

5. Do not transport any agricultural produce outside the hours mentioned above unless having either of the three documents outlined at #1
6. Do not refuse to stop your vehicle, resist a search or the presentation of the documents mentioned at #1 if asked to do so by an officer of the law.
7. Do not resist when being arrested by an officer of the law.
8. Do not hinder, obstruct or assault an officer who is making an arrest or encourage anyone to do so.
9. Do not escape while in custody of the law
10. Do not falsify any of the documents outlined at #1
11. Do not permit the searching of your home, store, property, compound, yard, land (open or enclosed) or other places by an officer without a signed search warrant



For more information contact your area Agricultural Extension Officer.

Who is registered as a Farmer

All farmers in St. Vincent and the Grenadines must be registered and issued with an ID Card. To become eligible for this card, one must be 18 years or older and have at least one of the following:

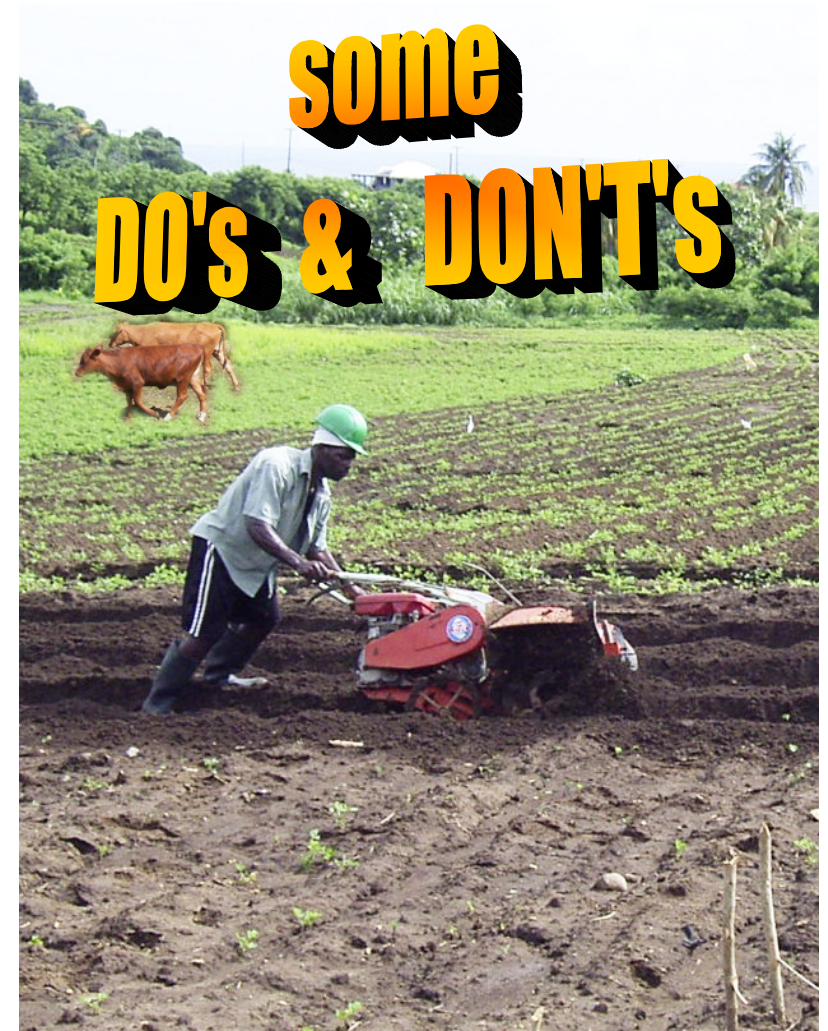
1. One (1) head cattle
2. Two (2) heads of either pigs, goats, sheep or one (1) head of any two
3. Twelve (12) poultry (e.g. fowls, ducks, turkeys)
4. Twelve (12) rabbits
5. One (1) hive of bees
6. Ten (10) tree crops
7. Thirty (30) plants of the musa sp. (e.g. banana, plantain)
8. One tenth (1/10) of an acre of crops. (i.e. vegetables, root-crops and ornamentals).
9. Five hundred (500) sq.ft. or more of raised stands of agricultural crops.
10. One thousand (1000) sq.ft. Greenhouse with agricultural crops.



