

# MINISTERIAL MEASURES AGAINST COVID-19



Republic of TURKEY
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
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- COORDINATION
- RAISING AWARENESS
- STOCKS MANAGEMENT FOR FOOD SECURITY
- MEASURES TAKEN:
  - o General Measures
  - Seasonal Agriculture Workers
  - o Agricultural Lands
  - o Plant Production
  - Meat and Milk Sector
  - o Fisheries
- COVID-19 ANTI-SERUM STUDIES
- SARS-CoV-2 DETECTION IN WASTEWATER





# PROPER AND EFFICIENT COORDINATION WITH SECTOR



- Close coordination and regular meetings with different target groups
- Establishment of Provincial Pandemic Boards
- Close contact with food industry partners
- Establishment of a Market Monitoring Committee within the Ministry with the participation of academics and sectoral partners.



#### **RAISING AWARENESS ON COVID 19**



- Public spot for COVID-19
- Booklets for different target groups
- Distance Education









#### STOCKS MANAGEMENT FOR FOOD SECURITY



Turkey's strength in agriculture based on

- Making projections and take actions according to the situation
- Working on possible scenarios
- Managing the consumer psychology

We are not expecting any problem in the production, stock and supply chain



#### GENERAL MEASURES FOR AGRICULTURE SECTOR



- **Local bazaars are re-arranged** according to the Covid-19 measures
- **All food has been sold in packs** and customers are not allowed to touch fresh food
- **Price changes and stock levels** of products which are suitable for storage, such as wheat, potato, pasta, onion and citrus, are **strictly controlled**
- **Inspections at site** in all over the country regarding Covid-19 hygiene precautions in food products, food preparation process, food input supply and animal product hygiene
- Issued **financial supports** for the farmers and SMEs in the sector
- **Tax payments of April to June are postponed** for food enterprises
- **Interest free loans** are provided to smallholder farmers and food processing industry for investments and operations
- Started **agricultural support payments in advance** instead of installments over the year to provide farmers with safety nets



# MEASURES FOR SEASONAL AGRICULTURE WORKERS



#### **350.000 seasonal agriculture workers** in Turkey

- We issued a **Circular** to our provincial directorates for programming the regulated movements of farmers and seasonal workers.
- We have adjusted **their transportation and living conditions according to COVID-19 health measures** together with the Ministry of Interior.
- We have provided **exemptions for the continuous delivery** and **sale** of agricultural inputs like fertilizer, seed, pesticide and feed.
- We need to guarantee the agricultural production be on time without any losses.



#### MEASURES FOR AGRICULTURAL LANDS



- Allocate state lands to farmers without any charge for strategic plantations such as cereals, pulses, oilseeds and forage crops
- Initial amount is about 1 thousand hectares and this will increase
- Postpone the lease payments (for 6 months) of agriculture lands of Treasury which are leased to farmers (April, May and June 2020 periods)



#### **MEASURES FOR PLANT PRODUCTION**



- Provide exemptions for production, distribution of agricultural inputs
- Launching a summer sowing program: "Crop Production Development Program" (distribution of wheat, barley, lentil, bean, corn and sunflower seeds by the ministry to support the farmers for 21 Provinces)
- Extention of the plant production supports
- Extention of the difference payment supports
- Continuation of the applications to the Farmer Registration System via e-government.



# MEASURES FOR MEAT AND MILK SECTOR



- Taken precautions for hygiene and social distance rules in purchasing, production, sales and logistics
- Inform the poultry, meat, egg and beekeeping sector representatives via videoconference about the measures taken on (sustainability of production, hygiene measures, supply security, access to raw materials and price stability).
- Carry out the necessary measures for the regulation of meat, milk and feed markets to ensure the sustainability of production
- Ensure adequate meat stock and fresh meat supply



#### MEASURES FOR FISHERIES



- A promotion campaign called "Life at Home, Fish on the Plate" where fish sold at cost to consumers
- Consumption has increased more than 3 times
- A second campaign for the Turkish Salmon
- Project proposal to evaluate the impacts of Covid-19 on the fisheries sector





### **COVID 19 ANTI-SERUM STUDIES**



- Studies to develop anti-serum against COVID-19
- A Project conducted for anti-serum
- Mapping studies for COVID-19 through genetic sequencing method





# **SARS-CoV-2 DETECTION**



We have conducted a Project for the detection of virus in wastewater in order to

- Trace the virus in wastewater (for a tool to be able to take early measures)
- Observe the cases in the regions where wastewater treatment plants exist
- Detect the virus to ensure the reuse of wastewaters in agriculture
- Prevent the possibility of a second wave







# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION