

# Winter Spraying 2022 – with an increased rate size

Автор(и): Растителна защита  
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*The State Fund Agriculture is granting BGN 7.4 million for winter spraying in 2022. The rate for 2022 has been increased from BGN 270/ha including VAT to BGN 324/ha including VAT for the spring stage and, respectively, for the autumn stage from BGN 100/ha including VAT to BGN 120/ha including VAT. Until 14 March 2022, farmers may apply for support under the scheme.*

The Management Board of the State Fund „Agriculture“ has approved an annual financial resource for 2022 in the amount of BGN 7,400,000 under the State aid scheme “Aid for compensating the costs of farmers related to the implementation of measures under the **National Programme for the Control of Pests in Permanent Crops during the Winter Period**”.

The aid is granted in two stages. The first is in spring. It covers the period from the end of frosts to the swelling of fruit buds.

The rate for 2022 has been increased from BGN 270/ha including VAT to BGN 324/ha including VAT for the spring stage and, respectively, for the autumn stage from BGN 100/ha including VAT to BGN 120/ha including VAT.

The aid is provided for plant protection products for pest control purchased with supporting accounting documents. The funds provided for the first stage of the aid are for products for pest control in accordance with the National Programme for Permanent Crops during the Winter Season. At the second stage, they are intended to cover part of the costs of fruit growers and vegetable growers incurred for plant protection products used in autumn during the period of mass leaf fall and leaf decay. In 2021, 3,479 farmers received BGN 6,113,954 under the aid.

The purpose of the aid is to limit losses from the spread of pests in permanent crops (pome and stone fruit species, strawberries, raspberries and oil-bearing rose).

Until 14 March 2022, farmers may apply for support under the scheme „Aid for compensating the costs of farmers related to the implementation of measures under the National Programme for the Control of Pests in Permanent Crops during the Winter Period”.

The funds are paid only for plant protection products purchased from persons who are traders within the meaning of the Commercial Act and hold a certificate for trading in plant protection products pursuant to Article 91, paragraph 1 of the Plant Protection Act and are entered in the public register of the BFSA for plant protection products authorised for use pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 1 of the Plant Protection Act.

Applications for participation in the scheme are accepted at the regional directorates of the SFA. Farmers must account for the expenses incurred and submit documents for the purchased and applied plant protection products by 20 May 2022. By 30 June, the SFA will pay the financial aid under the scheme.

