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Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 467

Adopted 30 June 2008

## **Regulations Regarding Restriction of the Distribution of Invasive Alien Plant Species**

*Issued pursuant to  
Section 5, Clause 17  
of the Plant Protection Law*

### **I. General Provision**

1. These Regulations prescribe:

- 1.1. the procedures for restriction of the distribution of invasive alien plant species;
- 1.2. the procedures by which an invasive alien plant species shall be included in the list of invasive alien plant species;
- 1.3. the procedures by which monitoring, State supervision and control of invasive alien plant species shall be performed;
- 1.4. the procedures by which State administration institutions shall provide information regarding the distribution of invasive alien plant species in the other purpose of land use groups, and content of the information;
- 1.5. the State authority that shall control the import of invasive alien plant species at the State border;
- 1.6. the procedures by which the measures for restriction of the distribution of invasive alien plant species shall be performed.

### **II. Inclusion of a Plant Species in the List of Invasive Alien Plant Species**

2. A plant species shall be included in the list of invasive alien plant species, if in the risk analysis performed by the State Plant Protection Service (hereinafter – Service) this plant species has been recognised as being invasive alien in Latvia and is included on one the following lists of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (hereinafter – Organisation):

- 2.1. plant species that create a possible invasion risk in the member states of the Organisation;
- 2.2. plant species that require regulation in the member states of the Organisation;
- 2.3. plant species for which measures to restrict the distribution thereof are performed in the member states of the Organisation.

3. The State agency “Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Agency” and other State administration institutions shall, at the request of the Service, provide information at their disposal regarding distribution of plant species non-characteristic to the nature of Latvia and information necessary for the risk analysis of plant species.

4. If the plant species is not included in the Organisation’s list, the scientific institution shall submit a proposal to the Service regarding recognising the plant species as non-characteristic to the nature of Latvia as an invasive alien plant species indicating the following:

4.1. information regarding where the plant species is found in Latvia and its distribution;

4.2. impacting biotic and abiotic factors, their characterisation and significance of impact thereof as shown by biometric methods;

4.3. invasiveness characterisation of the possible invasive alien plant species and substantiation, which is based on observations.

5. The Service shall move to have the plant species referred to in Paragraph 4 of these Regulations included on the Organisation’s list in accordance with the Organisation’s standards (can be found electronically on the Internet home page of the State Plant Protection Service).

6. The Service shall perform risk analysis referred to in Paragraph 2 of these Regulations in accordance with the standards for phytosanitary measures of the Organisation or the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

7. A plant species shall be declared as invasive alien in Latvia, if it:

7.1. decreases biodiversity (ecological evaluation);

7.2. results in economic losses;

7.3. is harmful to a person’s health;

7.4. deteriorates the quality of recreational resources.

### **III. Monitoring, State Supervision and Control of Invasive Alien Plant Species**

8. In order to ascertain the distribution of an invasive alien plant species, the Service shall use a global positioning receiver (hereinafter – receiver) to perform monitoring of the distribution of the invasive alien plant species on land used for agriculture.

9. The following information shall be provided on the Internet home page of the Service regarding the distribution of invasive alien plant species:

9.1. the person (the name of the legal person or the given name and surname of the natural person);

9.2. address of the land invaded by the invasive alien plant species;

9.3. area (in hectares) of the land invaded by the invasive alien plant species;

9.4. a cartographic illustration of the territory invaded by the invasive alien plant species.

10. By 1 November of every year, the Service shall renew the information referred to in Paragraph 9 of these Regulations on the Internet home page.

11. The State administration institutions shall submit to the Service the following information regarding the distribution of the invasive alien plant species in the other purpose of land use groups:

11.1. the location of the unit land invaded by the invasive alien plant species, indicating the address and, if possible, the cadastre number of the unit of land, the name of the State motorway, index, picket positions or the co-ordinates determined by the receiver;

11.2. area (in hectares) of the land invaded by the invasive alien plant species;

11.3. a copy of the plan of the land invaded by the invasive alien plant species, indicating on the plan the territory invaded by the invasive alien plant species.

12. The Service shall enter into co-operation agreement regarding the form and content of the information referred to in Paragraph 11 of these Regulations with the State administration institutions, which are the lawful possessors of the land invaded by the invasive alien plant species.

13. The land owner or lawful possessor (hereinafter – person), on whose land the invasive alien plant species is located, in accordance with regulatory enactments regarding measures and methods for restriction of the distribution of specific invasive alien plant species shall perform restrictions of the distribution of the relevant plant species.

14. It shall not be permitted to import an invasive alien plant species from European Union States or states, that are not European Union Member States (hereinafter – third countries), and retail, store, propagate, grow or supply free of charge or for payment, except in the case referred to in Paragraph 16 of these Regulations.

15. Importation of plant species from third countries shall be controlled by the Sanitary Border Inspection of the Food and Veterinary Service.

16. It shall be allowed to import or grow for scientific research purposes invasive alien plant species, if the person has received a Service permit.

17. Invasive alien plant species shall be maintained or grown, ensuring that the plants do not go outside the maintenance or growing sites.

18. In order to receive the permit referred to in Paragraph 16 of these Regulations, the person, who for scientific research purposes wishes to grow or import from third countries an invasive alien plant species, shall submit a submission to the Service. The following information shall be indicated in the submission:

18.1. a person wishing to import or grow an invasive alien plant species (the name, registration number in the Commercial Register and legal address of a legal person or the given name, surname, personal identification number and residential address of a natural person);

18.2. a description of the invasive alien plant species;

18.3. aim of the research;

18.4. duration of the research;

18.5. site for performing the research (site for growing invasive alien plant species);

18.6. measures for restriction of the invasive alien plant species in their maintenance site.

19. The Service shall evaluate the submission and, if the person has not submitted all the information referred to in Paragraph 18 of these Regulations, shall request that the missing information be submitted within 30 days.

20. The Service shall, within 30 days after receipt of the submission, issue a permit for importing or growing the invasive alien plant species, if:

20.1. all the documents referred to in Paragraph 18 of these Regulations have been received;

20.2. the person shall be able to maintain or grow the invasive alien plant species, ensuring that the plants do not go outside the maintenance or growing sites.

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