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Report Highlights:

Based on recent changes to regulations, updated internet links, and revised reporting guidelines, all portions of the report have been updated. The paper evaluates the rules and regulations governing the import of food and agricultural products. It is advised that this report be read in conjunction with the FAIRS Export Certificate Report to gain a thorough grasp of South African laws, standards, and import requirements.

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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 was 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 Africa has one of the world’s most diverse agricultural sectors that comprises of corporate and private crop farming systems that include grain production along with vegetable and fruit farming. In 2020, South Africa’s economic sector had the best growth rate of all sectors in the country, and this could be a result of the well-developed commercial farming sector present in South Africa. South Africa imported US\$7.3 billion in agricultural and related food products in 2021, up 16.37 percent from 2020, showing a recovery from COVID-19. The major agricultural and related food products imported by South Africa were rice (US\$482 million), wheat (US\$466 million), mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures (US\$464 million), palm oil (US\$506 million), cane sugar (US\$207 million), food preparations (US\$210 million), chicken cuts and offal (US\$187 million), and sunflower-seed or oil (US\$81 million).

In 2021, the United States exported US\$307 million of agricultural and related products to South Africa, down by 4.9 percent from the previous fiscal year, even though there were signs of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Major products exported by the United States to South Africa in 2021 included chicken cuts and edible offal, animal feed and fodder, soybeans, food preparations, wheat, almonds, vegetables, mixtures of odoriferous substances and mixtures, bovine livers, dextrin’s, and corn. Imports in 2022 are gradually increasing showing a recovery from COVID-19.

Table 1: South African Agriculture Imports from the United States and Global

Partner Country	Calendar Year					January-June		
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021	2022	%Δ 2022 vs 2021
SA Imports from the United States (US\$ billion)	0.386	0.352	0.386	0.339	0.264	0.168	0.139	-17.48%
SA Imports from the World (US\$ billion)	7.867	7.931	7.640	6.927	7.329	3.536	3.993	12.93%

Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM) and South African Revenue Service (SARS)

This report was prepared by the USDA - Foreign Agricultural Services in Pretoria, for U.S. exporters and policy makers, and relates to the legal and technical requirements for food and agricultural imports intended for human and animal consumption in South Africa. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely verifiable either because policies may have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. Most of the policies, regulations and procedures are available electronically on the respective government websites. However, it is highly recommended that U.S. exporters conduct their own research and verify the full set of import requirements with their South African importers prior to shipping any products.

SECTION I: FOOD LAWS

Regulatory Environment, Authorities and Major Food Laws

Three ministries—namely, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), the Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition—develop and oversee the import laws for food and agricultural products in South Africa (DTIC). These ministries may also designate autonomous organizations to carry out certain regulatory tasks. Some imported goods may be subject to multiple restrictions under different ministries due to the numerous ministries and agencies involved in regulating agriculture and food products. As a result, it's crucial for American exporters to comprehend all the regulations that apply to their particular imported goods as well as the relevant ministries. Tables 2, 3 and 4 describe the duties and laws that fall within these ministries and affiliated organizations.

Table 2: Major Food Laws, Legislation and Regulations under DALRRD

Division	Summary
Food Safety and Quality Assurance	<p>Key responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate the quality, standards and food safety of agricultural products and food producers. • Control the production, import, export, and sale of certain alcoholic products. • Render an analytical service in the monitoring of pesticide residue for fruit, vegetables, tea, wine and grains. • Appoint and oversee the following assignees to undertake inspections to ensure that the set standards and requirements are maintained: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB)</u>: to conduct inspections, certification and chain management for producers and exporters of perishable food products. • <u>South African Meat Industry Company (SAMIC)</u>: classification and marking of meat intended for sale in South Africa. • <u>Product Control for Agriculture (PROKON)</u>: inspections for potatoes, fruit and vegetables intended for sale on the local market. • <u>Agency for Food Safety (AFS/Q)</u>: responsible for inspections, plant and retail audits of regulated animal products, (poultry meat, eggs, processed meat as well as any other meat and meat products for which regulations may be promulgated). • <u>Leaf Services</u>: responsible for inspection, quality assurance, grading and sampling of Grains, Oilseeds and Grain Products. • Revocation of appointment as assignees: The Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development has revoked the appointment of Impumelelo Agribusiness Solutions and Nejahmogul Technologies and Agric Services as per the notice issued on September 16 2022. Click here to view the notice of revocation. <p>Legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Agricultural Products Standards Act, 1990 (Act 119 of 1990) • Click here to view Local and Import Regulations • Click here to view the Liquor Product Act, (Act 60 of 1989)

Plant Health	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation of import and export of plants and plant products. • Regulation and enforcement of phytosanitary measures. • Registration and approval of facilities (Production Units (PUC), Pack houses (PHC) and Inspection Points) to enable the Agricultural Products Inspection Services (APIS) and PPECB to conduct inspections. • Serve as the National Plant Protection Contact Point (NPPCP). <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to here to view Plant Health Legislation and Regulations
Plant Production	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and promote national policies, standards, and guidelines to support sustainable production of grain crops, fruits, vegetable, industrial crops, ornamental crops and indigenous crops. • Regulate plant varieties and propagating material. • Regulate the importation of listed and unlisted varieties. • Registration of premises for seeds, nurseries, and laboratories for seed testing and production. • Assess the impact of plant production systems/programs. • Render advisory services on crop production matters. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view Plant Health Regulations and Policies • Click here to view the Plant Improvement Act, No 53 of 1976 • Click here to view the Varietal Listing • Click here to view the Procedures for the Registration of Premises • Click here to view the Regulations and Guidelines for Importing Unlisted Varieties
Animal Health	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote awareness of, prevent and control animal diseases. • Formulate policy and reduce risks in the import and export of animals and animal products. • Render epidemiological as well as management support services for early warning and monitoring of animal diseases. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Animal Diseases Act No. 35 of 1984 • Click here to view the Meat Safety Act No.40 of 2000 • Click here to view the Animal Identification Act No. 6 of 2002 • Click here to view the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act • Click here to view the Regulations and Guidelines for Importing Animals and Animal Products • Click here to view the Tariffs for veterinary permit in 2022

Genetic Resources	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulate and provide an integrated management system to support conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food agriculture. • Develop and implement policies, legislations, strategies and standards on the management of genetic resources for food and agriculture. • Regulate and promote the availability of propagating material of genetic resources for food and agriculture. • To provide a risk mitigating system in support of agricultural biodiversity. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view The Plant Breeders' Rights Act, 1976 • Click here to view the Genetically Modified Organisms Act, 1997
Inspection Services	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Render risk management inspection/auditing services at official ports of entry points. • Provide national plant quarantine and diagnostic services. • Render animal quarantine and inspection services. • Agricultural inspections have been transferred to the new Border Management Agency which falls under the Department of Home Affairs. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Regulations Applicable to the Agricultural Products Inspection Services • Click here to view the Proclamation to Transfer Agricultural Inspections Functions to the Border Management Agency
Agriculture Inputs Control	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulates the manufacturing, distribution, importation, sale, use and advertisement of fertilizers, animal feeds, pesticides, stock remedies as well as the operation of sterilizing plants and pest control operators. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view Policies and Regulations Relating to Agricultural Inputs • Click here to view the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Seeds and Remedies Act 36 of 1947

Source: Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

Table 3: Major Food Laws, Legislation and Regulations under the Department of Health

Division	Summary
Food Control Division	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and publicize food regulations to ensure administration of food legislation. • Audit and support Port Health Services as well as Municipal Health Services. • Evaluate risk assessments related to agricultural chemicals and food produced through biotechnology for DALRRD. • Act as South Africa’s National Contact Point for the joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission; International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN) and the European Union Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). • Co-ordinate food monitoring programs routinely and attend to food safety alerts. <p><u>Website Link</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.health.gov.za/food-control/ <p><u>Legislation Link</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Foodstuffs, Disinfectants and Cosmetics Act 54 of 1972

Source: Department of Health

Table 4: Major Food Laws, Legislation and Regulations under DTIC

Agency	Summary
The National Regulator for Compulsory Specification (NRCS)	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforces and sets standard specifications for both locally produced and imported seafood and canned meat and fish products. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008. • Click here to view the Compulsory specifications for seafood and canned fish products
National Liquor Authority (NLA)	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration and inspection services of macro-manufacturers and distributors of liquor. • Inspects premises to ensure suitability and compliance in terms of Act. • Develop and enforces National Liquor laws, e.g., minimum drinking age. • Regulating the macro manufacturing and distribution tiers of the liquor industry by registering macro manufacturers and distributors of liquor to trade. <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Liquor Act, No. 59 of 2003 • Click here to view the Regulations for the registration of liquor manufacturers and distributors and related matters.
South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development, promotion and maintenance of independent food standards and quality systems. • Food Product testing. • Certification, auditing and assessment services for food and beverage processes, equipment, accessories, services and standards. • Serve as South Africa’s WTO/TBT Point of Contact.

