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Export Certificate Report

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Report Highlights:

All the sections of the Report have been updated to comply with the new reporting instructions, website links and contacts. The report lists major certificates and permits required to export food and agricultural products from the United States to South Africa. For a comprehensive understanding of the South African certification and permit requirements, it is recommended that this report be read with the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Report (GAIN Report No. SF2021-0054).

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Disclaimer

This report was prepared by the USDA - Foreign Agricultural Service in Pretoria, South Africa, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any products are shipped.

FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

Executive Summary

South African import permits, health certificates and phytosanitary permits are country-specific and commodity-specific. It is recommended that exporters contact the listed South African certifying authority on the contact details provided in **Table 11** to obtain the United States and commodity-specific conditions for each permit. An import permit and veterinary health certificate are required when exporting animal and animal products to South Africa. Detailed information on the exportation of animal and animal products to South Africa can be obtained at the following link: [Click here to download information on the exportation of animal and animal products to South Africa.](#) Veterinary import permits in South Africa are usually issued within 5 to 10 working days. The application forms for import permits can be obtained at the following link: [Click here to download application forms.](#) The veterinary health certificate can be issued by a recognized veterinary authority of the exporting country. South Africa requires that the veterinary health certificate be completed before the products are shipped, or within ten days of departure of the shipment. The United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA – APHIS) and Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) are recognized certifying authorities by South Africa and provides inspection and certification services to United States exporters. The procedures and requirements for exporting animals and animal products from the United States to South Africa can be obtained at the following APHIS website: [Click this link to the APHIS webpage.](#) Guidelines for exporting meat and poultry products may also be found on the following FSIS website, [South Africa | Food Safety and Inspection Service \(usda.gov\).](#)

Most plant products imported into South Africa require an import permit, while others are exempt but have to comply with phytosanitary measures for such exemption. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development (DALRRD) Directorate of Plant Health is responsible for issuing import permits. The USDA – APHIS is a recognized certifying authority by South Africa and provides inspection and certification services to United States exporters to confirm that the shipment complies with the required phytosanitary measures. The procedures to be followed when importing plant and plant products to South Africa can be obtained at the following link: [Click here to download the procedures.](#) The import permit application forms and fees are also available at the following links: [Click here to download the application forms and fees.](#)

The DALRRD Biosafety Directorate is responsible for issuing Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) import permits, status certificates, as well as permits for use (food, feed or processing) and conducting trials in South Africa. The procedures and application forms for these permits can be downloaded at the following link: [Click here to download the forms.](#) The guideline documents for GMOs certifications, regulations and fees can be obtained at the following link: [Click here to download the guideline documents.](#)

The DALRRD Directorate of Food Safety and Quality Assurance is responsible for the inspection, sampling and issuing import certificates for liquor products. An import certificate is required to import liquor products, in bulk/ bottles (excluding beer) into South Africa. An importer is only required to apply for an import certificate once in the lifetime of a product, thereafter, the same import certificate number can be used provided that the composition, content, bottle size and label of that product doesn't change. An acceptable Analysis Certificate, issued by an Official Laboratory in the country of origin, is usually requested when applying for an import permit. The procedures for applying for a liquor import

permit can be obtained at the following link: [Click here to download the procedures.](#) The application forms can also be downloaded at the following link: [Click here to download the application forms.](#)

Section I: List of all the Required Export Certificates

Table 1: Export Certificate Matrix for Animals and Animal Products

Product	Title/Name of Certificate	Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Milk and Milk Based Products for Human Consumption	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety. • Food Quality. • Confirm origin of product. • Disease prevention and control (Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)). • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Milk and Milk Based Products for Animal Consumption	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Animal Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products are safe for animal consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety. • Food Quality. • Confirm origin of product. • Disease prevention and control (FMD). • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Caseine, Caseinate or Milk-Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Caseine, Caseinate or Milk Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries for Export to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety. • Food Quality. • Confirm origin of product and ingredients. • Disease prevention and control (FMD). • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Products Containing Dairy and Eggs	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Egg From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Safety. • Food Quality. • Confirm origin of product and ingredients. • Disease prevention and control (FMD, Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease, Salmonella). • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool / Mohair	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool/Mohair From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Products are from areas free from specified diseases, sourced from an officially approved establishment, and conforms to the specific conditions such as packaging and storage stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases (anthrax, FMD, rinderpest, east coast fever, sheep scab, sheep pox) into South Africa. • To confirm the origin of the products. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.

