

Държавен фонд Земеделие grants 3 million leva under the scheme for pest control in permanent crops

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The aid for compensating the costs of farmers related to the implementation of measures under the National Programme for Pest Control in Permanent Crops during the Winter Period for 2016 amounts to BGN 3,000,000. Applications for the first period will be accepted from 8 February to 2 March 2016 inclusive! Small and medium-sized enterprises cultivating permanent fruit plantations, strawberries and raspberries may benefit from this aid.

At the meeting of the Management Board of the State Fund "Agriculture", held on Friday, 29 January, it was decided that the total amount of aid for farmers under the State aid scheme "Aid for compensating the costs of farmers related to the implementation of measures under the National Programme for Pest Control in Permanent Crops during the Winter Period" for 2016

amounts to 3 million leva. The financial support is divided into two stages - *in the spring* - after the end of the cold period until bud swelling and *in the autumn* - during the period of mass leaf fall. Producers will first receive 2 million leva when applying for plant protection products that are used in the period after the end of the cold period until bud swelling. The remaining amount - 1 million leva - will be allocated for products to accelerate the processes of leaf decay during the winter season, which are applied in the autumn during the period of mass leaf fall.

Important! Applications for the first period will be accepted from 8 February to 2 March 2015 inclusive! The application documents will be accepted at the regional directorates of the State Fund "Agriculture" according to the permanent address of natural persons or sole traders, or according to the registered office for legal entities. Small and medium-sized enterprises cultivating permanent fruit plantations, strawberries and raspberries may benefit from this aid.

The State Fund "Agriculture" will pay the aid on the basis of invoices for the purchase of plant protection products issued after the submission of the documents to the regional directorates. The deadline for reporting and submitting documents for the expenses incurred by the farmers is 15 April 2016, and for concluding contracts and disbursing the funds – 27 May.

The Management Board of the State Fund "Agriculture" will additionally determine the deadline for submitting documents for the second period.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Food