

No. 5184

ROMANIA
and
BULGARIA

Convention concerning the quarantine of plants and their protection against pests and diseases. Signed at Sofia, on 22 July 1954

Official texts: Romanian and Bulgarian.

Registered by Romania on 23 June 1960.

ROUMANIE
et
BULGARIE

Convention relative à la quarantaine des végétaux et à leur protection contre les maladies et les parasites. Signée à Sofia, le 22 juillet 1954

Textes officiels roumain et bulgare.

Enregistrée par la Roumanie le 23 juin 1960.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 5184. CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONCERNING THE QUARANTINE OF PLANTS AND THEIR PROTECTION AGAINST PESTS AND DISEASES. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 22 JULY 1954

The Government of the Romanian People's Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, recognizing the need for more effective measures to prevent the losses to agriculture and forestry resulting from pests and diseases, and with a view to ensuring the maximum increase in the yields of cultivated plants, have appointed as their plenipotentiaries :

The Government of the Romanian People's Republic : Gheorghe Velcescu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Romanian People's Republic at Sofia, and

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria : Stanko Todorov, Minister of Agriculture of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The two Contracting Parties undertake to take systematic measures in their territories to eliminate agricultural and forestry losses due to plant pests and diseases and to ensure the maximum increase in the yields of agricultural crops and in the output of timber and other forestry products.

Article 2

The two Contracting Parties agree that the measures referred to in article 1 shall include :

1. The systematic inspection of agricultural and woodland plants and uncultivated land in their territories, with a view to the detection of the pests and diseases enumerated in article 3 of this Convention.

¹ Came into force on 29 April 1955, the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Bucharest, in accordance with article 13.

2. The localization of centres of infection by plant diseases and pests and their destruction by chemical, agro-biological, agro-technical and other methods available to the two countries.

3. The imposition of plant quarantine on inhabited places and areas where centres of infection by quarantinable pests and diseases are discovered, and the prohibition of the export from such places and areas to the territory of the other country of goods of vegetable origin, in particular seeds and sets of agricultural, ornamental and woodland plants, liable to spread such pests and diseases.

Article 3

The two Contracting Parties undertake to apply the measures referred to in article 2 in the case of the following quarantinable dangerous plant pests and diseases :

1. The Colorado beetle—*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*;
2. The California beetle—*Aspidiotus perniciosus*;
3. Potato canker—*Synchytrium endobioticum*;
4. The potato nematode—*Heterodera rostochiensis*;
5. The American fall webworm—*Hyphantria cunea*;
6. The potato moth—*Phthorimea operculella*;
7. The Mediterranean fruit fly—*Ceratitidis capitata*;
8. Flax " pasmo "—*Phlyctaena linicela*;
9. The beet moth—*Phthorimea ocelatella*;
10. The cotton moth—*Pectinophora gossypiella* Saund;
11. Contagious internode contraction in grape vines—*Court noué*;
12. *Onceria monacha*;
13. *Rabdocline pseudotzuga*;
14. *Cronartium ribicola*;
15. *Ophiostoma quercus*;
16. Virus diseases affecting stone fruit—peach yellow, peach blight, and plum and peach mosaic;
17. Dry rot (diplodiosis) of maize—*Diplodia zeae*.

The list of such pests and diseases may be modified by agreement between the two countries.

Article 4

The two Contracting Parties undertake to assist each other in controlling mass pests—namely, the Asiatic and the Moroccan locust. They undertake to organize and to put into effect measures to destroy the breeding-grounds of locusts in order to prevent the migration of locusts from the territory of one Contracting Party to that of the other.

Article 5

The two Contracting Parties shall inform each other of the appearance in their territories of the quarantinable dangerous pests and diseases referred to in articles 3 and 4, and shall indicate the areas affected.

Article 6

The two Contracting Parties agree that consignments of goods of vegetable origin, as for example : seeds, sets, material for sowing, bulbs, rhizomes, cuttings, graftings, slips, grain of all kinds, fodder, leguminous plants, fruits, cotton, beans, seeds of all kinds, and consignments of unprocessed forestry products shall be covered by a certificate of health issued by the plant quarantine authorities of the exporting country certifying that the consignment concerned is free from the pests and diseases enumerated in article 3 and does not originate in an infected area.

The provisions of this article shall not apply to products of vegetable origin which have been sterilized by an industrial process.