Hides and Skins	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides & Skins From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hides were obtained from animals slaughtered at licensed abattoirs, from areas where no foot and mouth diseases had been reported, and animals showed no evidence of specified diseases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases (FMD, anthrax, vesicular stomatitis, epizootic diseases) into South Africa. • To confirm the origin of the products. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Bile salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only)	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only) From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bile salts were derived from bile derived from animals born and raised in Canada, USA, Mexico. • The cattle were slaughtered at an USA establishment. • The bile was processed at an officially approved establishment and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases (FMD) into South Africa. • To confirm the origin of the products and ingredients. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Pet Food	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product was manufactured in a USDA approved facility, ingredients were sourced from the United States and/or Canada, and complies with specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases (BSE, Salmonella) into South Africa. • To confirm the origin of the products and ingredients used in its manufacture. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Products derived from bovine blood or blood byproducts intended for pharmaceutical or laboratory use	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Derived from Bovine blood or blood byproducts intended for Pharmaceutical or Laboratory use From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bovine blood used in the manufacturing process of the product was collected from cattle which were born and raised in the United States, or a country where specified diseases have not been reported in the last 5 years; • The bovine blood used complies with specific conditions stipulated on the import permit and the manufacturing facilities are controlled and regulated by the competent U.S. authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases (FMD, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, peste de petits ruminants, lumpy skin, anthrax, leptospirosis, or bovine tuberculosis) into South Africa. • To confirm the origin of the products and ingredients used in its manufacture. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.

Other Animals and animal products	Veterinary Health Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country of origin of consignment. • Country/Zone is free from prescribed or notifiable diseases e.g. BSE, Foot and Mouth, Anthrax etc. • The prescribed inspections, isolations, treatments and tests that have been carried out as prescribed. • Prescribed bedding, fodder, feedstuffs, transportation and supervision by official veterinary authority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To confirm that the prescribed regulations and conditions have been met. • Prevent the introduction of animal diseases into South Africa, as well as to protect human health. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts a health certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
All Animals and animal products	Import Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official permit granting authority to import the specified animal or animal products subject to the prescribed conditions and a valid Health Certificate. • The validity of the permit, and whether it applies to single or multiple consignments. • Quantity to be imported. • Port of Entry likely to be utilized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official authorization and permission to import. • State all the minimum conditions applicable to the imports. • To confirm the origin of the products. • Traceability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DTIC (Seafood).

Source: DALRRD, APHIS, FSIS and FDA.

Table 2: List of Required Export Certificates for Plant and Plant Products, and Liquor

Product	Title/Name of Certificate	Specific Attestation Required on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
Plant and Plant Products	Phytosanitary Certificate for the Export of Plant and Plant Products to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attests to the phytosanitary status of any consignment affected by phytosanitary regulations. • Country of origin of consignment. • The prescribed regulations, quarantine, treatment and other prescribed procedures have been tested and fulfilled. • Follows the model certificates of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent the introduction or spread of quarantine pests or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests. • Quality control. • To confirm the origin of the products. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD. • DALRRD accepts an electronic certificate issued by USDA-APHIS.
Plant and Plant Products	Import Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official document authorizing importation of a commodity in accordance with specified phytosanitary measures and other import requirements. • The validity of the permit, the prescribed port of entry if applicable, and whether it applies to single or multiple 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official authorization and permission to import. • State all the minimum conditions applicable to the imports. • To confirm the origin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DALRRD

		consignments.	of the products. • Traceability.	
Genetically Modified Organisms	GMO Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commodity is registered and has the necessary approvals in SA. • Approval for the development, production, use, release, or distribution of the GMO has been granted. All activities must be approved by the executive council before the registrar can issue a permit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety and quality control. • Registration of products. • Environmental protection. 	• DALRRD
Liquor	Import Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product complies with the requirements of the Liquor Act 60 of 1989. • The validity of the certificate. You apply for the import certificate only once; thereafter the same import certificate number can be used provided that the composition, content, bottle size and label of the product does not change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety and quality. • Preliminary approval to import a specific liquor product. • To confirm the origin of the products. • Traceability. 	• DALRRD

Source: DALRRD and APHIS.

