	1
red clover	7
turnip	2
buckwheat	1
total	23



Seed of Conservation Varieties Marketed in Finland

In summer 2016 field inspection has been made for the following conservation varieties:

alsike clover	Savola	6,73 ha
red clover	Perttuli	20,76 ha
barley	Jorma	2,92 ha
rye	livo	5,68 ha
total		36,09 ha

*What happened to 19 varieties?
Does anybody want to buy their seed?*

If You Want to Buy Seed of Conservation Varieties...

... go to <https://www.evira.fi/kasvit/viljely-ja-tuotanto/lajikkeet/kasvilajikeluettelo/>

and open the link to Finnish National List of Varieties "Suomen kasvilajikeluettelo 2016" / "Finska växsortlistan 2016" (sorry, link is only available on Finnish and Swedish web pages). At the end of the document there is a list of maintainers and their addresses.

If You Have a Variety You Want to Register...

... please contact

Tarja Hietaranta
Secretary of Plant Variety Board
puh./tel +358 050 344 3748
tarja.hietaranta@evira.fi

Kaarina Paavilainen
DUS-testing
puh./tel. +358 40 833 2480
kaarina.paavilainen@evira.fi





Thank you!