	<p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Standards Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008) • Click here to view Food and Beverages Standards.
Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) – Patents, Designs and Innovation Division	<p><u>Key responsibilities</u></p> <p>Registration and enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights (trademarks, patents, designs and copyright).</p> <p><u>Legislation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Click here to view the Patent Act, 1978 • Click here to view the Trade Marks Act No 194 of 1993 • Click here to view the Merchandise Marks Act 17 of 1941 • Click here to view the Designs Act, 1983 • Click here to view the Copyright Act, 1978

Source: Department of Trade, Industry and Competition and the CIPC.

Enforcement of Food Regulations

Three ministries and the agencies that report to them oversee and enforce South African food and agricultural import restrictions and standards. A number of coordination mechanisms have been set up, such as the Inter-Ministerial Committees made up of all the important government figures in charge of carrying out specific rules. This fragmentation of control, the lack of coordination when enforcing legislation, and capacity limitations to assure compliance continue to provide problems. Due to these difficulties, rules may not be applied or implemented consistently, which may have an impact on both domestic and imported food goods. Although South Africa has difficulties enforcing domestic laws, imported agricultural products must adhere to these laws to the letter because inspections are conducted at the ports of entry.

The DOH's Food Control Division is in charge of creating rules, and local municipalities and food health inspectors at the port of entry are tasked with enforcing compliance with all food-related laws. The issue with this strategy is that some communities lack the resources and funding necessary to ensure that all food standards are effectively enforced. Because of this, many small- to medium-sized domestic enterprises operate covertly, while larger companies self-regulate.

Alongside the DOH and DALRRD inspectors, food inspectors from the National Regulator for Compulsory Specification (NRCS) and the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) of the DTIC check both domestically produced and imported seafood and canned fish products. In accordance with the Foodstuff Cosmetic and Disinfectants Act, the NRCS gives health certificates for seafood items that attest to their quality and conformity. Additionally, the DTIC has trouble enforcing several of its suggested regulations. For instance, regulations requiring the labeling of GMOs were withdrawn as a result of the debate, opposition, and worries about widespread industrial non-compliance.

SECTION II: LABELING REQUIREMENTS:

Existing Labeling Regulations

The Food Control Division of the Ministry of Health is primarily responsible for developing and enforcing labeling laws for processed foods and alcoholic beverages. The inclusion of nutritional information tables on labels is not required by the existing labeling regulations. The current labeling laws are listed in Table 5 and must be followed if a label contains nutritional information. The packaging, marking, and container laws created and enforced by the DALRRD, which are covered in Section III and stated in Table 7, must also be followed when it comes to labeling regulations for animal products, agronomy/crops, vegetables, fruits, and canned vegetable/fruit goods.

Table 5: Existing Labeling Regulations

Name of Regulation	Website Link
Regulations relating to labeling and advertising of foodstuffs: Amendment (R45/2012)	Download
Regulations relating to the labeling and advertising of foodstuffs (R146/2010)	Download
Guidelines relating to the labeling and advertising of foodstuffs (applicable to R146/2010 for compliance purposes)	Download
Regulations relating to the labeling of foodstuffs obtained through certain techniques of genetic modification (R25/2004)	Download
Regulations relating to Foodstuffs for Infants and Young Children: Extension Notice (R433/2014) and Amendment (R434/2013)	Download
Regulations relating to foodstuffs for infants and young children (R991/2013)	Download
Regulations relating to Health messages on container labels of Alcoholic beverages: Amendment (R1208/2008)	Download
Regulations relating to Health messages on container labels of Alcoholic beverages (R764/2007)	Download
Regulations regarding the classification, packing and marking of processed meat products intended for sale in the Republic of South Africa (R1283/2019)	Download

Source: Department of Health: Food Control Division

A detailed list of terminology that is required, prohibited, and how specific language and comparative claims may be used on food labels can be found in the Guidelines relating to the labeling and advertising of foodstuffs ([View](#)) and Regulations relating to the labeling and advertising of foodstuffs ([View](#)). In South Africa, any time a nutrient, health, or other claim is made on the label, there are also restrictions and required information declarations. For instance, the claim "low in saturated fat" on the label may only be made if the amount of fat in the food is less than 1.5 grams per 100 grams of solids and 0.75 grams per 100 milliliters of liquids and does not account for more than 10% of the calories. If they meet all the requirements, absolute descriptors like high fiber or low fat as well as relative descriptors like "less," "fewer," "reduced," "light," or "more" are acceptable.

Notably, comparison statements utilizing the terms "more than," "increased," or other similar expressions are not permitted when referring to nutrients that are physiologically advantageous, such as vitamins, minerals, bioflavonoids, carotenoids, or other advantageous food components. Inspectors at the ports have the authority to ask businesses for documentation of any claims made, including U.S.-approved health claims like calcium and osteoporosis, fruits and vegetables and cancer, and sodium and hypertension. Implied claims are not covered by the existing South African regulations, and the

inspector at the port of entry may interpret such claims in accordance with the rules regarding deceptive claims. There are particular requirements that must be met about how the nation of origin must be labeled on food goods in order to comply with the requirement. The label should read "Product of (name of country)" if all the major components, processing, and labor used to manufacture the food product are from that nation. The words "Produced in," "Processed in," "Manufactured in," or "Made in" should appear on the label of any food that has undergone processing in another nation that alters its composition. In addition to the aforementioned conditions, the phrase "Packed in (name of county)" may be used. All food goods must list their shelf life on the packaging, using phrases like "best before," "use by," and "sell by." There is a list of exclusions to the labeling rule, together with their terms, in the Regulations pertaining to the labeling and advertising of foodstuffs ([Exclusions List](#)) issued by the Department of Health.

Due to two main factors, it can be difficult for American food labels to adhere to the current South African food labeling laws. First, according to South African rules, labels must include the phrase "Typical Nutritional Information," whereas labels in the United States must include the phrase "Nutritional Facts." Second, while U.S. food labels utilize calories, South African regulations only allows the use of kilojoules (kJ) on food labels. Regulators and importers prefer that the proper labeling be applied before shipment. Notably, when such shipments are stopped at the port of entry, South Africa allows importers to conceal non-compliant labels with a white sticker or stick-on labels. At the ports of entry, non-compliant products are not released unless a corrective measure is done. The main retailers/supermarkets typically do not accept food products with covered labels since it generates unwarranted customer suspicions, and importers have previously claimed that such a process is too expensive. Table 6 compares the variations between a food label from South Africa and one from the United States.

Halal and organic products are currently not subject to any official rules in South Africa. According to the rules of the Consumer Protection Act, these products must adhere to the most recent labeling requirements set forth by the Department of Health and may not contain any misleading information. The regulations relating to the grading, classification, packaging, and marking, as shown in Table 7 under Section III, must be followed by plant-based meat or dairy substitutes.

DALRRD has prohibited the use of meat-like names when referring to plant-based alternatives. Using terms such as 'Plant-based meat', 'Veggie Nuggets' or 'Veggie-Nuggets' have been prohibited as they do not meet the definition of 'processed meat' in terms of the Regulation No R.1283([View Regulation](#)) in South Africa. In a letter addressed to all processors, importers and retailers of meat analogues ([Letter](#)), DALRRD clearly states that South Africa's Food Safety Agency will seize any products that contravene the Regulation going forth.

