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Report Name: Vietnam Restructures Plant Regulatory Responsibilities

**Country:** Vietnam

Post: Hanoi

**Report Category:** Grain and Feed, Oilseeds and Products, Planting Seeds, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety, Tree Nuts, Dried Fruit, Fresh Fruit

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## **Report Highlights:**

This report provides an update on the restructuring of Vietnam's government regarding the regulation of plants and plant products. As part of recent efforts to streamline government operations, the newly named Plant Production and Protection Department, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, is now responsible for overseeing plant and plant product regulations. This Department was formed through the merger of the Department of Crop Production and the Department of Plant Protection.

## **Summary**

Crop production and plant protection are critical state management functions of Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE). This authority is outlined in Decree 35/2025. For more information on Vietnam's government restructuring, please refer to GAIN Report: <u>VM2025-0009</u>.

The Plant Production and Protection Department (PPPD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment is the product of a merger between the Department of Crop Production, and the Department of Plant Protection, both formerly under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The PPPD is responsible for state management and law enforcement related to crop production, plant variety development and protection, plant quarantine, pest control and prevention, plant-based products food safety, market access for plant products, soil health, and fertilizers. According to MAE's Decision 58, issued on March 1, 2025, the department's key roles related to plants and plant products are outlined below.

- **Plant Variety:** The Department is responsible for the issuance, re-issuance, extension, suspension, and termination of circulation decisions; production and trade; testing, sampling, storage, and field trials; the issuance and withdrawal of import and export permits for plant varieties and genes; and quality control. The Plant Variety Protection function, which oversees new plant varieties, is handled by the Plant Variety Management Division of the Department.
- **Plant Quarantine:** The Department is responsible for submitting the list of articles subject to quarantine and the list of articles subject to pest risk analysis before importation into Vietnam to the MAE Minister for approval; implementing plant quarantine for articles subject to quarantine; conducting pest risk analysis; implementing post-import plant quarantine; and managing the treatment of articles subject to plant quarantine.
- **Pesticides:** The Department is responsible for submitting the list of permitted and banned pesticides in Vietnam to the MAE Minister for approval and managing the registration, production, trade, export, import, transportation, storage, advertisement, labeling, packaging, withdrawal, and cancellation of pesticides.
- **Fertilizers:** The Department is responsible for managing the registration, production, trade, export, import, transportation, advertisement, labeling, packaging, and use of fertilizers in Vietnam; and managing the testing and quality control of fertilizers.
- **Food Safety:** The Department is responsible for managing the food safety of plant-based products from production, harvest, processing, storage, transportation, and trade; and for inspecting the food safety of imported and exported plant products.

On April 22, 2025, MAE issued Decision 1000 to update all administrative procedures, templates, and forms related to plant production and protection within MAE's state management

responsibilities. This can be accessed via the link: <a href="www.mae.gov.vn">www.mae.gov.vn</a>. FAS also strongly recommends that interested stakeholders access regular updates from the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country and Export Certificate Reports in the GAIN system, due to projected changes in agricultural trade policies and procedures in Vietnam.

## **Attachments:**

No Attachments.