Section II: Purpose of Specific Export Certificates

See Section I- Export Certificate Matrix.

Section III: Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificates

Table 3: Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificates for Animals and Animal Products

Product	Title/Name of Certificate	Specific Attestation Required on Certificate	Copy
Milk and Milk Based Products for Human Consumption	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of product & animal species of origin. • Number of packages or units/net weight. • The product was produced from milk or milk-based products, derived from animals in or from a country which were not under restrictions due to foot-and-mouth disease or Rinderpest. • Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant. • Product was subjected to prescribed processes such as Ultra high temperature treatment, Pasteurized, Heat sterilized, and Acidification. • Products do not contain any products derived from animals other than milk or milk-based products. • Products are fit for human consumption. • The products do not contain any harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
Milk and Milk Based Products for Animal Consumption	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Animal Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of product & animal species of origin. • Number of packages or units/net weight. • The product was produced from milk or milk-based products, derived from animals in or from a country which were not under restrictions due to foot-and-mouth disease or Rinderpest. • Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant. • Product was subjected to prescribed processes such as Ultra high temperature treatment, Pasteurized, Heat sterilized, acidification. • Products do not contain any products derived from animals other than milk or milk-based products. • Products do not contain any harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
Caseine, Caseinate or Milk-Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Caseine, Caseinate or Milk Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries for Export to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The product was produced from casein or dairy proteins legally imported from an FMD infected country. • Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant. • Product was subjected to one of the following processes, ultra-high temperature treatment, pasteurization, UHT or sterilization, or acidification. • Products do not contain any products derived from animals other than milk or milk-based products. • Products are fit for human consumption. • Products do not contain any harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I

