



Federal law

Russian Federation

Federal law

About beekeeping

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The present Federal
Law establishes legal
bases for breeding and

keeping honeybees and their usage for pollination of agricultural entomophilous plants.

Chapter 1 General considerations

Article 1 The main notions.

The following notions are used for the aims of the present Federal Law:

- Beekeeping- is breeding, keeping honeybees, their usage for pollination of agricultural entomophilous plants, for obtaining beekeeping products;
- A beekeeper is citizen involved in beekeeping;
- A bee family is a community of bees, consisting of workers, male drones, and the queen, living in a bee hive or a nest;
- A bee hive is a construction meant for bee family keeping;
- An apiary is bee hives with bee families and the necessary beekeeping equipment located on a definite area;
- Stationary apiary is an apiary placed on a permanent location all through the year;
- Moving apiary is an apiary, placed near the sources of honey collecting or agricultural entomophilous plants;
- A bee swarm is a new bee family, formed in the main bee family, having independently flown to form a new colony in swarming.
- Beekeeping products are products, produced by honeybees (honey, wax and others);

- Wax foundation is wax leaves after a special treatment for building honeycombs;
- The queen is a female who produces honeybees;
- Honeybee species is a group of bee families, formed in the result of natural selection in definite climatic conditions and possessing a complex of hereditary properties passing from generation to generation;
- Honeybee population is a colony of bee families within the honeybee breed having formed in a definite area and possessing an enormous genofond
- Entomophilous plants are plants, pollinated by insects;
- The source of honey collecting are the plants which produce nectar, pollen, and serve as the sources of natural food for bees and provide honey collection;

Article 2. The aims of the present Federal Law

The present Federal Law regulates relationships accompanying activities in the field of beekeeping and also protection of honeybees.

Article 3 Legal regulations in the sphere of beekeeping.

Legal regulations in the sphere of beekeeping are realized by the present Federal Law and by the enacted in accordance with it other legal standard acts of the Russian Federation, by the laws and other standard legal acts of the Russian Federation subjects and also by other legal standard acts adopted by institutions of local governing.

Chapter 2 Carrying out activity in the sphere of beekeeping

Article 4 Citizens and other juridical persons, carrying out activities in the sphere of beekeeping

Citizens and other juridical persons, including social apiarists organizations, have the right to do business in the field of beekeeping.

Those citizens, who are not individual businessmen, are engaged in beekeeping activity for satisfying their own needs.

Article 5 Quantity of bee families

Quantity of bee families kept by citizens and juridical persons is not restricted, except for the cases stipulated by the second and the third parts of this article.

Institutions of local governing are provided with the right to establish the number of bee families kept by the citizens and juridical persons within the limits of urban settlements depending on the conditions of honeybee keeping and in accordance with veterinary-sanitary regulations and norms.

The number of hives with bee families in gardening, market gardening and suburban uncommercial associations is regulated by their constituent documents.

Article 6. Registration of bee families

Registration of bee families is realized in the order set by the Russian Federation Government.

Article 7 Arrangement of hives with bee families.

Citizens and juridical persons arrange hives with bee families on the holdings, belonging (granted) to them observing zootechnical and veterinary sanitary norms and regulations of honeybee keeping.

Citizens and juridical persons arrange hives with bee families at a distance from public health institutions, educational and pre-school institutions, cultural and public-service institutions, that guarantees public safety. Executive bodies of the Russian Federation subjects determine the regulation system of safe arrangement of hives with bee families.

Hives with bee families are put on the holding at a distance no less than ten metres from the holding edge, otherwise they should be placed at a height no less than two metres, or fenced from the neighbouring holding by a building, a construction, a solid fence, or dense shrubs of no less than two metres height.

Article 8. Holdings granting for carrying out activity in the field of beekeeping.

Holdings for carrying out activity in the field of beekeeping are granted to citizens and juridical persons in accordance with land-law and forest law of the Russian Federation.

Owners, holders and users of holdings, the most convenient for bee family placing, have a right for giving citizens and juridical persons, engaged in beekeeping, an opportunity to place hives with bee families at these holdings for the period of honey collection sources blooming, irrespective of the place of bee families registration, in accordance with the civil legislation, land-law and forest law of the Russian Federation.

Moving apiaries are placed at such a distance from other apiaries that a productive keeping of bee families and an effective pollination of agricultural entomophilous plants are assured.

The placing of moving apiaries in the way of the flight of bees to the sources of honey collection from the other earlier placed apiary is not allowed.

A citizen or a juridical person must inform the institutions of local governing and produce the veterinary-sanitary registration certificate after having placed a moving apiary.

The arrangement of hives with bee families in gardening, market gardening and suburban uncommercial associations is regulated by their constituent documents.

Article 9. The usage of bee families for pollinating of agricultural entomophilous plants.

Citizens and juridical persons carrying out the activity of growing agricultural entomophilous plants, with the view to increasing their crop capacity can use bee

families, owned by other persons, with the pollination service payment on the basis of treaties in accordance with civil law.

Article 10. Turnover capacity of beekeeping products.

