

DELIVERY OF MERCURY-TRIATED GRAIN PROHIBITED BY GRAIN COMISSIONERS

A maximum fine of \$1000 may be levied against those who deliver grain treated with mercury to a licensed elevator for storage or sale, it is reported by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

Posters warning agents and grain growers of the new regulation have been distributed throughout rural areas of Manitoba. Text of the new regulation is as follows:

"Every person who offers for storage or sale at a licensed elevator any grain which has been treated with mercurial dust or compounds, or with other toxic materials, or grain mixed with other grain which has been so treated, shall, if an individual, be liable on summary conviction, to imprisonment for not more than three months or to a fine not exceeding \$500 and, if a corporation, shall be liable, on indictment or summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$1000."

Many compounds now used for treating seed grain contain mercury or other poisons, states K. Hlynka, Secretary of the Board, and every precaution must be taken to prevent poisonous grain from entering commercial food channels.

Some compounds are easily detected due to their bright red colouring, he states. Others, however, are not coloured and their presence cannot be detected visually.