

ENFORCEMENT LAWS OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The subject of enforcement laws of Agriculture Department has gathered a lot of importance and of late, it is the topic of the day among the public, farmers, government officials, manufacturers, and dealers, in fertilisers, insecticides and seeds, as well as the judiciaries. Therefore, various issues have come up pertaining to quality concerns of seeds, fertilisers and insecticides, and thereby judiciaries as well as other stake holders have to be busy in dealing with considerable numbers of litigation. In post independence era, the journey of enactment of various Acts, Rules and orders to safeguard qualities of seeds, fertilisers and insecticides has started after the enactment of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and in Sixties onwards several laws has come up.

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- SEEDS ACT, 1966
- SEEDS RULES, 1968
- SEEDS (CONTROL) ORDER, 1983
- INSECTICIDES ACT, 1968
- INSECTICIDES RULES, 1971
- FERTILISER (CONTROL) ORDER, 1985
- FERTILISER(MOVEMENT CONTROL) ORDER, 1973
- ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955
- CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, 1973(RP)

Horticultural crops require soils as growing medium. The soils provide mechanical support, nutrients and water for plant growth. The demand of fruit crops from the soils are mainly water, nutrients and other growth-controlling hormones. However, a number of factors affect roots, absorbing nutrients and moisture. To ensure development of an efficient root system, the soils must contain adequate supply of air, water and low bulk density. Most of the horticultural crops require well-drained soils and cannot tolerate waterlogging.

Therefore, deep and well-drained soils, free from hard sub-soils, hard pan and layer of calcium carbonate are needed for optimum growth and yield. The saline, saline-sodic and sodic soils should be avoided.

PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF SOIL FOR FRUIT CROPS

The fruit crops take mainly water and nutrients from soil. However, a number of factors affect growth of roots. The physical conditions of soils playing an important role in fruit production are: depth of soil, soil texture, soil structure and its stability, presence of physical obstruction, soil drainage and freedom from injurious materials.