If beekeeping products are not withdrawn from the turnover or not limited in the turnover, they can be easily expropriated or descend from one person to another on the basis of the Russian Federation legislation.

Article 11. Public associations of apiarists.

Apiarists have a right to organise public associations in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation.

Public apiarists associations have a right to inquire and get information about the activity in the field of beekeeping in the government bodies of the subjects of the Russian Federation and in the institutions of local governing in accordance with established procedure.

Chapter 3. Property matters in the field of beekeeping.

Article 12 Property object in the field of beekeeping.

A bee family (a bee swarm) and the necessary equipment for carrying out the activities are the object of property in the field of beekeeping.

Article 13. The right for the restitution of a lost bee swarm.

A citizen or a juridical person, who has missed his bee swarm, has a right to its restitution in the case of its continuous pursuit. In this case a citizen or a juridical person, who has missed a bee swarm, has a right to gather it, if the swarm has settled on another territory or has settled in another vacant hive.

Article 14. The right to compensation of the lost bee swarm cost.

A citizen or a juridical person, who has let his swarm fly, has a right to the compensation of the lost bee swarm cost in the case of its constant pursuit, if a swarm flew into a hive with bees, which is the property of another citizen or a juridical person.

The cost compensation of the lost swarm is carried out in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation.

Article 15. Common right to the lost bee swarm.

Congregating (flown together) bee swarms belonging to different citizens and juridical persons before the moment of the flight of the congregating bee swarm into a hive are considered to be common property of citizens and juridical persons.

In the case when a congregating bee swarm divides into separate swarms on its own (independently), the ownership of each of such hives is determined by drawing lots.

Otherwise, the congregated bee swarm passes into ownership of a citizen or a juridical person, who has offered the highest price for it. The price is distributed -in equal shares between the citizens or juridical persons-the proprietors of a bee swarm and is paid out to them.

In the case the congregated bee swarm has flown into a hive with bees, the compensation is paid in accordance with the procedure established in Article 14 of the present Federal Law.

Article 16. Unsupervised bee swarm.

A bee swarm not pursued by a citizen or a juridical person, or a bee swarm of the unknown origin appears to be unsupervised.

The ownership of an unsupervised bee swarm is determined in accordance with civil law.

Chapter 4 State management in the field of beekeeping.

Article 17. The main trends in the state management in the field of beekeeping.

The main trends in the state management in the field of beekeeping are the following:

- Implementing the state policy in the sphere of beekeeping;
- Organisation of working out and implementation of special federal programs corresponding regional programs on beekeeping development and of;
- Passing of state standards, norms and regulations in the sphere of beekeeping;
- Realization of economic stimulation of beekeeping;
- Providing control on observing veterinary-sanitary norms and regulations of honeybee keeping, and the quality of beekeeping products;
- Providing taking actions on at bee disease prevention, treatment, pest control, and prevention of poisoning by pesticides and agrochemicals;
- Carrying out state control over beekeeping products exports and imports;
- International cooperation assistance to the Russian Federation in the sphere of beekeeping;
- Coordination of professional training and retraining activity of beekeeping specialists;
- Selection-pedigree activity coordination in the field of beekeeping, assistance in the development of pedigree reproducers (selection apiaries) and of honeybee reserves;

Article 18. Executive bodies, fulfilling state management in the field of beekeeping.

The Russian Federation Government fulfils the state management in the field of beekeeping immediately or via specially authorized by it federal executive body, and also via executive bodies of the Russian Federation subjects.

The Russian Federation Government determines the authority of a specially authorized federal executive body.

Article 19. The state support of beekeeping.

The state support of beekeeping is carried out in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation.

Article 20. Licensing of beekeeping activity.

Federal law [About licensing some activity categories] determines categories in beekeeping.

Chapter 5 Honeybee protection.

Article 21. Honeybee-protection organization, zootechnical and veterinary-sanitary control in the field of beekeeping.

Honeybee protection is organized by the state government bodies of the Russian Federation, by the government bodies of the Russian Federation subjects.

Control over observing zootechnical and veterinary-sanitary norms and rules of beekeeping is carried out in the order established by The Russian Federation Government.

Article 22 main requirements of honeybee protection.

The main requirements of honeybee protection are:

- Providing scientifically grounded zoo-technical service, usage and honeybee reproduction;
- Protection of natural honeybee habitat, their *ЙНВЕБНЙ*, migration ways;
- Providing veterinary-sanitary keeping of honeybees;

Article 23. Providing of honeybee protection.

Honeybee protection is provided by:

Observing zootechnical and veterinary-sanitary norms and rules of keeping bees by citizens and by juridical persons, placement of hives with honey bee families near the sources of bee collection;

Observing requirements of environment protection, roaming from place to place, migration ways of honeybees by citizens and judicial persons;

Protection bee hives with bee families from being destroyed;

Preventing honeybees from poisoning by pesticides and agrochemicals;

Prevention of honeybee diseases, their treatment and pestcontrol;

Assistance in free honeybee families transportation;

Organization of scientific research in the field of honeybee protection;

Honeybee products advertisement in mass media, instilling of careful attitude towards bees, including incentives of honeybee protection activity;

Providing state assistance to beekeeping.