Grape-vine sets must be chemically disinfected.

The existence of a health certificate shall not affect the right of the quarantine authorities of the two Contracting Parties to carry out a quarantine inspection of the consignments concerned and to subject such consignments to specific restrictions and to disinfestation.

If quarantinable pests or diseases are discovered in goods of vegetable origin, the Quarantine Service of the consigning country shall be notified immediately.

Plants and goods of vegetable origin which are imported and exported between the two Contracting Parties must be free from soil.

The consent of the receiving country shall be required for the import of plants with soil surrounding the roots.

Article 7

During such time as centres of infection by the Colorado beetle (*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*), potato canker (*Synchytrium endobioticum*), the potato moth (*Phthorimea operculella*) and the pink bollworm remain undestroyed in the territory of either Contracting Party, the Contracting Parties shall permit the import or export of potatoes and cotton, plants or parts of live plants with soil, only from uninfected places situated not less than fifty kilometres from the infected areas.

Article 8

In order to prevent the introduction of pests and diseases of agricultural and woodland plants from third countries, the Contracting Parties shall regulate the

import into and transit through their territories of plants and parts of plants (seeds, bulbs, cuttings, graftings, etc.) from any other country.

Consignments imported or in transit from third countries must be covered by a certificate of health and origin and must comply with the regulations laid down by the plant protection organization of the Contracting Parties.

The Contracting Parties shall designate the frontier points in their own territory through which consignments of goods of vegetable origin from third countries may pass.

Article 9

Each Contracting Party agrees to supply at a fair price, on application by the other Party, preparations, apparatus, machinery and other equipment and materials necessary for the application of quarantine measures and the control of pests and diseases of agricultural crops.

In the event of large-scale outbreaks of dangerous plant pests and diseases constituting a threat to agriculture in the territory of either Contracting Party, the two Parties agree to assist each other by sending special teams to the territory of the Party from which a request has been received, for the purpose of destroying the centres of mass infection by plant pests and diseases.

Article 10

The two Contracting Parties agree to inform each other regarding :

1. All laws and regulations issued concerning the quarantine and control of plant diseases and pests and regulating the import and export of goods of vegetable origin;

2. The results of inspections carried out on agricultural crops and uncultivated and wooded areas for the purpose of establishing that they are free from the pests and diseases enumerated in articles 3 and 4 of this Convention, as well as the results of measures taken to control them and to destroy the centres of infection by such plant pests and diseases.

The information shall be exchanged twice a year : the first time by 15 September and the second time by 15 January of the following year.

3. Information about the discovery of areas contaminated with the Colorado beetle, the potato moth or the pink bollworm shall be sent immediately by telegraph.

Article 11

The two Contracting Parties undertake to co-operate broadly in research work by taking action in the following forms :

- (a) The regular exchange of scientific publications in the plant protection field;
- (b) The exchange of specialists for a specific period and the provision of opportunities to specialize at the institutes of the two countries;
- (c) The establishment, by agreement, of plant protection research institutes to carry out work of interest to one of the Parties;
- (d) The exchange of information concerning the results of scientific and practical work on the control of plant pests and diseases, especially those enumerated in article 3 of this Convention, and of information concerning the practical value of different methods of plant protection; the development of resistant varieties of plants; new apparatus, equipment and machinery required for the control of agricultural plant pests; etc.

Article 12

The two Contracting Parties agree to convene annual Romanian-Bulgarian conferences on quarantine and the control of plant pests and diseases, for the purpose of settling practical problems relating to the application of this Convention and of exchanging information and experience in connexion with the measures referred to.

The conferences shall be held alternately in the Romanian People's Republic and in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The dates and place of meeting shall be fixed by agreement between the two Parties.

Article 13

This Convention shall be ratified at the earliest possible date and shall enter into force after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Bucharest.

The Convention is concluded for a term of five years from the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

It shall be extended automatically for successive terms of five years unless one of the Contracting Parties gives written notice to the other Party, not later than one year before the expiry of the term of the Convention, of its intention to terminate it.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries of the two Parties have signed this Convention and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE at Sofia on 22 July 1954 in two copies, each in the Romanian and Bulgarian languages, both texts being authentic.

For the Government
of the Romanian People's Republic :
VELCESCU

For the Government
of the People's Republic of Bulgaria :
S. TODOROV