

**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**PEACE      INDEPENDENCE      DEMOCRACY      UNITY      PROSPERITY**

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

No. 069/MOAF

**THE REGULATIONS ON  
THE QUARANTINE OF PLANTS  
IN THE LAO P.D.R.**

- Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decree on the Organization and the Activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Decree no. 84/PM; issued on 22/11/92
- Pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decree on the Quarantine of Plants in the Lao PDR, no 66/PM; issued on 21/8/92.

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry hereby declares the following regulations on the quarantine of plants in the Lao PDR.

Part I  
General

Article 1:      The objectives:

- To protect agricultural and forestry resources by the prevention of the dissemination of dangerous pests in the Lao PDR.
- To prevent the spread of infection from one part of the country to another.
- To co-operate with international organizations to prevent the spread of dangerous plant infections along national trade routes.

Article 2:      Payment of Duties

1. The duties, as defined in this regulation, must be paid by the exporters of agricultural produce.
2. All duties are payable in kip.
3. The following goods are exempt from duty:
  - a. Items carried as hand-baggage by passengers provided that their weight does not exceed two kilograms per person.

- b. Bouquets of flowers, including branches and flowers, provided that their weight does not exceed 0.5 kilograms per person.

Article 3: Storage of Samples

1. In the event of the quarantine of plants or agricultural produce, an appropriate amount will be retained in order to examine it for the presence of infection.
2. The inspection officers should take sufficient and appropriate quantities of samples in order that these may be analyzed correctly in standard tests.
3. After the checking and analysis of samples, any samples of over 10 kilograms will be returned to their owners, except for those samples, which must be retained as evidence.

Part II  
Concerning the Export of Goods

Article 4: Applications for the Inspection of Plants

Any organizations, companies or individuals who wish to export plants or agricultural produce to foreign countries, must be in possession of a Phytosanitary Certificate, which can be obtained on application to the Department of Agriculture and Agricultural Extension. This applies to those plants and agricultural produce intended for export through the border checkpoints at Thadeua, Thanaleng and Vientiane airport. In the provinces applications should be made to Provincial Agricultural and Forestry Divisions which have quarantine checkpoints.

Article 5: Checking

The owners of the produce are responsible for the payment of the cost of checking. After checking, the produce in question must be exported within 21 days.

Article 6: The Phytosanitary Certificate

1. The Phytosanitary Certificate must be in keeping with the international regulations on the export of agricultural produce.
2. The authorized person, who issues the Phytosanitary Certificate, must be that person directly responsible for the quarantine of agricultural produce. (By the authorized person, is meant that person who checks the produce at the official regulation checkpoint and is a member of the staff of the Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Division, of the Department of Agriculture and Agriculture Extension, of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.)

3. If the exports do not comply with the Regulations on the Quarantine of Plants in the Lao PDR or of the intended country of importation, a Phytosanitary Certificate will not be issued.

Article 7: Prevention and Sterilization

1. If the agricultural produce is found to be infected or dangerously infested by those pests, which are prohibited in the country of import, it will be treated by heat or steam, after which a Phytosanitary Certificate will be issued.
2. If the owners of the produce agree with the protection, and the use of sterilization then the government appointed officials or private authorities will perform the necessary heat or steam sterilization procedures, but these procedures have to be accompanied by the issue of the necessary accompanying certificates (either heat or steam treatment).

Part III  
Concerning the Import of Goods

Article 8: The Checkpoints

1. It is prohibited for any organizations, companies or individuals, which are importing plants or agricultural produce, to do so without going through a Plant Checkpoint.
2. It is prohibited for any organizations, companies or individuals to import plants or prohibited agricultural produce through the mails (including by way of the use of diplomatic buses) except for those who have special permission from the Department of Agriculture and Agricultural Extension.
3. The following is a list of Border Checkpoints for Plants
  - 3.1 Vientiane municipality:
    - Thanaleng
    - Thadeua
    - Vientiane Airport
    - The Central Post Office
  - 3.2 Savannakhet province:
    - Thaheua Savannakhet
    - Sepone (Labao Checkpoint)
  - 3.3 Champassak province
    - Veunkham
    - Songmek

- 3.4. Phongsaly Province
  - Bounneu
- 3.5. Sayaboury Province
  - Khanthao
- 3.6. Luang Namtha Province
  - Muong Sing
  - Borten
- 3.7. Bokeo Province
  - Thadan Bokeo
- 3.8. Xieng Khouang Province
  - Namkan
- 3.9. Bolikhamsay Province
  - Napae

Article 9: Import permits for the importation of plants and agricultural produce in to the Lao PDR

- 1. Any organizations, companies or individuals wishing to import plants, agricultural produce or seeds into the Lao PDR must have the permission of the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Agricultural Extension.
- 2. Any plants, seeds or agricultural produce intended for importation to the Lao PDR must be accompanied by an Import Permit and must be able to satisfy the conditions specified for the importation of agricultural produce.
- 3. All plants, seeds and agricultural produce for import into the Lao PDR must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate.

Article 10: Examination of Plants or Agricultural Produce for Import to Lao PDR.

- 1. Any organizations, companies or individuals wishing to import plants or agricultural produce must declare these items to the Plant Quarantine Officers at the checkpoint.
- 2. If the agricultural produce is exempt from duty or duty payments then the Plant Quarantine Officers must be informed at the checkpoint.

Article 11: Import Permits, Quarantine Orders for Agricultural Produce and Import Prohibitions

1. Any plants and agricultural produce, which are exempted from the payment of duty, may be imported to the Lao PDR provided that they are free of prohibited infections.
2. Any plants or agricultural produce which are disease free and on which the duties have already been paid, will be given entry to the Lao PDR by the Plant Quarantine Officers, who will issue a certificate.
3. If any plants or agricultural produce are found to be infected with prohibited diseases, whether or not, duties have already been paid, the officers will decide on the appropriate course. Either the infected goods will be quarantined for steam sterilization or returned to their owners for destruction or returned to their country of origin. A Certificate of Infection will be given to the owners and samples will be taken as evidence.

Part IV  
Violations

Article 12: Any organizations, companies or individuals who violate the Regulations on Plant Quarantine will be warned, fined, the produce seized and, in the event of a serious violation, will be prosecuted.

Part V  
Prohibitions

Article 13: Prohibited Infections

If any plants, agricultural produce or dirty vehicles are found to be infected with any prohibited infections, then first they will be steam sterilised. In suspected cases they must at least be sprayed with insecticides by the Plant Quarantine Officers.

Part VI  
Agricultural Produce in Transit through the Lao PDR

Article 14: Any agricultural produce which is in transit through the Lao PDR and is intended for a third country destination, must be in possession of a Transit Certificate and accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate which must be shown to the Plant Quarantine Inspection Officers at the checkpoint in order to obtain a Transit Certificate for Agricultural Produce in Transit through the Lao PDR.

- In the event of the agricultural produce not being in possession of a Phytosanitary Certificate, then the Plant Quarantine Officers will follow the procedures outline in Parts II and III.

Article 15: These Regulations on the Quarantine of Plants are effective from the date of signing.

Vientiane, dated 02/07/1993

Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  
Sysavath Keobounphanh