

Public Authority	Rural Development and Aquaculture (RDAD)
Description of the department/directorate/entity's structure	<p>The Department is headed by a Director General and is made up of the following units:</p> <p>Agriculture  Animal Welfare (Domestic)  Pitkalija  Civil Abattoir (Operations)  Rural Festivities Unit (RFU)  Aquaculture (Research)</p>
Description of the department/directorate/entity's functions and responsibilities	<p><b>Agricultural Directorate:</b></p> <p>The Agriculture Directorate is to assist local farmers and breeders to produce fresh products of the highest quality.</p> <p>The Directorate constantly tries to promote the introduction of improved methods of production in agriculture, horticulture and animal products.</p>
General description of the categories of documents the department/directorate/entity holds (including exempt documents)	<p><b>Farmer Registration</b></p> <p>The Farmer Registration Card (FRC) archives were used to register land tenants and their respective land holdings. These archives were functioning between 1944 till 2007.</p> <p>The Directorate of Agriculture retains these archives as a historic record, and due to the frequent research requests made by the general public and Maltese Law Courts.</p>
Description of all manuals and similar types of documents which contain policies, Regulations principles, rules or guidelines in accordance with which decisions or recommendations are made in respect of members of the public (including bodies corporate and employees of the public authority in their personal capacity)	<p><b>Agricultural Directorate:</b></p> <p><b>Nitrates Action Programme</b></p> <p>Regulations LN321/2011</p> <p><b>Producer Groups and Producer Organisations</b></p> <p><b>Legal Basis/Legal Reference:</b></p> <p><b>European:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Council Regulation 1234/2007 establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation).</li> <li>· Commission Regulation 543/2011 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 in respect of the fruit and vegetables, and processed fruit and vegetables sectors.</li> </ul> <p><b>National:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· CHAPTER 447 PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS ACT <i>To provide the creation of Producer Organisations in the Agricultural and Fisheries sectors.</i></li> <li>· L.N. 210 of 2011 PRODUCER ORGANISATION ACT (CAP. 447) <i>Fruit and</i></li> </ul>

- *Vegetable Producer Organisations (Amendment) Regulations, 2011*
- L.N. 63 of 2004 PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS AC 2002 (ACT No. IX OF 2002) *Fruit and Vegetable Producer Organisations Regulations 2004.*
- LEGAL NOTICE 148 of 2008 SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION 447.03 *Wine sector Producer Organisations regulations*
- L.N. 237 of 2007 PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS ACT, 2002 (ACT No. IX OF 2002) *Producer Organisations (Certain Products) Regulations, 2007*

*LEGAL NOTICE 233 of 2011. Producer Organisations Board Regulation.*

### **Marketing Standards**

There are two types of Marketing Standards that include Fruit and Vegetable. These are:

"General marketing standards" means those standards listed in Part A of Annex I to EC Regulation No. 543/2011;

"Specific marketing standards" means those standards listed in Part B of Annex I to EC Regulation No. 543/2011; The specific marketing standards classify the fruit and vegetables into three classes and the requirements for each class of the specific product is set out in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1580/2007

### **Legal Reference:**

- EC Reg 1580/2007 (implementing rules for Fruit and Vegetables)
- EC Reg 1234/2007 (Common Market Organisation/ rules for agricultural products)
- EC Reg 543/2011 (implementing rules for Fruit and Vegetables)
- EC Reg 1182/2007 (rules for Fruit and Vegetables Sector)
- SUPPLIES AND SERVICES ACT CAP. 117 (Fruit and Vegetables Marketing Standards Regulations, 2010)

### **ODZ MEPA Permits**

Mepa Policy and Design Guidance for Agriculture, Farm Diversification and Stables (2007).

