

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

LAW ON PLANT PROTECTION

Article 1. Objective of the Law

This Law shall establish activity of all legal and natural persons with respect to plant protection from diseases, pests and weeds as well as the procedure for registration, manufacture, import, trade, storage and state supervision of the chemical and biological means for plant protection and plant growth regulation materials.

Article 2. Basic Concepts

Basic concepts used in this Law are as follows:

plant protection means activity involving employment of biological, chemical, quarantine and other means that protect plants from disease agents, diseases, pests and weeds, or decrease their harmful effects, and also preserve their ecological equilibrium in nature;

biological means means entomophagous substances and microbiological preparations, employed in plant protection from disease agents, diseases, pests and weeds;

chemical means means chemical preparations employed in plant protection from disease agents, diseases, pests, weeds as well as growth regulators;

quarantine measures means the system of state measures intended to protect the territory of the Republic of Lithuania from introduction therein of particularly harmful pests, disease agents and weeds that are of particular harm to agriculture and forestry and also to determine sources within the country of organisms meriting quarantine and to localise and liquidate them;

registration of plant protection means means the process wherein the use of new chemical and biological plant protection means shall be legalised within the territory of the Republic of Lithuania and regulations governing the use thereof shall be established.

Article 3. State Administration and State Supervision of Plant Protection

Taking into account the specific nature of this task, state administration of plant protection within the Republic of Lithuania shall be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Economy (amended 10 June 1997) through the state services for plant and forest protection, the Ministry of Environmental Protection through regional environmental protection agencies, the Ministry of Health through public health care services, and the county governor administrations, through agricultural departments and district agricultural boards of county agricultural departments. The aforementioned services shall supervise the import, storage, trade and use of chemical and biological plant protection articles, regardless of user jurisdiction status.

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall establish the structure of environmental protection state administration services.

The Chief Plant Protection Inspector of the Republic of Lithuania, state plant protection inspectors and employees of the forest protection service shall implement state inspection.

State plant quarantine supervision is implemented by the Chief State Plant Quarantine Inspector and state plant quarantine inspectors.

These inspectors and employees of State Forest Protection Service shall have the right to:

- 1) supervise how natural and legal persons implement the requirements of the Law on Plant Protection;
- 2) obtain information on plant diseases, pests, weeds, spread of quarantine objects, destruction and utilisation of chemical and biological means for plant protection;
- 3) stop the use of chemical and biological means of protection upon violation of established regulations.

State plant protection inspectors shall have the right to impose administrative penalties on land users for violations in the use of plant protection means and also for failure to employ measures to destroy weeds and arrest their spread.

Article 4. Financing of State Plant Protection Service

The State Plant Protection Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Economy shall be maintained from the State Budget and that of the Forest Protection Service from the monies of the Forestry Fund (Amended 10 June 1997).

Article 5. State Plant Quarantine

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall establish the measures of State Plant Quarantine. These measures shall be compulsory for all natural and legal persons, connected with the import, transfer, manufacture, production, protection, sale and use of products of vegetable origin.

Article 6. Registration of Plant Protection Means

The State Commission for the Registration of Plant Protection Means, approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, shall register chemical and biological plant protection means in accordance with the established procedure.

Registered plant protection means shall be included on the list of chemical and biological plant protection means, the use of which is permitted and which shall be approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 7. Production, Import and Trade of Plant Protection Means and Materials

In the Republic of Lithuania it shall be permitted to manufacture, import, sale and use only registered plant protection means.

Natural and legal persons having licences and certificates of preparations shall be able to import, produce and engage in the sale of chemical and biological plant protection means.

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall set the procedure for issuance of licences for manufacture, import and trade of chemical and biological plant protection means.

Trade in biological and chemical plant protection means shall only be permitted when these are packed in the original manufacturer's tara. Every package must be marked with a label in the Lithuanian language and in the prescribed form. The label should indicate the most significant methods and means of safe transportation, protection, utilisation, first aid provision in the event of poisoning, and ways and means of tara detoxification.

Article 8. Use of Plant Protection Means and Materials

Plant protection from disease, pests and weeds is a matter of state importance and shall be obligatory for all land and forest users.

Plant protection means shall be employed by taking into account the sanitary conditions of plants and in keeping with established regulations and recommendations, as well as the requirements of hygiene and environmental protection.

Article 9. Users of Plant Protection Means and Materials and their Obligations

Natural and legal persons who possess licences for this activity, issued according to the procedure established by the State Plant Protection Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Economy (Amended 10 June 1997), may become the users of plant protection means.

Without licences issued by the State Plant Protection Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Economy (Amended 10 June 1997), only low toxicity preparations may be used.

Natural and legal persons employing plant protection means, must:

- 1) be guided by this Law and other standard acts;
- 2) keep records of acquired chemical and biological plant protection means and adequately store them;
- 3) observe usage technologies and recommendations of plant protection means;
- 4) observe requirements of hygiene and environmental protection;

5) provide information to interested departments concerning plant diseases, pests, weeds, spread of quarantine-requiring organisms, destruction and use of chemical and biological plant protection means.

Article 10. Settlement of Disputes concerning Plant Protection

Disputes arising between state plant and forest protection services and natural and legal persons shall be settled according to procedure established by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 11. Legal Responsibility for Violation of Plant Protection Law of the Republic of Lithuania

Natural and legal persons who violate the requirements of the Plant Protection Law of the Republic of Lithuania shall be liable under the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 12. International Cooperation in the Sphere of Plant Protection

State Plant and Forest Protection Services of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Economy (Amended 10 June 1997), according to their competence, shall represent the Republic of Lithuania in international organisations, cooperate with organisations involved in research, manufacture and trade in plant protection materials and exchange the newest information on plant protection issues.

I promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania.

Algirdas Brazauskas
President of the Republic

October 19, 1995

No I – 1069 (As amended by 10 June 1997)