

# **NATIONAL SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY WORKSHOP**

**11 MARCH 2021**

## **IMPORT PROCEDURES FOR ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS**

**PRESENTED BY: MS NOKUTHULA CELE**

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR: REGULATORY SERVICE DESK**

**DIRECTORATE: FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT STANDARDS**



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# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Legislative Framework
- General Import procedures
- Application form and tariffs
- Port of Entry procedures
- Quarantine
- Challenges and Recommendations
- Contact Information



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Introduction

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development is responsible for (amongst others), the management of **risks** associated with animals and animal products

## Legislative Framework

- Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984)
- Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No.40 of 2000)



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Legislative Mandate continued

The aim of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) is to provide for the **control** of animal diseases and parasites, for measures to promote animal health, and for matters connected therewith

The Animal Diseases Act may be obtained from the following link:-

<https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/vetweb/Legislation/Animal%20Diseases%20Act%20MAIN.htm>



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Legislative Mandate continued

The aim of the Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No.40 of 2000) is to provide for measures **to promote meat safety and the safety of animal products**; to establish and maintain essential national standards in respect of abattoirs; to regulate the importation and exportation of meat; to establish meat safety schemes; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

The Meat Safety Act may be obtained from the following link:-  
<https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/vetweb/Legislation/Meat%20safety/Act-Meat%20Safetyx.pdf>



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Legislative Mandate continued

In terms of Section 6 of the **Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984)**, ‘No animal or animal product (including samples) may be imported into or moved in transit through South Africa without obtaining a veterinary import permit’

In terms of Section 13 (1)(a) the **Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act 40 of 2000)**, “No person may import any meat into the Republic except on the authority of a permit issued by the national executive officer”



# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Legislative Mandate continued

- All movement of animals and animal products carries a certain disease risk.
- The process of issuing an import permit with a veterinary health certificate guarantees that a specific animal or animal product does have a certain **health status complying** to the importing county's health standards as well as international health standards
- The importing country sets the import requirements for risk reduction. Since they are the ones to be exposed to risk.



# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Import Procedures

- The applicant must arrange for the permit to be collected in person or arrange a courier service
- A Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) will accompany the Veterinary Import Permit (VIP).
- The VHC needs to be completed before departure within the set time frame in English by a Veterinarian authorized thereto by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Application form and tariffs

The **CORRECT application form** for the importation of the specific animal or animal product must be duly completed.

- A VIP should be obtained by the importer **before** the relevant animal or animal product is removed from the country of origin for the purpose of importing it into the Republic
- The forms can be obtained from the Permit Office or on the website:-  
<https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Animal-Health/importexport/forms>
- The duly completed application form **together** with proof of payment and other required documentation can be emailed to [VetPermits@Dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:VetPermits@Dalrrd.gov.za)



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

- Veterinary import permits are usually issued within 5 to 10 working days provided that an agreed upon Veterinary Import permit (VIP) and Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) are in place with the exporting country / country of origin.
- If there is no agreed upon VIP and VHC the process can and will take longer.



The image shows a Veterinary Import Permit for Frozen Poultry Meat from Brazil. The permit is issued by the Directorate of Animal Health, part of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, Republic of South Africa. The permit number is 13/1/1/19/2/8/2- 202103001268, valid from 2021-03-08 to 2021-09-08. The importer is [REDACTED]. The permit is for 08 MAR 2021. The permit is for 7 units. The permit is for 08 MAR 2021. The permit is for 7 units. The permit is for 08 MAR 2021. The permit is for 7 units.

**IMPORTER**  
[REDACTED]

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LAND REFORM & RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTORATE ANIMAL HEALTH**  
08 MAR 2021 - 7  
**DIRECTORATE ANIMAL HEALTH  
PRIVATE BAG X138 PRETORIA 0001**

**Directorate of Animal Health  
Import Export Policy Unit  
Private Bag X138  
Pretoria, 0001  
Republic of South Africa**

**Tel: (27) (0)12 319 7514  
Fax: (27) (0)12 329 8292**

**Permit No: 13/1/1/19/2/8/2- 202103001268  
Valid from: 2021-03-08  
Expiry date: 2021-09-08**

**VETERINARY IMPORT PERMIT FOR FROZEN POULTRY MEAT FROM BRAZIL<sup>1</sup>**  
(Issued in terms of the Animal Diseases Act 1984 (Act 35 of 1984) and the Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No 40 of 2000))  
Permission is hereby granted to the above to import into the Republic of South Africa 1 FCL (CONTAINERISED) (Mass/FCL) of FROZEN CHICKEN MECHANICALLY DEBONED MEAT (description of product/cuts), subject to the conditions set out below:

1. The meat must be imported from abattoirs and cutting plants in Brazil approved by the National Executive Officer of South Africa.
2. The meat must be packed to eliminate any possible contamination and according to internationally accepted practices. If the meat is palletised each individual slab should be plastic wrapped. Each slab must be packed in manageable sized blocks of a maximum of 30kg. The blocks must be approximately uniform in size and dimension to provide stability. Pallets must not be stacked to a height of more than 1.8m. Palletised blocks of meat must be stabilised by wrapping the stack with plastic and / or cardboard. Loose blocks must not be stacked on top of palletised meat during containerisation.
3. Approval number(s), brand name(s) and date(s) of slaughter and packaging must appear on the packaging.
4. The meat must be transported in sealed reefer containers according to internationally accepted practices. (Break bulk consignments will not be accepted.)
5. The temperature of the product must not exceed -18°C at any time during storage and transport. Thermographs to prove this must be supplied to the veterinary official at the veterinary inspection site.
6. The product described above may only be imported through the port of entry of DURBAN/CAPE TOWN. The arrival of the consignment must be reported immediately to the State Veterinarian or his/her representative tel (031 368 8584/(021) 421 6270, fax (031) 368 8560 / (021) 421 9985. Under no circumstances may the meat be off-loaded or the seal(s) broken without the written permission of the state veterinarian or his / her representative.
7. The following original documents must accompany the consignment and/or be presented to the state veterinarian or his/her representative at the port of entry:
  - This permit and
  - The negotiated veterinary certificate (or the certificate overleaf) duly completed and signed by an official veterinarian authorised thereto by the Government of the exporting country. ("Agreed upon between the Supreme Veterinary Authority of the country of origin and the Director Veterinary Services of South Africa")
8. All consignments will be tested for Salmonella Enteritidis at the inspection site and in case of a positive finding container shall be detained and dealt with as determined by the Director Veterinary Services.
9. Samples of anatomically unrecognisable cuts (trimmings or mechanically recovered meat) will be taken at the inspection site. The microbiological limits prescribed in the veterinary certificate overleaf must not be exceeded in these samples. Should one sample per container not meet this requirement, the meat in the container shall be detained and dealt with as determined by the Director Veterinary Services of South Africa.
10. Samples of the consignment may be taken at the inspection site for residue monitoring. The residue limits stipulated in the Codex Alimentarius must not be exceeded in these samples.
11. This permit is valid for 6 (six) months and one consignment only.
12. This permit is subject to amendment or cancellation by the Director Animal Health or National Executive Officer at any time and without prior notice being given.

**DIRECTOR: Animal Health (Animal Diseases Act, 1984) and  
National Executive Officer (Meat Safety Act, 2000)**

**Note:**

- (1) Health certification must be obtained from each separate sourcing abattoir and/or cutting plant.
- (2) Fresh poultry meat means all parts fit for human consumption from domestic poultry.
- (3) This permit does not give exemption from any prohibition or restriction imposed by any other existing legislation upon the importation of fresh meat into the Republic of South Africa.
- (4) From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005 any consignment imported into South Africa packed with either wood packing material or dunnage, will require treatment to remove any pests present (by heat or methyl bromide fumigation). Treatment must be indicated on packing material. (Inquiries: Directorate Plant Health & Quality Fax: 012 319 6350 or [www.nda.agric.za](http://www.nda.agric.za))
- (5)



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Application form and tariffs continued

- Applications is NOT lodged if the correct proof of payment is not received **with** the application form.
- Normal post is conducted free of charge, the permit office does not offer a courier service, **clients must arrange for own courier.**
- In cases where applying as an agent please make sure that you make the transfer/deposit in that's person's name or company's name.



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# IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

## Port of Entry Procedures

- Original Veterinary Import Permit (VIP)
- Original Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC)
- Any other documentation specified e.g.: Rabies Vaccination Certificate, Blood Test Result etc...



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## IN CASES WHERE QUARANTINE OF ANIMALS IS REQUIRED

The importer must contact the State Veterinarian at the port of entry on the following contacts

- ◆ ORTIA & Quarantine    Tel +27 11 393 7983    Fax +27 11 973 2828    [RomonaN@dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:RomonaN@dalrrd.gov.za)
- ◆ Durban    Tel +27 31 368 8503    Fax +27 31 368 8557    [SharonS@dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:SharonS@dalrrd.gov.za)
- ◆ CTIA & Quarantine    Tel +27 21 526 3261    Fax +27 21 421 0270/1    [DonniaO@Dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:DonniaO@Dalrrd.gov.za)

- The State Veterinarian will **arrange the reservation for accommodation at the Quarantine Station and must complete the applicable part of the application form.**
- The State Vet will then forward the form to the permit office.
- An Indemnity Declaration (in respect of imported animals or birds undergoing quarantine) must also be completed and attached to the application form. This Indemnity Declaration form can also be obtained from the Permit Office.



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# CHALLENGES

1. Incomplete applications
2. Unsigned applications
3. Incorrect payment
4. Incorrect company name
5. Incorrect info with enquiries
6. Incorrect email address
7. Delays from post office
8. Delayed enquiries
9. LATE APPLICATIONS
10. Incorrect applications used

# RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Complete as per application form, ask for clarity where necessary
2. Please sign and date application
3. Enquire and ensure correct payment is made and sent with application form
4. Company name cannot be amended, Use correct name or pay & apply for a new permit
5. Please follow up with correct details
6. Please ensure email address on application is valid
7. Use a Courier company
8. Follow up
9. **APPLY PRIOR TO IMPORTATION**
10. Use the latest application form



# BANKING DETAILS-VETERINARY IMPORT PERMITS

**Name of Bank:** STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**Account Holder:** NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
**Account Number:** 011219556  
**Branch Code:** 010845  
**Branch Name:** ARCADIA

**REFERENCE: UNIQUE REFERENCE NUMBER NOT MORE THAN 10 DIGITS AND NOT TO BE REPEATED.**

**PAYMENTS CAN ALSO BE MADE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S CASHIERS**



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# CONTACT INFORMATION

NAME	DESIGNATION	CONTACT	E-MAIL
Ms. Amanda Steyn	Assistant Director- Veterinary Import Permits	012 319 7476	VetPermits@Dalrrd.gov.za
Ms. Nokuthula Cele	Deputy Director- Regulatory Service Desk	012 319 6313 060 973 4078	ThuleN@Dalrrd.gov.za

# Thank you



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