<p>Products Containing Dairy and Eggs</p>	<p>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Egg From the United States to South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origin of the consignment. • Products were produced from products derived from flocks and herds which were not under any veterinary restriction for diseases to which the species are susceptible and can be transmitted by the product. • The dairy products used such as milk from herds kept in a FMD Free or not free zone have been subjected to the correct ultra-high temperature treatments, pasteurized, and acidification. • The eggs used were produced and packaged in a highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza free country or were treated to time and temperature suitable for the inactivation of highly pathogenic notifiable avian influenza virus in eggs and egg products. • Eggs used was produced and packaged in a Newcastle disease, as defined by the OIE free country or zone or were treated to time and temperature suitable for the inactivation of Newcastle disease. • Eggs were subject to pasteurization process to destroy harmful microorganisms including salmonella. • Product was manufactured in facilities inspected and approved by the competent authority and subject to regular audits or inspections aimed at ensuring that the processing is properly and hygienically carried out to produce a product that is fit for human consumption. • Products do not contain any harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa. • South Africa is currently requiring that cartons are marked with an expiry date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
<p>Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool / Mohair</p>	<p>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool/Mohair From the United States to South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of Product. • Origin of the consignment. • Product was derived from an area where anthrax is not prevalent, and which is free from foot and mouth disease, rinderpest, east coast fever, sheep scab and sheep pox. • Vesicular stomatitis has not occurred on the farms of origin. • In the case of greasy/raw wool or mohair the product was stored under official veterinary supervision for a minimum of 30 days prior to departure for export • In the case of scoured animal wool or mohair, the wool or mohair was scoured at an approved establishment, which consists of the immersion of wool / mohair in a water-soluble detergent held at 60-70oC. The scoured wool / mohair did not come into contact with raw materials prior to export. • The wool / mohair / scoured animal wool are sourced from a plant that is approved and regularly inspected by the Veterinary Authority of the United States of America. • The consignment will be packed in new packaging materials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
<p>Hides and Skins</p>	<p>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides & Skins From the United States to South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hides were obtained from animals which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Were slaughtered at licensed abattoirs approved for export by the veterinary authority of the USDA; ○ Were presented for slaughter for human consumption and were inspected by officers authorized for that purpose; ○ Came from districts where no foot and mouth disease had been reported for the previous six months and where anthrax is not prevalent, and also where no restriction were in force for the control of epizootic diseases of the species; ○ At the time of slaughter showed no evidence of vesicular stomatitis, foot and mouth disease or anthrax; ○ Have not been slaughtered in a disease eradication campaign. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The hides were loaded/containerized and sealed under authorized supervision. Container numbers or seal numbers stipulated. 	
Bile salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only)	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutica l Purposes Only) From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bile salts were derived from cattle which have been subjected to both ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspection, at the abattoir, where the cattle were found to be free from clinical signs of disease. • The bile was derived from animals born and raised in Canada, USA, Mexico. • The cattle were slaughtered at an USA establishment. • The bile was processed at an establishment which is approved by official veterinary authorities of the USA for export purposes. • During collection of the bile, precautions were put in place to ensure that the bile was not contaminated by specific risk material for BSE. • The country of origin is officially free from foot and mouth disease. • The bile salts have been subjected to treatments involving heating, solvent extraction and vacuum drying. • The product was packed in a manner designed to prevent recontamination of the product after processing. • The packaging shows the identification of the manufacturing facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
Pet Food	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food From the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product was manufactured in a USDA approved facility. • The products meet the requirements of U.S Laws and Regulations and may be freely sold in the United States. • The pet food contains only porcine and/or poultry origin ingredients that were sourced from the United States and/or legally imported ingredients from Canada. • The pet food contains only fish and/or bovine dairy products sourced from the United States and/or legally imported ingredients. • The United States is officially recognized as a negligible BSE risk country by the OIE. • All bovine material was sourced from animals born, reared and slaughtered in a negligible BSE risk country, the United States or was sourced from animals born in Canada. • Hermetically sealed containers should be heat treated, manufactured and packed in compliance with approved manufacturing practice. • Products comply with the acceptable salmonella and enterobacteriaceae. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Appendix I
Other Animals and animal products	Veterinary Health Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country of origin of consignment. • Country/Zone is free from prescribed or notifiable diseases e.g. BSE, Foot and Mouth, Anthrax etc. • The prescribed inspections, isolations, treatments and tests that have been carried out as prescribed. • Prescribed bedding, fodder, feedstuffs, transportation and supervision by official veterinary authority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not available
Animals and animal products	Import Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official permit granting authority to import the specified animal or animal products subject to the prescribed conditions and a valid Health Certificate. • The validity of the permit, and whether it applies to single or multiple consignments. • Quantity to be imported. • Port of Entry likely to be utilized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not available

Source: DALRRD, APHIS, FSIS and FDA.

Table 4: Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificates for Plant, Plant Products, and Liquor Products

Product	Title/Name of Certificate	Specific Attestation Required on Certificate	Copy
Plant and Plant Products	Phytosanitary Certificate for the Export of Plant and Plant Products to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the consignment in terms of Name and address of exporter; Number and description of products; Country of origin; Declared point of entry. • Certify that the plants and plant products have been inspected and/or tested according to the appropriate official procedures. • Attest that products are considered to be free from the quarantine pests and conform with the phytosanitary requirements specified on the import permit. • Attest that treatments have been performed and that any additional declarations have been met as specified on phytosanitary regulations, import permits or protocols. 	• Not publicly available
Plant and Plant Products	Import Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official document authorizing importation of a commodity in accordance with specified phytosanitary measures and other import requirements. • The validity of the permit, the prescribed port of entry if applicable, and whether it applies to single or multiple consignments. 	• Not publicly available
Genetically Modified Organisms	GMO Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The commodity is registered and has the necessary approvals in South Africa. • Description of GM event. • Company or organization which has been granted the permit. • Approval for the development, production, use, release, or distribution of the GMO has been granted. 	• Not publicly available
Liquor	Import Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of the Product. • Attest that the product meets the prescribed minimum quality standards. • Origin of the product. • Attest that the product matches the liquor category. 	• Not publicly available

Source: DALRRD and APHIS.