### **Soil Transport Permits**

*Fertile Soil (Preservation) Act of 1973*

### **Viticulture and Oenology**

Under the umbrella of the Wine Act are a number of Legal Notices (L.N.) that cover specific wine sector aspects:

- The Denomination of Origin and Geographic Indications Regulations, 2006 (L.N. 190 of 2006) lays down detailed rules relating to categories of grapevine products, oenological practices and restrictions.
- The DOK (Wines) Production Protocols Regulations, 2007 (L.N. 416 of 2007) and the IGT (Wines) Production Protocols Regulations, 2007 (L.N. 136 of 2007) regulate wines having a Denomination of Controlled Origin (Denominazzjoni ta' Origni Kontrollata) and wines

	<p>having a Typical Geographical Indication (Indikazzjoni Geografika Tipika) respectively. These Regulations lay down detailed rules relating to these two wine product categories, oenological practices, labelling and presentation requirements, traditional terms and restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The Classification of Vine Varieties (Production of Wine Grapes) Regulations, 2006 (L.N. 188 of 2006, lists those wine grape varieties that may be cultivated on the islands of Malta and Gozo for the production of wine products.</li> <li>· The Wine and Vitivinicultural Products (Stocks Declaration) Regulations, 2006 (L.N. 189 of 2006), covers the rules as regards the compilation of the stocks declaration of wines and musts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Oleiculture</b></p> <p><b>LEGAL BASIS:</b></p> <p>The oleiculture sector is regulated at EU level by the following Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Council Regulation (EC) no 865/2004 on the common organisation of the market in olive oil and table olives, which regulates the sector in the EU and covers olive oils and its fractions, fresh olives and olives which have undergone processing, as well as other olive residues.</li> <li>· Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) no 29/2012 on the marketing standards for olive oil, which lays down specific standards for retail-stage marketing of olive oils and olive-pomace oils.</li> <li>· Commission Regulation (EC) no 61/2011 and Commission Regulation (EEC) no 2568/91 on the characteristics of olive oil and olive-residue oil and on the relevant methods of analysis.</li> </ul> <p><b>Apiculture</b></p> <p><b>LEGAL BASIS:</b></p> <p>The apiculture sector is regulated nationally by the Beekeeping Regulations, 1992 (L.N. 110 of 1992), as well as L.N. 213/04, which implements nationally the provisions of Council Directive 2001/110/EC relating to honey and Council Regulation (EC) of 797/2004 on measures improving general conditions for the production and marketing of apiculture produce.</p>
<p>Statement of the information that needs to be available to members of the public who wish to obtain access to official documents from the public authority, which statement shall include particulars of the officer or officers to whom requests for such access should be sent.</p>	<p>Requests for information can be submitted on:  <a href="mailto:foi-ps.msdec@gov.mt">foi-ps.msdec@gov.mt</a></p>
<p>Details of Internal Complaints Procedure</p>	<p>An applicant whose request for information is refused, or who is otherwise not satisfied with the information provided, its format or the extension of the deadline for the submission of the notification indicating whether a request would be met or not,</p>

	<p>may address a complaint to the Ministry. The complaint should be addressed to the Ministry's Principal FOI Officer, MSDEC Offices, 6 Triq Hal Qormi, Santa Venera SVR 1301 who shall bring the complaint to the attention of the officer responsible (i.e. the most senior official within the Ministry). The officer responsible shall reply to the applicant within 10 working days from the receipt of the complaint. The applicant shall also be informed that he or she may appeal the decision or otherwise address a complaint to the Information and Data Protection Commissioner in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (Cap. 496 of the Laws of Malta). The officer responsible shall inform the applicant of the decision taken with respect to his or her complaint, and in the event of confirmation of a decision not to release the pertinent information, shall explain the reasons thereof. Whenever the applicant's complaint is related to the format of the information provided or to an extension of the deadline for the submission of the notification indicating whether a request would be met or not by the Ministry, and the original decision is upheld, the applicant shall be given an explanation as to why his or her complaint cannot be positively addressed. An applicant may also make use of the Internal Complaints Procedure to report failure to meet deadlines or to send notifications.</p>
<p>Other Information</p>	<p>Request and Complaint Forms may be downloaded from the Ministry's website:  <a href="http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Pages/Freedom%20of%20Information/Freedom-of-Information.aspx">http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Pages/Freedom%20of%20Information/Freedom-of-Information.aspx</a></p> <p>Payments in cash can be made at the Accounts Section of the Ministry at MSDEC Offices, 6 Triq Hal Qormi, Santa Venera SVR 1301.</p> <p>Payments can also be made by cheque payable to the Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change.</p>
<p>Public Authority Contact Details</p>	<p>Head Office  Rural Development and Aquaculture  Government Farm Ghammieri  Marsa</p> <p>Tel no: 22924 233/146</p>