

Frequently Asked Questions

1. I want to cultivate tobacco, what are the requirements? Is there any License or permit required?

Ans. For facilitation and guidance of tobacco growers, PTB advertises overall demand of tobacco companies, dealers, agents etc every year in leading newspapers, well before sowing season. The growers are free to enter in to agreements with any company/ dealer of their Choice. Growers are advised for contracted cultivation of tobacco to avoid surplus or shortfall in the tobacco crop to ensure that tobacco leaf is purchased as per agreement(s).

2. Where can I sell my tobacco leaves?

Ans. You can sell your tobacco at the nearest depot of your concerned agreement giving Tobacco Company. All tobacco companies are bound to declare list of their purchase centers before the start of marketing season.

3. What is the Price of tobacco leaf?

Ans. PTB carries out cost of production survey every year in all tobacco growing areas of the country. Findings of the survey are placed before the board which recommends the prices of all types of tobacco to the Government. The prices are notified in the official Gazette after approval of the Government on yearly basis.

4. Can a buyer buy below the notified prices?

Ans. Federal Government notifies minimum indicative prices of different types and grades of tobacco. No company can buy at a rate lower than the notified rates.

5. There are different grades of tobacco having different prices. How PTB stops down grading of good quality tobacco by a purchaser?

Ans. The vigilance Committees check the grades assigned to various types of tobacco and ensure that no purchaser unnecessarily rejects, or pays price for tobacco, at rates lower than the minimum notified rates. It also resolves the differences or disputes between the tobacco growers and tobacco companies, if any, arising out of sale and purchase transactions of tobacco between the parties. For detail please visit; <https://ptb.gov.pk/tobacco-marketing-control-rules-2016-0>

6. I want to grow tobacco. Is there any facility of testing the soil/water to determine its suitability for tobacco growing?

Ans. You may visit our research station at Mardan, Mansehra, Okara or Gujrat for testing of your soil/water samples. You may also handover the samples to our field officers who will send the same to the nearest research station for testing.

7. When the FCV tobacco cultivation starts in Pakistan?

Ans. Seed sowing at nursery beds starts in the month of December and seedlings are transplanted in the month of March.

8. How many types of tobacco are grown in Pakistan?

Ans. Following types of tobacco are grown in Pakistan specific to different areas depending on climatic and soil conditions:

- i. Flue Cured Virginia (FCV)
- ii. Dark Air Cured (DAC)
- iii. Rustica (White Patta/Black Leaf Rustica)
- iv. Sun Cured Virginia (SCV)
- v. Burley
- vi. Huqqa Tobacco

For detail visit <https://ptb.gov.pk/tobacco-research>

9. Which tobacco is used in cigarette manufacturing?

Ans. Cigarettes have the blend of different types of tobacco, but major quality portion comprise of FCV.

10. How many grades of FCV tobacco in Pakistan?

Ans. There are seventeen (17) grades of FCV tobacco depending on the quality, color and aroma of tobacco.

11. If I see some disease or insect attack or any other problem related to tobacco in my field, How I can be facilitated by PTB?

Ans. You may visit any of our research station (For detail please visit <https://ptb.gov.pk/tobacco-research>)

Our well experienced field Officers are also available all over the tobacco growing areas of the country at following places;

Khyberpukhtunkhawah: i) Mansehra ii) Buner iii) Yar Hussain (Swabi) iv) Chota Lahore (Swabi) v) Charbagh (Swabi) vi) Jamal Garhi (Mardan) vii) Sher Garh (Mardan) viii) Takht bai (Mardan) ix) Mandni (Charsadda) x) Sardheri (Charsadda)

Punjab: i) Gujrat ii) Mandi Bahauddin iii) Okara iv) Sahiwal v) Jampur vi) Bahawalpur vii) Vehari viii) Hazra (Attock)

Sindh: Rasoolabad

Balochistan: Pishin

12. I am a student of Agricultural Sciences. Can I conduct my MPhil or PhD Research at any Research Station of PTB ?

Ans. Yes You can conduct your research on tobacco at any Research Station of PTB located at Mardan, Mansehra, Gujrat or Okara with the approval of Director R&D Head Office Peshawar or Director Zonal Office Lahore after fulfilling the terms and conditions.

