

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR POPPY PRODUCTION

1. How is poppy planting permission obtained?

The producers in permitted poppy planting fields must apply to local TMO directorate between 1st July-30th October.

2. Who are not permitted for poppy planting?

- Who does not apply within legal application period,
- Who submits false declarations,
- Whose application forms are not signed by the producer and the headman,
- Who wants to make plantings in places, where controllability is not possible,
- Who are under age 18,
- Who declares off planting reasonless,
- Who has final condemnation decision with respect to terms of 4th article of Law no. 3298 or relevant articles of Turkish Criminal Code about smuggling,

are not permitted for poppy planting.

3. What is the limit of planting in decares per producer?

Poppy planting is permitted within the scope of the limit determined by TMO for the settlements located in planting areas determined by Council of Ministers Decision.

4. Which cases are considered as illegal planting?

- Planting without permission certificate,
- Planting in more than the registered field area stated in the permission certificate,
- Planting in a field other than the registered field in the permission certificate,

are considered as illegal planting.

5. Why is alternation system applied for poppy?

Alternation system is applied in order to;

- Prevent soil exhaustion and eliminate unilateral food consumption in the soil,
- Leaving cleaner and better soil to the next products in order to obtain high-quality product,
- Prevent diseases and pests,

Producers willing to make planting other than in alternation field are not permitted.

6. What must be done to obtain good income from poppy?

- Soil and seed bed must be well prepared,
- Planting must be done with grain drill,
- Planting must be held on time in order to minimize winter damages,
- Certified seed must be used,
- Soil analysis must be performed for suitable fertilizer use,

- The following fertilizers must be used per decares;
 - 7 Kg Triple Superphosphate (Under soil before planting)
 - 20 Kg Ammonium Sulfate (Under soil before planting)
- Weeding and thinning must be performed on time,
- Irrigation must be performed wherever possible,
- Information must be obtained from local agricultural organizations.

7. Why must we use TMO certified seeds in planting?

We must use TMO certified seeds in order to

- Improve our international competitiveness,
- TMO certified seeds containing high alkaloid content must be used in order to provide sustainability of poppy agriculture in our country in the future by next generations.

8. Which provinces and districts are allowed to plant poppy seeds?

In accordance with the Decree No. 2015/7725 dated 20/06/2015 and numbered 29392 published in the Official Gazette; poppy cultivation and unlanced poppy capsules production are permitted at 13 provinces in total including Afyonkarahisar, Amasya, Burdur, Çorum, Denizli, Isparta, Kütahya, Tokat, Uşak provinces and Balya, Bigadiç, Dursunbey, İvrindi, Kepsut, Savaştepe and Sındırgı districts of Balıkesir province, Alpu, Beylikova, Çifteler, Günyüzü, Han, Mahmudiye, Mihaliççık, Seyitgazi and Sivrihisar districts of Eskişehir province, Ahırlı, Akören, Akşehir, Beyşehir, Derbent, Doğanhisar, Hüyük, Ilgın, Kadınhanı, Seydisehir, Tuzlukçu, Yalınhüyük and Yunak districts of Konya province and Şehzadeler, Yunusemre, Demirci, Gördes, Köprübaşı, Kula, Sarıgöl ve Selendi districts of Manisa province.

9. Is it possible to expand poppy cultivation area?

Poppy cultivation limit of 700.000 decares given to our country by the United Nations organization is planned by taking into account potential poppy production levels of settlement units. It is not possible to expand the cultivation area since existing poppy capsule production is at a level that can meet the domestic and foreign demand.

10. Why is the Farmer Registration System implemented for poppy?

The purpose of implementing the Farmer Registration System for poppy is to integrate poppy product as well into the Farmer Registration System which includes all agricultural products, to facilitate poppy measurement and control procedures, to increase the efficiency and reduce the expenses related to these operations, to prevent poppy cultivation in pastures, treasury and forest land forbidden to be used as field. The producers who have the Farmer Registration Certificates are given poppy cultivation permission since difficulties have been faced in determining the legally responsible farmers for over-cultivation which is assumed as smuggling. However, in order to eliminate the victimhood of farmers who cannot make cultivation in cases when Farmer Registration Certificate document cannot be obtained due to inheritance problems, poppy planting permission certificates are given to these farmers on condition that they bring “Commitment Letter” approved by the headman.