Section IV: Government Certificate Legal Entry Requirements

Table 5: Animals and Animal Products Veterinary Health Certificate

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Varies	Usually issued for 3 months
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Varies	Usually issued for one consignment
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of a certificate issued by a competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	Yes	By an official and prescribed official e.g. APHIS, FDA or FSIS
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	No	Certificates are accepted from recognized U.S agencies such as APHIS, FDA or FSIS. The application can be submitted on the APHIS , FDA and FSIS websites.
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Table 6: Animals and Animal Products Veterinary Import Permit

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Varies	Usually issued for 3 months
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Varies	Usually for one consignment
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of certificate issued by competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	No	Only issued by DALRRD
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	Yes	All import permits can only be issued by the SA government. Contact details for applications are included in Table 11 .
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Table 7: Plant and Plant Products Phytosanitary Permit

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Varies	Usually one year or quantity based.
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Varies	
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of certificate issued by competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	Yes	By an official and prescribed official, e.g. APHIS
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	No	Certificates accepted from recognized US agencies such as APHIS .
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Table 8: Plant and Plant Products Import Permit

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Varies	Usually one year or quantity based.
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Varies	
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of certificate issued by competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	No	Only issued by DALRRD
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	Yes	All import permits can only be issued by the SA government. Contact details for applications are included in Table 11 .
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Table 9: Liquor Import Certificate

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Indefinite	Provided that the composition, content, bottle size and label of that product doesn't change.
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Yes	
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of certificate issued by competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	No	
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	Yes	All import permits can only be issued by the SA government. Contact details for applications are included in Table 11 .
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Table 10: Genetically Modified Organisms Import Certificate

Question	Answer	Comment
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
How long is the certificate valid?	Varies	Usually one year or quantity based.
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Varies	
Will the country accept a Suppliers or Manufacturers Export Declaration as proof of compliance instead of certificate issued by competent authority?	No	
Will the foreign country accept a U.S State issued export certificate?	No	
Will the country waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	Yes	All import permits can only be issued by the SA government.
Does the country specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

Section V: Other Certification/Accreditation Requirements

Certificate of Origin

The South African Declaration (or certificate) of Origin, Form DA-59, certifying the country of origin, description of goods, weight, etc., is required for shipments of some foodstuffs. South African Customs will notify the importer if a Form DA-59 is required and the importer will notify the exporter. When the form is required, exporters or suppliers must provide at least one original signed copy attached to the original commercial invoice. The Form DA-59 can be downloaded from the following link; [Click here to download Form DA - 59](#).

Organic Certification

South Africa has no regulations and state certification programs specific for organic products. Certification is driven by international standards and accreditation systems. Regulations relating to the Grading, Packing and Marking of Eggs (R. 345/2020) specifically prohibit 'organic' claims for eggs. The Foodstuff, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act (No. 54 of 1972) and the Consumer Protection Act (No. 68 of 2008) both clearly state that the consumer must not be misled. This means that where an 'organic' claim is presented on a label, suitable substantiation must be available upon request. The USDA National Organic Program is widely accepted for the certification of U.S. products intended for export into South Africa. Details and procedures to obtain organic certification under the USDA National Organic Program may be found on [the AMS website](#).

Halal and Kosher Certification

South Africa does not have an official state inspection and certification program for Halal and Kosher products. There are several voluntary organizations including the [National Independent Halaal Trust](#), [South African National Halal Authority](#), and the Kashrut Department of the Beth Din Of Johannesburg and Cape Town, which are responsible for the domestic certification in South Africa. While there are no Halal and Kosher state certification programs, imported products must not mislead consumers. As a result, where there are Halal and Kosher claims, suitable substantiation from a reputable bodies such as the Beth Din may be requested at the port of entry.