Table 6: Differences between a South African Food Label and United States Food Label

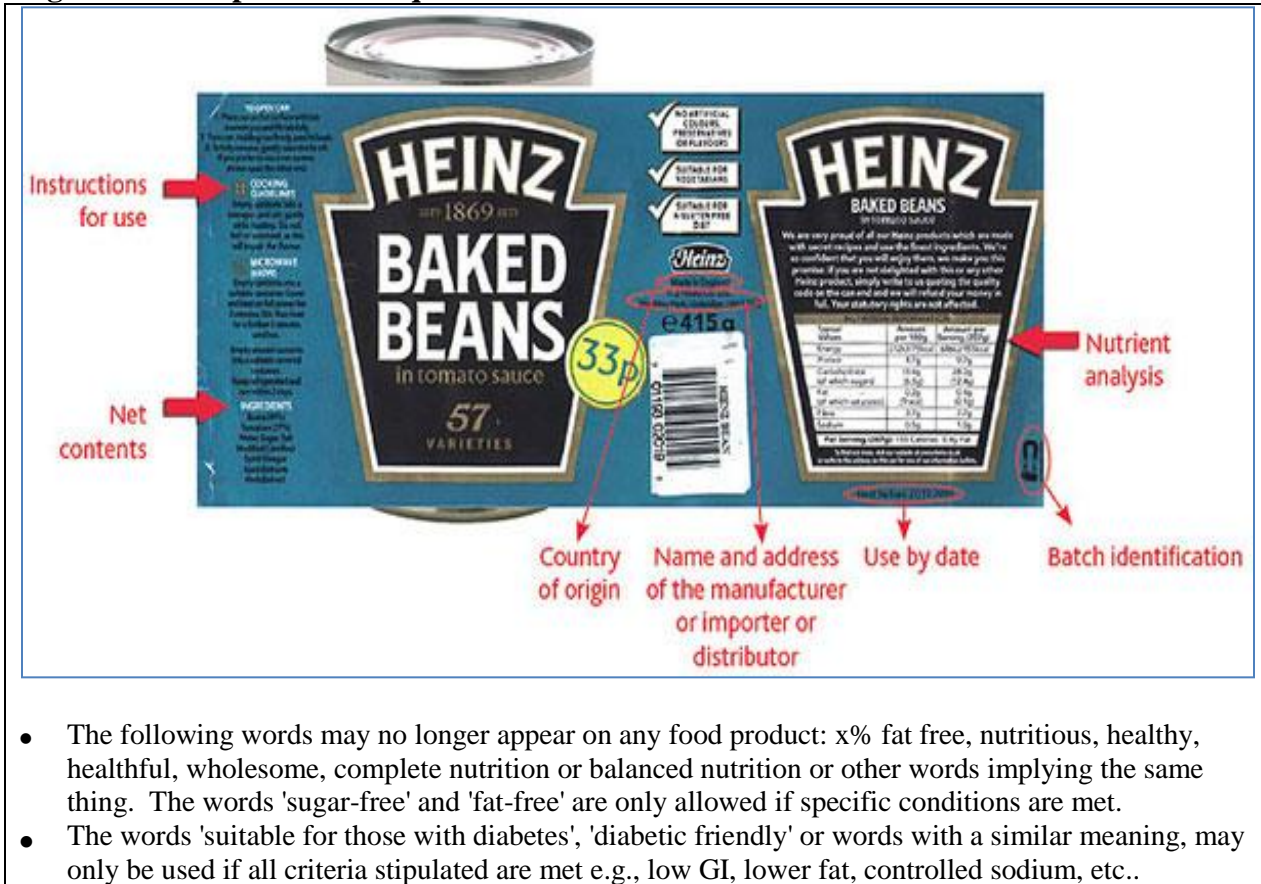
SA Label	U.S. Label																																																																																																															
 <p>INGREDIENTS White rice (75%), Wholegrain brown rice (8%), Flavouring (Milk solids [Whey powder, Buttermilk powder], Salt), Maltodextrin, Sugar, Cheese powder, Vegetable powder [Garlic, Onion, Tomato, Mushroom], Flavour enhancers, Flavouring, Flavour [Sunflower seed, Vegetable oil], Antiflocking agent, Antioxidant, TBHQ, regulator, Vegetable oil, Acidify seed, Antioxidant, TBHQ.</p> <p>VEGETARIAN WITH MILK</p> <p>ALLERGENS Cow's milk. Made in a factory which uses soya.</p> <p>TYPICAL NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Average values</th> <th>Per 100 g</th> <th>Per 30 g serving</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Energy</td> <td>1711 kJ</td> <td>513 kJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protein</td> <td>9,2 g</td> <td>2,8 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carbohydrate of which total sugar</td> <td>74 g / 2,5 g</td> <td>22 g / 0,8 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total fat of which saturated fat</td> <td>7,3 g / 1,1 g</td> <td>2,2 g / 0,3 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>trans fat</td> <td>0,0 g</td> <td>0,0 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>monounsaturated</td> <td>2,1 g</td> <td>0,6 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>polyunsaturated</td> <td>4,1 g</td> <td>1,2 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cholesterol</td> <td>0 mg</td> <td>0 mg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dietary fibre*</td> <td>3,1 g</td> <td>0,9 g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total sodium</td> <td>608 mg</td> <td>182 mg</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Information for ready to eat product. #AOAC 991.43</p> <p>STORE IN A COOL, DRY PLACE. ONCE OPENED, STORE IN AN AIRTIGHT CONTAINER.</p> <p>CONSUMER HELPLINE: 0860 022 002 www.woolworths.co.za Specially popped for Woolworths (Pty) Ltd., 93 Longmarket Street, Cape Town, South Africa PRODUCED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA</p> <p>MILKLIK</p> <p>BAG PLASTIC NOT RECYCLED CURRENTLY</p> <p>6 009184 1862385 CTP flexibles</p>	Average values	Per 100 g	Per 30 g serving	Energy	1711 kJ	513 kJ	Protein	9,2 g	2,8 g	Carbohydrate of which total sugar	74 g / 2,5 g	22 g / 0,8 g	Total fat of which saturated fat	7,3 g / 1,1 g	2,2 g / 0,3 g	trans fat	0,0 g	0,0 g	monounsaturated	2,1 g	0,6 g	polyunsaturated	4,1 g	1,2 g	Cholesterol	0 mg	0 mg	Dietary fibre*	3,1 g	0,9 g	Total sodium	608 mg	182 mg	 <p>Nutrition Facts Serving Size 1/12 package (39g) Servings per Container 12</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Amount Per Serving</th> <th>MIX* BAKED** †</th> <th>†</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Calories</td> <td>160</td> <td>230 180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Calories from Fat</td> <td>25</td> <td>90 40</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td colspan="2">% Daily Value ††</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Fat 3g*, 10g**, 4.5g†</td> <td>5%</td> <td>15% 7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturated Fat 1g, 2.5g, 1.5g</td> <td>5%</td> <td>13% 8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trans Fat 0g, 0g, 0g</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Polyunsaturated Fat 0.5g, 4.5g, 1g</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monounsaturated Fat 1g, 2.5g, 1.5g</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cholesterol 0mg, 55mg, 55mg</td> <td>0%</td> <td>18% 18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sodium 250mg, 270mg, 270mg</td> <td>10%</td> <td>11% 11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Carbohydrate 31g, 31g, 32g</td> <td>10%</td> <td>10% 11%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dietary Fiber 0g, 0g, 0g</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0% 0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sugars 17g, 18g, 18g</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protein 1g, 3g, 3g</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vitamin A</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0% 0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vitamin C</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0% 0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Calcium</td> <td>8%</td> <td>8% 8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Iron</td> <td>8%</td> <td>10% 10%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>* Amount in 1/12 Mix ** Amount in 1/12 baked cake using Basic Recipe † Amount in 1/12 baked cake using Lower Fat Recipe †† Percent (%) Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower based on your calorie needs.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Calories: 2,000</th> <th>2,500</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Fat</td> <td>Less than 65g</td> <td>80g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturated Fat</td> <td>Less than 20g</td> <td>25g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cholesterol</td> <td>Less than 300mg</td> <td>300mg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sodium</td> <td>Less than 2,400mg</td> <td>2,400mg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Carbohydrate</td> <td>300g</td> <td>375g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dietary Fiber</td> <td>25g</td> <td>30g</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Calories per gram: Fat 9 • Carbohydrates 4 • Protein 4</p> <p>INGREDIENTS SUGAR, ENRICHED BLEACHED WHEAT FLOUR (FLOUR, NIACIN, REDUCED IRON, THIAMINE MONONITRATE, RIBOFLAVIN, FOLIC ACID), VEGETABLE OIL, SWEETENING (PARTIALLY HYDROGENATED SOYBEAN OIL, PROPYLENE GLYCOL MONO- AND DIESTERS OF FATS, MONO- AND DIGLYCERIDES, PARTIALLY HYDROGENATED COTTONSEED OIL, SOY LECITHIN), LEAVENING (SODIUM BICARBONATE, DI-CALCIUM PHOSPHATE, SODIUM ALUMINUM PHOSPHATE, MONOCALCIUM PHOSPHATE), CONTAINS 2% OR LESS OF: WHEAT STARCH, SALT, DEXTROSE, EMULSIFIER (PROPYLENE GLYCOL MONO- AND DIESTERS OF FATS AND FATTY ACIDS), MONO- AND DIGLYCERIDES, SOY LECITHIN, CITRIC ACID TO PROTECT FLAVOR, ORANGE OIL, NATURAL FLAVOR, POLYGLYCEROL ESTERS OF FATTY ACIDS, CELLULOSE GUM, XANTHAN GUM, ARTIFICIAL FLAVOR, CITRIC ACID, COLORED WITH YELLOW 5 LAKE, RED 40 LAKE, NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL FLAVOR.</p> <p>CONTAINS: WHEAT, SOY MANUFACTURED ON EQUIPMENT THAT ALSO PROCESSES TREE NUTS.</p> <p>DISTRIBUTED BY: PINNACLE FOODS GROUP LLC CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003-3620 USA</p>	Amount Per Serving	MIX* BAKED** †	†	Calories	160	230 180	Calories from Fat	25	90 40		% Daily Value ††		Total Fat 3g*, 10g**, 4.5g†	5%	15% 7%	Saturated Fat 1g, 2.5g, 1.5g	5%	13% 8%	Trans Fat 0g, 0g, 0g			Polyunsaturated Fat 0.5g, 4.5g, 1g			Monounsaturated Fat 1g, 2.5g, 1.5g			Cholesterol 0mg, 55mg, 55mg	0%	18% 18%	Sodium 250mg, 270mg, 270mg	10%	11% 11%	Total Carbohydrate 31g, 31g, 32g	10%	10% 11%	Dietary Fiber 0g, 0g, 0g	0%	0% 0%	Sugars 17g, 18g, 18g			Protein 1g, 3g, 3g			Vitamin A	0%	0% 0%	Vitamin C	0%	0% 0%	Calcium	8%	8% 8%	Iron	8%	10% 10%		Calories: 2,000	2,500	Total Fat	Less than 65g	80g	Saturated Fat	Less than 20g	25g	Cholesterol	Less than 300mg	300mg	Sodium	Less than 2,400mg	2,400mg	Total Carbohydrate	300g	375g	Dietary Fiber	25g	30g
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Proposed Amendments to the Regulations Relating to the Labeling and Advertising of Foods