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 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry
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The Agricultural Produce and Livestock (Prevention of Theft) Act 2007



The Agricultural Produce and Livestock (Prevention of Theft) Act 2007 (APLA) is one of the measures used to reduce and subsequently bring to a halt, the high levels of Praedial Larceny affecting the production of crops and livestock in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

This Act takes into account, the legal production and sale of these items; Registration of Farmers and the issuance of Identification Cards; use of a sales receipt; transportation of agricultural produce/livestock; Prosecution for illegal possession; Falsification of documents; and Penalties. There is also a number of regulations attached.

The introduction of APLA will change the environment in which the production and trading in agricultural produce and livestock is conducted and it is therefore necessary for all involved to know of the more important elements that will affect the way in which they operate and conduct business.

The following are expected to assist and is intended for all farmers, traffickers, exporters, butchers, market vendors, supermarkets owners, home gardeners and generally, members of the public.

DO'S

Registering

1. Ensure you are registered as a Farmer and have received your Farmers ID card by August 2008.
2. Ensure you receive a Sellers' Certificate indicating you are a seller of Agricultural produce or livestock
3. Always keep your ID Card or Sellers' Certificate with you.
4. If either is lost or misplaced, make a report to the relevant authority
5. Renew your Farmers' ID Card every 5 year

Sale of Agricultural Produce or Livestock

1. All sales must take place between the hours of 5:00 am - 7:00 pm
2. Always issue a Receipt on completion of a sale
3. Keep a duplicate of the receipt
4. Ensure the receipt is properly written up (ID number, description of produce or livestock, value contact address or telephone number and date of sale)
5. Ensure the animal has legitimate identification

Transporting Agricultural Produce

1. Place an identification mark on all agricultural produce or livestock being transported.
2. Ensure the identification of the goods can be easily seen if requested to stop by an officer of the law.
3. Always be able to produce a valid Farmers' ID card, Sellers' Certificate, Receipt, or an acceptable account for being in possession of the goods to the officer of the law.
4. Be prepared to stop and make allowance for the searching of the vehicle transporting agricultural produce or livestock if requested by an officer of the law to do so.
5. As a suspected person driving a vehicle or declaring ownership to the agricultural cargo within, the vehicle along with the agricultural produce or livestock can be seized by an officer of the law without a search warrant.
6. Vehicles confiscated in the crime can be sold unless an application for repossession is approved and granted by the court of law
7. As a suspected person you can be searched and arrested without a warrant

Identifying and processing confiscated items

1. Ensure that a picture of the agricultural produce and livestock are taken at the time of identifying the items.
2. Get the quantity, value and date of theft properly recorded
3. Ensure your signature is recorded on Form 2, along with that of the officer of the law and the person found in possession of the items confiscated.

4. Ensure all Livestock has proper identification that is accepted by the authorizing body, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

Purchasing Agricultural Produce and Livestock

1. Ensure the person from whom the goods are bought is a bona fide registered farmer; has a valid Sellers' Certificate or has the legal authority to do so.
2. Be sure to get a receipt at the end of the transaction and keep it until necessary.
3. As a suspected person, your house, store, compound, yard, lands or other places can be searched by an officer of the law with authorization through a signed search warrant.
4. The officer may use force such as breaking open door or otherwise once the suspected person is informed of the intent.
5. All convicted persons will be kept under supervision for one year.

DON'T'S

1. Do not sell any agricultural produce or livestock without
 - i. A valid Farmers' ID Card
 - ii. A valid Sellers' Certificate
 - iii. Issuing a signed receipt to the buyer
2. Do not have in your possession any illegally obtained agricultural produce or livestock from an unauthorized person (s).
3. Do not buy any agricultural produce or livestock from anyone without obtaining a receipt and the presentation of any of the two documents above (I & II).
4. Do not sell or buy any agricultural produce outside the hours of 5:00 am to 7:00 pm