13. In Which Fields I can conduct my Research on tobacco at PTB research stations?

Ans. Followings are the major disciplines in which one can conduct Research at PTB research stations; i) Plant Pathology ii) Entomology iii) Agronomy iv) Plant Breeding and Genetics v) Soil Sciences.

14. I am a student of BS (Hons) Agr. 8th semester. As this semester is for internship training, Can I apply for internship training at any Research Station of PTB?

Ans. Yes, You can apply through the Chairman/Director of Your concerned department for internship in the field of tobacco at Mardan, Mansehra, Gujrat or Okara Research centers of PTB, without any stipend from PTB.

15. I am doing my research on tobacco. Is there any journal of PTB where I can publish my Research?

Ans. The R&D wing of PTB publishes a journal “Pak Tobacco” containing articles related to tobacco research in all fields. Your research will be analyzed by the editorial committee and if found worth publishing, will be published in the journal.

16. Is there any License required for export of Tobacco?

Ans. Export license/permit issued by PTB is mandatory for the export of tobacco, tobacco products or tobacco seeds from Pakistan.

17. What is the procedure for tobacco export?

Ans. A Company/Person has to register with PTB as exporter of tobacco. The company has to submit a written application for registration on company letter head endorsing the following;

- i. Registration/incorporation certificate issued by SECP.
- ii. NTN/STRN Certificate by FBR
- iii. Demand Draft/Payment Order(Rs.1000/-) in the name of Chairman, PTB

Desirous Company/Person should apply for allotment of tobacco quota for export to PTB before 31st October each year. Cess is not applicable if the tobacco out of the allocated quota is exported

in the same crop year. For detail you may visit <https://ptb.gov.pk/index.php/potentials-and-tobacco-export-procedures>

18. What documents are required for the issuance of export license?

Ans. Following documents are required for the issuance of export license:

- An application giving details of quantities to be exported
- A copy of Commercial Invoice
- A copy of Form E
- Letter of Credit, advance payment etc.
- Bill of lading /Airway Bill
- NTN/Sales Tax Registration Number attested from FBR
- Membership certificate from Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- Goods Declaration Certificate (GD)

19. If I fail to apply for quota in due time Can I export tobacco?

Ans. Persons/companies having no export quota are also allowed to export subject to payment of Cess.

20. Is there any License/permit required for the import of Tobacco?

Ans. No special procedure is required for import of tobacco. You are required to fulfill the requirements of department of plant protection and other conditions as per import policy order.

21. I want to set up a cigarette manufacturing unit. Is any N.O.C required?

Ans. No special permission/NOC is required from PTB. You may follow the same procedure and guidelines as for any other industry. However you are required to declare your tobacco requirements to PTB before start of manufacturing under Tobacco Marketing Control Rules 2016.

22. Which documents are required to apply for tobacco quota?

Ans. Following documents are required to apply for tobacco quota:

- Duly filled application form (Available on PTB website)
- Attested copy of Memorandum of Association
- Attested copy of SECP registration certificate
- Attested copy of CNIC of Directors
- NTN/STRN Certificate

23. When I have to apply for quota?

Ans. Every Tobacco Company, dealer, or exporter intending to purchase tobacco during a crop year shall indicate to the Board its total requirements of the tobacco form the ensuing crop, by the 31st day of October in each year.

24. Am I bound to declare my purchase points?

Ans. Yes, You have to intimate regarding all your purchase points before 31st May every year.

25. What is the last date of submission of list of Agreements of company with growers to PTB?

Ans. 31st day of December in respect of the ensuing crop of tobacco.

26. Am I bound to purchase full targeted demand?

Ans. Tobacco companies/ dealers cannot close purchase depots or business premises till the purchase of full targeted demand of various types of tobacco as per quota allotted.

27. Can Purchase targets be altered?

Ans. The purchase targets intimated to the Board by the tobacco companies or other purchasers shall not be altered in any form without prior approval of the Board. For detail visit; <https://ptb.gov.pk/tobacco-marketing-control-rules-2016-0>