The MOH published a government notice on May 29, 2014, asking for feedback from the general public regarding the proposed changes to the rules governing food labeling and advertising. The submission of comments has a deadline of August 29, 2014. To download the official notice, [click here](#). A GAIN report on the revisions to the rules governing food labeling and advertising was issued by Post in 2014. ([GAIN Report](#)). There was a lot of interest in and debate over the suggested amendment. According to Post's contacts, the DOH was taken aback by the large number of comments that were sent because they believed they had industry support. The regulation's finalization date is still a work in progress, and several of the compliance deadlines proposed in the regulation have been annulled.

Figure 1 below provides clear guidance on what is acceptable and what is not regarding the information provided on the current labels and in advertisements of foodstuffs. The label also provides an example of what must appear on domestic and imported foodstuffs.

Figure 1: Example of the Requirements on Food Labels



- The following words may no longer appear on any food product: x% fat free, nutritious, healthy, healthful, wholesome, complete nutrition or balanced nutrition or other words implying the same thing. The words 'sugar-free' and 'fat-free' are only allowed if specific conditions are met.
- The words 'suitable for those with diabetes', 'diabetic friendly' or words with a similar meaning, may only be used if all criteria stipulated are met e.g., low GI, lower fat, controlled sodium, etc..

Source: <http://www.bdo.co.za/>

Proposed Amendment to the Regulations Relating to Health Messages on Container Labels of Alcohol Beverages

The MOH recommended changes to the rules governing health messaging on alcohol beverage container labels on September 4, 2014. The submission of comments was due on December 4, 2014. To obtain the suggested change, [click here](#). A GAIN report on the Regulation modification for alcoholic beverage container labels was released by Post in 2015. ([GAIN Report](#)). The MOH is re-engaging the domestic liquor business to study the proposed regulations and issues raised by industry after receiving numerous feedback from the sector. Post participated in consultation meetings held by the DOH in 2018 and 2019 to address the issues, and it was decided that business would submit a submission with suggestions for the new regulations. Despite stating that the Minister must approve the revised regulations, the DOH gave the impression that, depending on the degree of adjustments needed, they would consider amending or eliminating the regulation. The regulation's completion and implementation date are still to be determined.

South Africa published a notification in October 2020 removing the rules governing health warnings on alcohol container labels (No. 1143). Given the strong opposition and numerous comments from the domestic industry and international stakeholders, including the United States, the repeal of this regulation was anticipated. This repeal offers relief to the local economy and trading partners abroad, notably the \$17.3 million in liquor. Given the South African government's duty to address alcohol addiction and steps to limit the risks connected with alcohol consumption in South Africa, Post anticipates that amended legislation will be introduced once more in the future ([GAIN Report](#)).

Proposed Regulation Relating to the Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) or Food Containing Genetically Modified (GM) Ingredients

South Africa permits the production of genetically modified crops through the Genetically Modified Organisms Act of 1997 ([Click here to download the Act](#)). For further information on the production of GM crops in South Africa refer to the following Post GAIN report published in 2019 on Biotechnology and other new production techniques ([Click here to download the GAIN Report](#)). GM labeling legislation has been in place since 2004 under the DOH Food Control Division ([Click here to download the labeling regulation](#)).

On April 1, 2011, under the Consumer Protection Act, the DTIC published the regulation titled Product Labeling and Trade Descriptions: Genetically Modified Organisms. The regulation proposed the mandatory requirement of the labeling of all foodstuffs containing 5 percent or more GMO content ([Click here to download the proposed GMO regulation](#)). Following wide criticism, lobbying and noncompliance by industry, the DTIC published a set of amended regulations on October 9, 2012 for further public comment ([Click here to download the amended regulation](#)). The deadline for public comments was initially set as November 8, 2012. However, the public comment period was re-opened until August 15, 2014, and the proposed regulation has still not been finalized and passed for implementation.

Amendments to Regulations Relating to Foodstuffs for Infants and Young Children

On July 7, 2015, the DOH published amendments to the regulations relating to foodstuffs for infants and young children, under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act, 1972 (Act 54 of 1972). The deadline for comments was October 7, 2015 ([Click here to download the amendments](#)). The key amendments relate to the labeling and distribution of infant and young children's food. The amendment also provides for the dates of implementation of the various clauses, which range from 6 to 24 months. The proposed regulation is yet to be finalized or passed for implementation.

SECTION III: PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REGULATIONS

Existing Packaging and Container Regulations

The Agricultural Products Standards Act directs the development of packaging and container rules, which is the responsibility of DALRRD. The [Agricultural Products Standards Act, 1990 \(Act 119 of 1990\)](#). The list of restrictions in Table 7 can be used to find packaging and container regulations for particular products. These rules outline the criteria for product grading, classification, container marking, labeling, packing, and, if necessary, container sizes.

Table 7: Regulations Relating to the Grading, Classification, Packaging and Marking of Agricultural and Food Products

Product	Regulation Link
Animal Products (Dairy and imitation dairy products; Eggs; Edible ices including ice cream, frozen dessert, yoghurt, fruit sorbet; Meat; Mohair; Poultry meat; Processed meat products)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations/Animal-Products
Agronomy/ Crops (Canola; Dry beans; Ground nuts; Sorghum; Maize/Corn; Maize/Corn Products; Malting Barley; Popcorn Kernels; Pulses; Rice; Wheat, Sunflower; Soya bean; Wheat products)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations
Vegetables (Potatoes; Tomatoes; Onions and shallots; Garlic; Other Vegetables)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations/Vegetables-Local
Processed Products (Canned fruit; Canned mushroom; Canned pasta; Canned vegetables; Dehydrated vegetables; Dried fruit; Fat spreads; Vinegar; Table olives)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations/Processed-products
Deciduous Fruits (Apples; Apricots; Grapes; Pears; Peaches & Nectarines; Plums & Prunes)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations/Deciduous
Citrus and Subtropical Fruit (Avocados; Bananas; Citrus; Litchis; Pineapples)	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Local-and-Import-Regulations/Citrus-Fruits
Other Fresh Fruit	https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Food-Safety-Quality-Assurance/Other-Fresh-Fruit

Source: DALRRD

Packaging Sustainability Measures

Generally, packaging and container rules demand that containers be sturdy enough for regular handling and packing of goods, undamaged, clean, moisture-resistant, and correctly sealed. Additionally, throughout processing or distribution, containers must not impart any flavors, aromas, colors, or other

alien qualities to the food. Regulations make sure that no container contains any harmful materials, ingredients, or other materials that could contaminate or spoil the food inside. Regulations to gradually phase out the use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) materials and PCB-contaminated material were released in South Africa in 2014. ([G37818 – GN549](#)). An official document certifying that the material has been fumigated must be included with packaging composed of natural materials and fibers. The South African Bureau of Standards has created standards and certifications for packaging materials like Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) (SABS). The SABS packaging specifications can be found [here](#). South Africa also recognizes international standards including FSSC Global Standards and the British Retail Consortium (BRC).

While South Africa has Municipal Waste Disposal Laws and product recycling regulations, they currently do not unfairly impact imported products. Waste in South Africa is governed by the [National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 \(Act 59 of 2008\)](#) and the [National Waste Management Strategy](#). Local Municipalities also have by-Laws which are aligned to the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act 59 of 2008), [Environment Conservation Act \(Act 73 of 1989\)](#), [The National Environmental Management Act \(Act 107 of 1998\)](#) and [Air Quality Act \(Act 39 of 2004\)](#).

SECTION IV: FOOD ADDITIVES REGULATIONS

Existing Food Additive Regulations

Regulations for food additives in South Africa are created and overseen by the Food Control Division of the Ministry of Health. Additionally, this Division acts as the point of contact for Codex. The [Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act No. 54 of 1972](#) serves as the foundation for the development and administration of food additive laws. Table 8 lists the restrictions that apply to additives in South Africa, including the permissible foodstuffs for each additive as well as a positive additive list (which only allows the use of additives that are allowed for use in foods). These regulations also outline the standards for additive usage, including the manner in which they must be labeled. The list of approved additives is available on the Ministry of Health's [website](#).

Table 8: Existing Food Additives Regulations

Name of regulation	Website link
Regulations relating to the use of sweeteners in foodstuffs (R733/201)	Download
List of permissible sweeteners referred to in the regulations relating to the use of sweeteners in foodstuffs	Download
Codex General Standards for Food Additives	Download
Regulations – Preservatives and antioxidants: Amendment (R60/2009)	Download
Regulations – Preservatives and antioxidants: (R965/1977)	Download
Regulations relating to food colorants (R1055/1996)	Download
Miscellaneous additives in foodstuffs	Download

Source: Department of Health: Food Control Division

In the lack of a specialized additive law, South Africa typically follows the Codex Alimentarius Commission's General Standard for Food Additives (GSFA) (CAC). An exporter may ask DOH for authorization to use an additive if it is not listed on the South African positive list or covered by Codex. Notably, this could take a while since the DOH might ask for proof that the additive is safe for consumption.

Amendments to the Miscellaneous Food Additives Regulations

The Regulations pertaining to Miscellaneous Additives in Goods, which are applicable to both domestic and imported foodstuffs, went into force on November 17, 2017. The Codex recommendations for the maximum number of additives that may be contained in foodstuffs were implemented by this rule. South Africa is open to accept adequate levels created by respected national or international authorities in the absence of such requirements. The DOH also paid attention to diets for babies and young children. Additionally repealed and now covered under the Regulations pertaining to Miscellaneous Additives in Foodstuffs are the following regulations:

- The Regulations Relating to Anti- caking Agents and the Amounts thereof that may be used in Foodstuffs.
- The Regulations Governing Acids, Bases and Salts and the Amounts thereof that Foodstuffs may contain.
- The Regulations Governing Emulsifiers, Stabilizers and Thickeners and the amounts thereof the Foodstuffs may contain.

- The Regulations Governing the use of Certain Food Additives in Certain Wheaten and Rye Products.
- The Regulations Relating to Baking Powder and Chemical Leavening Substances.
- The Regulations Relating to Jam, Conserve, Marmalade and Jelly.
- The Regulations Governing the Additives and Amounts as well as Tolerances, for Certain Substances in Wine, other Fermented Beverages and Spirits.

SECTION V: PESTICIDES AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS

Existing Pesticides and Contaminants Regulations

Pesticide and other contaminant regulations are the responsibility of the DOH and DALRRD. The Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) for pesticides, metals, and other chemicals that may be present in food are decided upon and approved by the DOH. Additionally, the DOH is in charge of conducting inspections and guaranteeing that MRLs are followed for all domestically produced and imported foods. Pesticides are not present on South Africa's list.

Table 9: Existing Pesticides and Veterinary Drugs MRLs Regulations

Name of Regulation	Website Link
Regulations governing the maximum limits for pesticide residues that may be present in foodstuffs (R46/2012, R548/2010, R1047/2006 & R246/1994).	Download
Regulations governing the maximum limits for veterinary medicine and stock remedy residues that may be present in foodstuffs (2017)	Download

Source: Department of Health: Food Control Division

In order to ensure that South African producers and exporters comply with the MRLs and only use chemical remedies registered in accordance with The Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies, and Stock Remedies Act (Act No. 36 of 1947) on the specific crop, DALRRD is in charge of pesticide registrations, permits, and usage in agricultural production. Information on permitted MRLs and approved pesticides is available to U.S. exporters for the following [limit](#). South Africa follows the CODEX standards when there are no regulations covering a particular pesticide and pollutant.

Table 10: Existing Contaminants Regulations

Name of Regulation	Website Link
Regulations governing the tolerance for certain seeds in certain agricultural products	Download
Regulations relating to maximum levels of metals in foodstuffs	Download
Regulations governing tolerance for fungus-produced toxins in foodstuffs	Download
Regulations relating to objects packed in foodstuffs intended for children	Download
Regulations relating to maximum levels for melamine in foodstuffs	Download
Regulations relating to Marine Biotoxins	Download
Regulations governing certain solvents in foodstuffs	Download
Regulations relating to edible fats and oils	Download
Regulations governing radio activity in food stuffs	Download

Source: Department of Health: Food Control Division

Plant Health Phytosanitary Bill

Importation of controlled goods is regulated in terms of the Agricultural Pest Act, 1983 (Act No 36 of 1983) as amended and an Import Permit is required in terms of this Act and associated Regulations R111 of 27 Jan 1984 as amended. On December 2, 2016, DALRRD published the final Plant Health (phytosanitary) Bill, whose purpose is to provide phytosanitary measures to prevent the introduction, establishment and spread of regulated pests in South Africa; to provide for the control of regulated pests;

and to provide for regulation of the movement of plants, plant products and other regulated articles into, within and out of South Africa. This Bill also gives effect to international agreements on phytosanitary matters which South Africa has ratified, and which became binding on the date the Bill entered into force. [Click here to download the Bill](#). An explanatory notice of the Bill was also published in 2017, [Click here to download the explanatory summary](#).

Fruit quality inspection and cold chain management

Fruit quality certification and cold chain management services for producers and exporters is done by Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB); which is a state-owned entity. PPECB is mandated in terms of [Perishable Products Export Control Act \(PPEC Act\) No 9 of 1983](#) to perform cold chain services. They also deliver inspection and food safety services for certain agricultural products under [Agricultural Product Standards \(APS Act, no 119 of 1990\)](#). More information can be found on the [website](#).

Draft Regulations Governing the Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues that may be Present in Foodstuffs

The DOH published a government notice ([No. 40772](#)) on April 7, 2017, seeking the public to provide feedback on the changes to the rules defining the maximum limits for pesticide residues that may be present in foods. The restriction of specific chemicals, the grouping of goods and their corresponding MRLs, the addition and revision of numerous maximum residue limits (MRLs), and the addition and deletion of specific definitions are among the regulation's major changes. The DOH claims that the proposed modifications' main goal is to update the list of MRLs in regard to the products included and the applicable limitations. The public had three months to comment, and the 7th of July, 2017 was the deadline. Refer to the following [GAIN report](#) on the Draft Regulations pertaining to Maximum Limits for Pesticide Residues released by Post in June 2019 for more details on this proposed regulation (GAIN Report). The draft regulation has not been approved or made public and is still undergoing internal assessment.

Draft Regulations Relating to Maximum Levels of Metals in Foodstuffs

The DOH published a government notice ([No. 990](#)) on September 6, 2016, seeking the public to provide feedback on the draft regulations relating to the allowable amounts of metals in foods. The draft regulations had to be further modified and brought into line with the most recent applicable Codex standards, according to the DOH, in response to the worries and public comments expressed by several WTO members, notably the United States. A result of this, on May 18, 2017, the MOH sent out an email asking for additional feedback on the revised draft regulations. Refer to the following [GAIN report](#) on the Draft Regulations related to Maximum Levels of Metals in Foodstuffs released by Post in May 2019 for more details on this proposed regulation. The draft regulation still needs to be polished and made public.