Section VI: Contact Details of the Relevant South African Certifying Authorities

Table 11: Contact Details of the Certifying Authorities

Product	Title of Certificate	Requesting Ministry
Animals and animal products	Veterinary health certificate	DALRRD: Food Import and Export Standards Tel.: 27 12 319 6004 / 6117/ 7632/ 7503/ 7414 Email: VetPermits@daff.gov.za
Animals and animal products	Import Permit	DALRRD: Animal Health Tel.: 27 12 319 6004 / 6117/ 7514/ 7461/ 7406 Fax: 27 12 329 8292 or 27 12 319 7644 Email: VetPermits@daff.gov.za
Plant and Plant Products	Phytosanitary permit	DALRRD: Directorate: Plant health Tel: 27 12 319 6102/ 6383/ 6130/ 6207/ 6396. Fax: 27 12 319 6370 Email: PlantHealthPermits@daff.gov.za or Info.sps@daff.gov.za
Plant and Plant Products	Import permit	DALRRD: Directorate: Plant health Tel: 27 12 319 6102/ 6383/ 6130 Fax: 27 12 319 6370 Email: PlantHealthPermits@daff.gov.za or Info.sps@daff.gov.za
Liquor	Import certificate	DALRRD: Food Safety and Quality Assurance Tel: 27 21 809 1602/1687/1681 Fax: 27 21 887 6396/6392 Email: WendyJ@daff.gov.za
Genetically modified organisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMO Permit • GMO Status Certificate 	DALRRD: Genetic Resources - Biosafety Tel: +27 12 319 6382 Fax: +27 12 319 6298 Email: NompumeleloM@daff.gov.za or RefilweN@daff.gov.za

Source: DALRRD.

Appendix I: Electronic Copy or Outline of Each Export Certificate

Table 12: APHIS Export Certificates Electronic Copies

Export Certificate	U.S. Agency	Link
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf-dp-hum-con-cert.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-based Products for Animal Consumption to the Republic of South Africa.	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_dp_ani_con_cert.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Caseine, Caseinate or Milk-Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries for Export to the Republic of South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_caseine.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Egg from United States to the Republic of South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_dairy_cert.pdf
Veterinary Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool / Mohair from the United States of America to South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_vcert_wm.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides and Skins from the United States to South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_hides_cert.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes only) from United States to the Republic of South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_cert_bile_salt_s.pdf
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food from United States to the Republic of South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/downloads/sf_petfood_cert.pdf
United States origin Health Certificate for Exportation of horses to South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/downloads/sf_eq_hc.pdf
U.S. Origin Health Certificate for Exportation of Bovine Embryos to South Africa	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/downloads/sf_bo_em.pdf
Health certificates/procedures for exporting shells eggs from the United States to South Africa	AMS	https://www.ams.usda.gov/publications/content/qad-shell-egg-exports
Health certificates/procedures for exporting hatching eggs from the United States to South Africa.	APHIS	https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/export/international-standard-setting-activities-oie/regionalization/sa_by_country/sa_s/ct_animal_south_africa

Table 13: FSIS Export Certificates Electronic Copies

Export Certificate	U.S. Agency	Link
Certificate for the Export of Poultry Meat (excluding trimmings, mince, mechanically recovered poultry meat and other anatomically unrecognizable cuts) to South Africa	FSIS	https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/2021-02/South%20Africa-Letterhead%20Certificate.pdf
Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Specified Cuts, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for Unrestricted Sale	FSIS	https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/2021-02/South%20Africa-Letterhead%20Certificate-2.pdf
Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Specified Cuts, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for Unrestricted Sale	FSIS	https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/2021-02/South%20Africa-FSIS%20Letterhead%20Certificate-3.pdf
Certificate for Importation of Beef and Beef Products from the United States to South Africa	FSIS	https://www.fsis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media_file/2021-02/South%20Africa-FSIS%20Letterhead%20Certificate-4.pdf

Table 14: FDA Export Certificates Electronic Copies

Export Certificate	U.S. Agency	Link
Certificate to a Foreign Government (CFG) or the Certificate of Exportability (COE) - For conventional foods, food additives, food contact substances, and infant formula	FDA	https://www.fda.gov/food/food-export-certificates/examples-cfsan-issued-food-export-certificates#CFOS
Certificate of Free Sale (COFS) - For dietary supplements, medical foods, and foods for special dietary use	FDA	https://www.fda.gov/food/food-export-certificates/examples-cfsan-issued-food-export-certificates#CFOS

Attachments:

No Attachments