

Module 3.15 PESTS AND DISEASES		STATEMENT OF INTENT Plant diseases and insect pests are prevented and controlled
Measures		Notes
Legal requirement	<p>Farmers comply with the Agricultural Pests Act 36 of 1993</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers are required to notify the local department of agriculture if flying locusts arrive, or if breeding swarms of red-billed queleas are present • Farmers have complied with any control measures as instructed by the Minister of Agriculture 	<p>Agricultural Pests Act</p> <p>The Agricultural Pests Act 36 of 1993 provides for the combating and prevention of agricultural pests.</p> <p>In terms of Section 5 of the Act, a land user is obliged to notify their local department if flying locusts or voetgangers have appeared on their land, if flying locusts have deposited eggs thereof, or roosting or breeding red-billed quelea are present thereon.</p> <p>Moreover the land user is obliged to accurately describe whereupon the abovementioned pests occur and furnish all relevant information to their local department.</p>
Legal requirement		<p>Sugar Act</p> <p>The Sugar Act, 9 of 1978 brings into effect what is known as the Sugar Industry Agreement, 2000 (“the Sugar Agreement”). Every aspect of the way the industry is governed is regulated through the Sugar Agreement.</p> <p>Sugar Industry Agreement</p> <p>Farmers are to be mindful of chapter 3 of the Sugar Agreement and to note that compliance with the Pest, Disease and Variety Control Rules for the industry as well as local area specific Regulations must be followed.</p> <p>A farmer may be obliged to undertake remedial measures, or the harvesting or destruction of sugarcane in order to combat the spread of any pest or disease or if he plants an unapproved sugarcane variety. This may only occur in a “proclaimed area” which must be published in the Government Gazette.</p> <p>In terms of the Sugar Agreement, in the event that the South African Sugar Association (“SASA”) deems it expedient that remedial operations on, or the harvesting or destruction of any cane infested with any disease or pest be made compulsory, SASA may proclaim by notice in the Government Gazette any control area or part thereof, in which remedial operations shall be compulsory.</p>

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Legal requirement</p>	<p>Farmers comply with the Sugar Act 9 of 1978</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers within a proclaimed area have complied with any remedial operations required by the SA Sugar Association 	<p>In terms of this notice, SASA may publish procedures, directions or orders for the purposes of regulating remedial operations of cane infested with any disease or pest. Farmers are obliged to carry out the remedial measures, as determined by SASA in the notice.</p> <p>In the event that the farmer fails or omits to promptly comply with any procedure, direction or order in terms of the notice, the Local Pest, Disease and Variety Control Committee (“LPDVCC”), may at the expense of the farmer, cause the procedure, direction or order to be carried out. In the event that this occurs, the farmer forfeits all rights to the proceeds of the cane harvested upon the land in question.</p> <p>It is critical to note that in the event that the proceeds are insufficient to meet the costs incurred by SASA, SASA will be entitled to claim the shortfall from the farmer.</p> <p>Farmers are to note that the Local Pest, Disease and Variety Control officers, must be allowed to enter land situated in a control area, upon presentation of written authorisation by either the LPDVCC or by SASA. Moreover they are to be mindful that the LPDVCC may cause an officer to inspect any cane and remove samples thereof, on any land within its jurisdiction, in order to ascertain whether any hostile pest or disease exists on the land.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Better management practice</p>	<p>Farmers have implemented an Integrated Pest Management System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers have notified their Local LPD&VC Committee regarding the outbreak of any major pest or disease on their farm or area • Farmers keep abreast with latest rules and recommendations from their LPD&VC Committee 	<p>Integrated Pest Management</p> <p>Integrated pest management (IPM) is a broad-based approach that integrates practices for economic control of pests. IPM aims to suppress pest populations below the economic injury level or economic threshold. An IPM programme consists of a series of best practices applied in an area-wide context, aimed at reducing plant stress – thereby reducing the potential for pest or disease damage.</p> <p>The following best practices form part of an IPM approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers should notify their Local LPD&VC Committee regarding the outbreak of any major pest or disease on their farm or area. • Farmers must keep abreast with latest rules and recommendations from their LPD&VC Committee.
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Legal requirement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified or approved seedcane is used for all crop re-establishment i.e. from first or second stage nursery blocks 	<p>In accordance with the Sugar Agreement and the Pest, Disease and Variety Control Rules, only certified or approved seedcane should be used for all crop re-establishment i.e. from first or second stage nursery blocks.</p>