SECTION VI: OTHER REQUIREMENTS, REGULATIONS AND REGISTRATION MEASURES

Facility Registration

According to the Meat Safety Act, the DALRRD mandates that imports of animals and animal products come from deboning plants and abattoirs that have been certified ([Act No 40 of 2000](#)). Prior to export, U.S. facilities must be registered and certified with the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) in the country.

Details and procedures for facility registration are available at the FSIS [website](#). The U.S. facilities are listed in the approved South African database once registered with FSIS, and the products from these facilities would be eligible for import licenses subject to the necessary requirements. The list of deboning factories and permitted abattoirs, as well as the registration procedure and forms, can be downloaded by [clicking here](#). The expense and making sure that the facility is registered falls on the U.S. exporter or facility owner. A facility must register only once, and during that time it may be subject to audits and inspections.

Links to the steps and information for registering plant and plant-product facilities as described by DALRRD are provided in Table 11. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services' certifications are accepted in South Africa (APHIS). The following APHIS [website](#), provides information on facilities registration, cost, procedures, and export requirements for American exporters and facilities.

Table 11: Facility and Product Registration Requirements in South Africa

Facility or Product	Website link
Premises for seed and nurseries	Download
Premises for Laboratory: seed quality	Download
Premises for Laboratory: Plant and seed health	Download
Production Unit (s) (PUC), Pack house (s) (PHC) and Inspection Points	Download

Source: DALRRD

Product Registration

South Africa permits the importation of GE crops and processed goods that have received regulatory authorisation for use in food and feed in South Africa (approval for cultivation is not required). Since 2001, South Africa has granted commodity permission for 103 GE events (see also Commodity Clearance Approvals). When something is cleared as a commodity, it signifies that South Africa accepts its importation for use as food, feed, or other non-environmental purposes. This typically refers to seeds that won't be planted but instead will be handled in a method that renders them non-viable. Considering the low environmental exposure, a thorough analysis of food safety is necessary, but not an environmental analysis. Seven crops are currently covered by commodity clearance approvals: corn, soybeans, canola, cotton, rice, wheat, and rapeseed.

In contrast, the regulatory procedures in South Africa state that "Import licenses are awarded for the import of GE consignments, independent of the crop and nation, providing the exporting country has allowed the same or less number and type of events as South Africa." The regulatory processes in South

Africa might take longer than those in supply nations to approve GE events for commodities clearance. Products may be authorized for commercial use outside of South Africa but not inside due to differences in the pace of authorizations. Since South Africa only allows 1% tolerance for the presence of unapproved (in South Africa) biotechnology events in food and feed, these asynchronous approvals greatly increase the risk of trade disruption. To ensure that trade between South Africa and its trading partners, notably the United States, is not unnecessarily disrupted, stakeholders in the South African grain and oilseeds business continue to watch for asynchronous GE certifications. As a result, the United States was allowed to export 53,000 MT of soybeans and 300,000 MT of maize to South Africa in 2021 and 2017, respectively.

Plant and propagating material must be registered and provided with a Plant Breeders Rights, valid for either twenty years (for vines and trees) or twenty years (all other cases) according to the [Plant Breeders Rights Act](#). An agent residing in South Africa shall submit the application for a Plant Breeders Right on behalf of the international intellectual property owner. The following [website](#), provides information on the application procedure, forms, fees, and contact information.

Prior to importation, production, or sale in South Africa, all pet food must be registered. Only people who reside in South Africa or businesses that are legally incorporated there may register pet foods. The importer or distributor in South Africa might take care of this. By [emailing](#) DALRRD and visiting the following [website](#), you can learn more about the product's registration.

All pet food must be registered prior to importation, manufacture or sale in South Africa. Registration of pet foods can only be done by an individual residing in South Africa, or a company registered in South Africa. This may be handled by the South African importer or distributor. Information on the registration of the product can be obtained by contacting DALRRD by [email](#) and accessing the following the DALRRD [website](#). To view the regulations governing farm feed, including pet food, and any later revisions, visit this [website](#).

The [TGPA/ PPD](#) personnel can provide details on how to get in touch with the U.S. regulatory organizations in charge of certifying U.S. food products, including their names, addresses, and phone numbers.

Inspections and Testing

Agricultural inspections will be one of many government duties that will be transferred to the new Border Management Agency (BMA), which will take over Home Affairs' existing responsibility for border management. Frontline agricultural inspectors are anticipated to be officially transferred to the new agency, according to Post contacts, though it is unclear when or how this would happen. The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development will continue to create inspection guidelines (DALRRD). Post anticipates that this new agency will take effect on April 1st, 2023, through its contacts. Please see the GAIN report for further details on the BMA and the transfer of inspection duties ([GAIN report](#)). The BMA will therefore conduct inspections.

Following inspection of the imported commodities, and if the consignment meets the import requirements, the BMA inspectors will release the products. Once the consignment has been released by the inspectors, the importer/agent must take the import documents to SARS for final release. If the

consignment does not meet the import requirements, risk management measures will be recommended. The consignment may be treated and cleared to enter South Africa or rejected and refused entry. If the shipment has been rejected, the importer together with the exporter may decide whether the consignment should be destroyed, returned to the country of origin or re-routed to another country. Note that a consignment re-routed to another country must meet import requirements for that country.

Basic Certification and Documentation that Must Accompany Shipments

All exports entering South Africa must also be supported by the following fundamental documents in addition to the import licenses, certificates, and sanitary and phytosanitary licenses listed in the [FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#):

- A commercial invoice that shows the price charged to the importer in addition to the cost of placing goods on board of the ship for export.
- Bills of entry documentation that provide the correct physical addresses of supplier, storage facilities, correct quantities, grades and HS codes of commodities.
- The Bill of Lading.
- Insurance documents.
- Other special documentation and certifications may be required by the importer, e.g., Laboratory results/certificates from approved/ accredited establishments or Organic Certifications if the product claims to be organic.

SECTION VII: OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS

Other Specific Standards

Table 12 below provides the names of other laws, legislation, or ordinances impacting imported foods that are not previously covered.

Table 12: Other Specific Standards

Name of Regulation	Ministry	Website
Fortification and other Nutritional Issues		
Regulations relating to trans-fat in foodstuffs	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to the Reduction of Sodium in certain Foodstuffs and related Matters	DOH	Download
Regulations relating to food-grade salt	DOH	Download
Regulations relating to the fortification of certain foodstuffs	DOH	Download
Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point System		
Regulations Relating to the Application of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point System (HACCP System)	DOH	Download
Hygiene and Related Matters		
Guidelines for Monitoring Irradiated Foodstuffs in South Africa	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to Irradiated Foodstuffs	DOH	Download
Regulations Governing General and Hygiene Requirements for Food Premises and the Transport of Food	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to Milking Sheds and the Transport of Milk	DOH	Download
Regulations Regarding Processed Foodstuffs	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to Perishable Foodstuffs	DOH	Download
Microbiological Standards		
Regulations Governing Microbiological Standards for Foodstuffs and Related Matters	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to Milk and Dairy Products	DOH	Download
Prohibitions		
Regulations Prohibiting Guar Gum as a Foodstuff	DOH	Download
Regulations Relating to the Prohibition of the Manufacturing, Importation, Exportation and Sale of Polycarbonate infant Feeding Bottles containing Bisphenol A	DOH	Download
Veterinary Procedural Notices		
Veterinary procedural notice for buffalo disease risk management in South Africa	DALRRD	Download
Veterinary Procedural Notices	DALRRD	Download

Source: Department of Health: Food Control Division; DALRRD

Wine, Beer and Other Alcoholic Beverages

The three government organizations in charge of enforcing the laws controlling alcoholic beverages and liquor are the DALRRD, DOH, and DTIC. Under the [Liquor Products Act No. 60 of 1989](#), the DALRRD regulates the import and export of liquor products by issuing certificates and ensuring that the quality standards are met. Large-scale manufacture and distribution of alcoholic drinks are governed by the [National Liquor Act No. 59 of 2003](#), which DTIC uses to determine national liquor standards including the minimum drinking age. All such firms must register with the National Liquor Authority. The Ministry of Health regulates the labeling and advertising of liquor products in accordance with the regulations governing those activities.