Article 24 Prevention of bee poisoning by pesticides and agrochemicals

The usage of pesticides and agrochemicals is realized in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation about safe handling of pesticides and agrochemicals.

The usage of pesticides and agrochemicals for fields, meadows, forests, forest shelter-belts and plantations during the blossom period of the honey collecting sources is practiced in accordance with the order, established in part 2 of article 29 of the present Federal Law.

Article 25 Honeybee protection in forest usage practice

Forest users activity is determined in accordance with forest legislation.

Actions, aimed at raising forest productivity are fulfilled with regard to the requirements providing an effective activity in the field of beekeeping.

Felling of forests and bushes (willow, maple, lime trees, acacia) and honey collecting sources is not allowed, and also laying of willow bark gathered on the territories situated at a distance less than 3 km away from the places of stationary hive deposition, except the cases of improvement of forest sanitary and reproduction conditions.

Article 26 Honeybee protection in their natural habitat

Activities in using honeybees medicinal properties, and extracting beekeeping products in their natural habitat is carried out in compliance with the Russian Federation legislation about animal world.

The destruction of tree trunk hollows and of other places of bee families settling in their natural habitat is not allowed.

If a honeybee family complicates human activity in its natural habitat resettlement or annihilation if resettlement is impossible is carried out with the participation of specialists in beekeeping activity or a beekeeper.

Article 27 Honeybees diseases prevention, treatment, and pestcontrol.

Honeybee disease prevention, treatment, pestcontrol and also production of wax foundation are carried out in accordance with sanitary legislation of the Russian Federation.

Citizens and juridical persons carry out activity in honeybee disease prevention, their treatment and pestcontrol.

Citizens and juridical persons can also draw in physical or juridical persons, who have license for veterinary work in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation to carry out activity in honeybee disease prevention, treatment and pestcontrol.

Citizens and juridical persons ought to have veterinary-sanitary hive passports. Delivery and keeping of the passport are done in the order established by the specially authorized Federal Executive Body.

Article 28 Breeding and usage of the most valuable honeybee populations and species.

Activity of citizens and juridical persons in the field of breeding and usage of the most valuable honeybee populations and species and also in the field of improving honeybee populations and species is carried out in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation about livestock breeding.

In order to provide citizens and juridical persons with the most valuable populations and species and also improve the breed value of honeybee species in particular areas (their natural habitat) breed reproduction (hives) are formed.

Protective lots with the radius no less that 15-20 km, where bee families or wee queens from other honeybee populations and species and also bee queens of the unknown origin mustn't be brought in.

Article 29 Notification of citizens and juridical persons about the situations, which are dangerous for honeybees.

Citizens and juridical persons have a right according to the Russian Federation legislation to getting complete timely reliable information about the environmental conditions and also about situations dangerous for honeybees.

Briefing of citizens and juridical persons about environmental conditions and situations that are dangerous for honeybees is given through mass media.

Citizens and juridical persons using pesticides and agrochemicals for treating plants must warn within 3 days personally in written form or through mass media citizens and juridical persons who have hives situated within 5 km distance form the places of treated agricultural and forest plants. The date or treating agricultural and forest plants, the method of treating and the toxicity level of the used pesticides and agrochemicals should be indicated.

Article 30 Bee families transportation assistance.

Transportation of bee families should be carried out in the directions coordinated with the corresponding specially authorized executive bodies.

In order to avert bee families death caused by hive overheating or sharp humidity rise in hives a delay of transport means meant for bee families transportation by the authorized bodies is forbidden, except the cases when the delay is not connected with the control on transportation rules observance or on technical state of transport means.

If necessary the corresponding specially authorized federal executive bodies render assistance in free bee families transportation.

Trailers, platforms, pavilions, mobile boxes equipped as moving hives are considered to be technological agricultural equipment.

Chapter 6 Resolving arguments in performing beekeeping activity and responsibility for breaking the Russian Federation legislation in the field of beekeeping.

Article 31 Resolving arguments in carrying out beekeeping activity in the field of beekeeping.

Arguments arising among citizens and juridical persons while performing beekeeping activity are resolved in the order established by the Russian Federation legislation.

Article 32 Responsibility for breaking the Russian Federation legislation in beekeeping.

Breaking the Russian Federation legislation involves administrative or other kinds of responsibility in compliance with the Russian Federation legislation

Chapter 7 International cooperation of the Russian Federation in the field of beekeeping.

Article 33 International cooperation of the Russian Federation in the field of beekeeping.

The Russian Federation assists the development of international cooperation in the field of beekeeping.

International cooperation of the Russian Federation is carried out in accordance with the Russian Federation legislation

Chapter 8 Final clauses

Article 34 Coming into force of the present Federal Law

The present Federal Law comes into force on the day of its official publication.

Article 35 Bringing legal normative documents in conformity with the present Federal Law.

Normative documents of the Russian Federation Government, laws or other normative documents of the Russian Federation subjects are brought to conformity with the present Federal Law during 3 months from the moment of its coming into force.

The president of the Russian Federation B. Yeltsin