DALRRD oversees the rules controlling the import and export of wine in South Africa. For every alcoholic beverage intended for import, a DALRRD import certificate is necessary. By visiting this [website](#), you can submit an online application for an import certificate. The procedures, requirements, contacts, and detailed guidelines for bringing alcoholic beverages into South Africa for sale are all available by viewing the [Import Guide](#).

To learn if and when regulations will change, Post is in constant contact with the relevant South African government agencies. Although the restrictions have not changed as of this writing, they may do so after this report has been published. Therefore, before exporting to South Africa, it would be prudent to verify with Post or your local connections to see if anything has changed or been modified.

Seafood Products and Canned Meat Products

The regulation of canned meat and meat products, canned fish, frozen fish and frozen marine mollusks, frozen rock lobsters, frozen shrimp/prawns, langoustines and crabs, smoked snoek, and live abalone is handled by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) Food and Associated Industries Division. The Food and Associated Industries Division creates the rules and specifications for the aforementioned items in terms of quality and composition, packaging and labeling, processing facilities, and those handling and processing the aforementioned food products ([Applicable compulsory specifications](#)).

Plant-Based Meat/Dairy Alternatives

Dairy substitutes and imitations are governed by the Regulations Relating to the Classification, Packing and Marking of Dairy Products and Imitation Dairy Products Intended for Sale in South Africa ([No. R.1510](#)). Plant-based meat substitutes must adhere to the [Consumer Protection Act \(Act 68 of 2008\)](#) and [Regulations Relating to the Labeling and Advertising of Foodstuffs \(R.146/2010\)](#), despite the fact that there are no laws in South Africa specifically governing them (CPA). The Regulations Relating to the Labeling and Advertising of Foodstuffs (R.146/2010, as modified) address vegetarian or vegan claims and other labeling requirements that products, including plant-based meat and dairy alternatives, must abide by and offer advice. Standards for plant-based meat and dairy substitutes that take into account the potential for cross-contamination with non-vegetarian products are lacking in South Africa.

The DALRRD forbids the use of names that sound like meat when referring to plant-based substitutes. It is now illegal to refer to foods as "plant-based meat," "veggie nuggets," or "veggie-nuggets" in South Africa because those foods do not fall under the description of "processed meat" by [Regulation No. R.1283](#). In a [letter to all manufacturers, importers, and sellers of meat substitutes](#), DALRRD stated that the Food Safety Agency of South Africa will immediately confiscate any goods that are in violation of the regulation.

Organic Food Certification and Regulations

Government certification programs for organic farms and goods do not exist in South Africa. Regarding the management and sale of organic products, only draft legislation and standards exist at the moment. Private certifying agencies check and certify organic farms and products largely for export markets and to satisfy individual requirements established by domestic retailers. Because of this, South African certifying bodies are market-driven and adhere to agreed-upon export market certification standards or best practices, such as the USDA National Organic Program, European Union Organic Regulations, Japan Agricultural Standards, Korean Organic Standard, Bio Suisse, Codex Alimentarius Guidelines, and IFOAM Basic Standards. Seven private certification organizations are in operation in South Africa: Bio-Org, BDIH - Natural Beauty Standard, BCS, Lindros Whole Earth Consultants, SGS South Africa (Pty) Ltd, and Urban Harvest Edible Gardens.

The organic food industry is not governed by any specific national policies or laws in South Africa. The [National Policy on Organic Production, 10th Draft](#), is a draft of legislation currently under development by DALRRD. The proposed legislation provides background information, discusses potential and problems, and suggests legislative alternatives to support the expansion of South Africa's organic farming industry. Once implemented, this policy is anticipated to serve as the direction for South Africa's regulation. However, the industry's endorsement of the policy and its implementation have been postponed since 2011. In September 2017, the South African Organic Sector Organization (SAOSO) established a [domestic voluntary standard](#) on organic production and processing in South Africa in the absence of official government rules. The most well-known and active organization in the South African organic industry is SAOSO. The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) Standard is a global standard that has been localized as the SAOSO Standard for Organic Production and Processing. However, neither the government of South Africa nor any foreign certification organizations now accept the SAOSO standard as a necessary organic standard in South Africa.

The production, processing, and labeling of organic products must adhere to the basic food rules set forth by the Food Control Division of the Ministry of Health and DALRRD, even though there are no laws in existence expressly for organic foods in South Africa. Therefore, the rule relating to food labeling and promotion applies to both imported and domestic organic items ([Labelling regulation](#)). Additionally, organic products must adhere to the many DALRRD rules outlined in the [Agricultural Products Standards Act](#) regarding their quality, safety, grading, packing, and marking.

Product Samples and Mail Order Shipments

The same registration, certification, testing, and inspection requirements that apply to regular shipments do not apply to samples of the majority of products. To avoid paying import taxes, the importer might need to register with the South African Revenue Services. Post advises American exporters to get in

touch with the FAS Office in Pretoria to find out if their goods are exempt from having to go through the same procedures

Proposed Regulatory Requirements for Imported Fish and Fishery Products and Canned Meat Products

The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act No. 5 of 2008 regulates imported fish and fisheries products as well as canned meat products. On October 20, 2017, the DTIC announced the proposed administrative regulatory standards for these products ([Proposed regulation](#)). The basic requirements, management of particular consignments, treatment of non-compliances, product application for approval, and health assurances for imported fish and fishery goods and canned meat products regulated under the NRCS are all covered by the proposed regulatory requirements. This law has not yet been put into effect.

Proposed Regulations Relating to Health Messages on Container Labels of Alcohol Beverages

The final regulations for the 2020 implementation of health warnings on alcohol beverage container labels were published by the Minister of Health in December 2017. The Ministry of Health did, however, withdraw this regulation in 2020 since they are still conducting their considerations and consultations. Both domestic and foreign players, particularly the American alcoholic beverage sector, have voiced strong opposition to this law. Lack of clarity regarding the definition of a container, challenges in complying with the regulation and increased costs for manufacturers—particularly small businesses—uncertainty regarding how the Ministry of Health will enforce compliance with the regulation, and uncertainty regarding the efficacy of changing health labels to reduce alcohol abuse—are the main issues raised about the regulation. Refer to the following [GAIN report](#) on the Regulations Relating to Health Messages on Container Labels of Alcoholic Beverages, released by Post in 2015, for more details on this proposed regulation.

To learn if regulations will change, Post is in constant contact with the relevant South African government agencies. Although the restrictions have not changed as of this writing, they may do so after this report has been published. Therefore, before exporting to South Africa, it would be prudent to verify with Post or your local connections to see if anything has changed or been modified.

Proposed National Liquor Policy (Liquor Act 59 of 2003)

On May 20, 2015, the DTI published a government notice ([No. 38808](#)) inviting the public to comment on the amendments to the National Liquor Policy Act, 59 of 2003. The policy has not been implemented at the time of writing and in its current form, it is expected to have economic implications to the liquor industry and could affect U.S. liquor exports. Post published a GAIN report on this proposed policy ([GAIN Report](#)). The key recommendations incorporate raising the base lawful drinking age from 18 to 21 years of age, limiting the publicizing of alcoholic beverages and restricting sponsorship and advancements related to these alcoholic beverages, and expanding the responsibility of alcohol producers and distributors. While the goals of the policy are good natured given the difficulties and issues related with liquor and liquor maltreatment in South Africa, the proposed amendment requires further explanation, improvement and a portion of the strategy proposals are difficult to carry out or

uphold. Due to the significant criticism of the policy, in August 2016, the DTI published [a document to outline and explain the policy recommendations](#) intended to amend the Liquor Act. The proposed policy is yet to be finalized and published as the DTI is still undertaking consultations and considerations.

Post continues to liaise with the National Liquor Authority to understand if, and when, the amendments will be in place. At time of writing, there have been no developments in terms of the amendments being affected.

Proposed Amendment to Agricultural Product Standards Bill

In August 2021, DALRRD advised that there was a need to reduce costs for small scale farmers and expand the meaning of Assignees under the current Act in order to allow certification services from different experienced bodies. ([Click here to view the Amendment](#)).

SECTION VIII: TRADEMARKS, BRAND NAMES AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Patents, Trademarks, Designs, Copyrights and Intellectual Property Regulations and Procedures

The registration and upkeep of specific property rights are handled by the DTIC's Companies and Intellectual Property Commission ([CIPC](#)): Patents, Designs, and Innovation Division (trademarks, patents, designs and copyright). A number of laws and regulations protect property rights, including intellectual property, and fundamentally give the registered owner of a property right the ability to have those rights upheld in court. In South Africa, any challenge to property rights may be pursued through an independent judiciary.

[The Patents Act of 1978](#) allows for the registration of patents, which have a 20-year lifespan. For recommendations as well as comprehensive definitions, examples, and procedures for registering patents, visit the [CIPC website](#).

Trademarks can be registered under the [Trademarks Act No 194 of 1993](#), are granted for ten years and may be renewed for an additional ten years. To view detailed definitions, examples and processes for registering trademarks, you can visit the [CIPC website](#).

New designs may be registered under the [Designs Act of 1967](#), which grants aesthetic designs for one period of 15 years, and to functional designs for one period 10 years. On the following [webpage](#), the CIPC offers comprehensive definitions, examples, and procedures for.

[The Merchandise Marks Act's](#) main goal is to establish rules for the marking of goods, coverings included in or sold with goods, and the use of specific words and symbols in commercial contexts. Additionally, the CIPC offers thorough [procedures and choices for upholding property rights](#), particularly intellectual property rights. Other intellectual property laws relevant to U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products include the [Plant Breeders Right](#), [Genetically Modified Organisms Act](#), and Geographical indications are discussed below.

Protection of Geographical Indications in South Africa

The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the European Union signed the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), which provides for the protection of geographical indications (GIs) for agricultural products, including beer names, on October 21, 2016. (EU). Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, eSwatini (formerly Swaziland), and South Africa are among the SADC nations included by the pact. The links in Table 13 below lead to descriptions of the names of the beverages and agricultural goods as well as the Rules of Use that apply to each.

Table 13: List of Geographical Indications and Applicable Rules

Product	Link to the list and rules of use applicable
Fruit, vegetables and cereals fresh or processed	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/AnnexII_1.pdf
Cheeses Part 1	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/AnnexII_2_partie.pdf

Cheeses Part 2	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/AnnexII_2_partie_2.pdf
Meat Products	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/AnnexII_3.pdf
Olive oil	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Annex_II_4.pdf
Fisheries Products	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Annex_II_5.pdf
Beer	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Beers_list.pdf
Ceske pivov	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Ceske_pivo.pdf
Ceskobudejovicke pivo	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Ceskobudejovicke.pdf
Bayerisches Bier.	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Bayerisches_Bier.pdf
Bremer Bier	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Bremer_Bier.pdf
Munchener Bier	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/Munchener_Bier.pdf
Other Products	http://www.thedtic.gov.za/wp-content/uploads/annexII_7.pdf

Source: DTIC

SECTION IX: IMPORT PROCEDURES

Import Application Forms and Procedures

A comprehensive list of procedures, application forms, and the legal framework governing the import of agricultural goods into South Africa are provided by the DALRRD. The following [link](#) includes all the essential processes, application forms, and legal framework for importing plants, animals, and animal products. It also gives information on importing GMOs, unlisted plant varieties, and veterinary import licenses.

All alcoholic beverages that are imported and marketed for sale in South Africa must have an import license. The inspection, sampling, and issue of import permits for alcoholic beverages fall within the purview of DALRRD. The liquor import certificate that was issued may be utilized again as long as the product's label, bottle size, composition, and other characteristics remain the same. Application forms as well as all necessary procedures can be found on the [DALRRD website](#).

Figure 2 provides the basic procedures to follow when importing agricultural products into South Africa. Detailed procedures, forms and the respective authorities/agencies dealing with specific products can be downloaded on the website link provided above and from the [FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#).

Exporter Registration with the South African Revenue Services

Individuals must register with the South African Revenue Service in order to import into or export from South Africa (SARS). SARS advises exporters to select a regional registered agent to represent them. Refer to paragraph 2.3.9 for information on how to register for Import & Export ([herewith link to the external policy on the SARS website](#)).

The [2022 Customs Schedule](#), a list of applicable customs duties, is also published by SARS. Applicants must apply for a determination to the Customs branch office where the goods are planned to be cleared or have already been cleared for importation through their customs broker or clearing agent in South Africa, which also offers tariff determinations. The application must adhere to the WCO's (World Customs Organization) explanatory notes, the Customs Act, and the Tariff. The application must be accompanied by all clearance documents, product samples, and manufacturer/supplier literature. The request will be sent to SARS Tariff Division in Pretoria, where a decision will be made, and a final response will be sent to the applicant via the customs branch office.

Figure 2: Basic Procedures for Importing Food and Agricultural Products into South Africa

STEP 1: MARKET ACCESS ASSESSMENT

U.S. Exporter should assess and determine whether their agricultural and food product is permitted to enter South Africa. Some products require market access and facility registrations prior to being exported. U.S. Agencies such as APHIS, FSIS, and FAS Pretoria may provide this information to U.S. exporters.

STEP 2: FIND SOUTH AFRICA-BASED IMPORTER

U.S. Exporter should find a South Africa-based importer who may be interested in buying their products. FAS Pretoria may assist U.S. exporters by connecting them to reputable importers and distributors. Trade shows are also a helpful resource for finding buyers.

STEP 3: APPLY FOR IMPORT PERMIT

The importer must apply for an import permit from DALRRD. The importer and U.S. based exporter must be registered with the South African Revenue Services (SARS) for customs and tax purposes. The South Africa-based importer must also be registered with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC). Agencies involved include DALRRD, SARS and CIPC.

STEP 4: APPLY FOR PHYTOSANITARY OR HEALTH CERTIFICATE

The U.S. based exporter should apply for the necessary phytosanitary permits and obtain the necessary documents or proof of compliance as stipulated by the import permit (e.g. meat imports into South Africa is only permitted from accredited and registered foreign meat establishments). Agencies involved include DALRRD, APHIS, FSIS and FDA.

STEP 5: SHIPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION OF PRODUCTS

The U.S. based exporter and importer should ensure that the products comply with the shipment or transportation requirements stipulated on the import and phytosanitary permits, or agreed treatment protocols agreed between the U.S. and South Africa. In addition, the required documentation must all be in order prior to the shipment departing the United States.

STEP 6: PORT INSPECTIONS

Once the products arrive in South Africa, they are inspected by the DALRRD to ensure that they comply with the import and phytosanitary permit conditions and with the relevant regulations such as the classification, grading, marking, and packaging. The Department of Health, may also inspect the products to ensure compliance with food safety and labelling regulations.

STEP 7: CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

The South African Revenue Services will inspect the shipment to ensure that it complies with the correct HS Code declaration, check for that the shipment has all the correct documentations and that the relevant customs duties and taxes are paid. Normally, the importer should be able to handle all the customs processes and queries.

STEP 8: RELEASE OR DETAINMENT OF SHIPMENT

Once DALRRD, DOH and SARS are satisfied that all import requirements are met by the shipment, it is released. However, should there be compliance issues, communication is sent to the relevant importer or agency handling the shipment. FAS Pretoria normally assists U.S exporters who have detained shipments.

Source: DALRRD, Department of Health, SARS, APHIS, FSIS, and FDA.

SECTION X: TRADE FACILITATION

South Africa uses the Global e-Phyto hub created by the International Plant Protection Convention. The issuance of e-Phyto certificates started on November 1, 2019, with table grapes and in March 2020 with citrus. Trading partners that have ability to receive e-Phyto's that South Africa will be delivering, may receive them via the IPPC hub in an XML format or direct (where bilaterally agreed). The National Plant Protection Organization of South Africa (NPPOZA) under DALRRD is responsible for e-Phyto certificates in South Africa and further details may be obtained on their [website](#).

South Africa provides advanced rulings for all the commodities on HS Code classification, tariff determinations, customs value and labelling compliance. Applicants must apply for a tariff determination through their customs broker/clearing agent to the Customs branch office where the goods are intended to be cleared or have been cleared for importation. The application must be in terms of the Customs Act, Tariff and World Customs Organization (WCO) explanatory notes. The application must be supported by manufacturer's/supplier's literature, all clearing documents and a sample of the products if available. The application will be forwarded to the SARS Tariff Division in Pretoria for a determination to be made and ultimate reply to the applicant via the customs branch office. Details on applying for advance rulings and tariff determinations may be found [here](#). While advance rulings are helpful in expediting the clearance of products at the ports, the final release of the products is subject to the approval of inspectors or customs at the Ports who may withhold shipments for other specific reasons.

There are currently eleven (11) countries including the United States have [import protocols and/or pre-clearance programs](#) with South Africa. The United States has a protocol for the importation of apples from USA, PNW to South Africa as shown in Table 14. Notably, South Africa also has a pre-clearance program for the export of citrus to the United States from areas that are free from Citrus Black Spot (CBS) free in South Africa.

The importer or trader in South Africa is responsible for all costs at the port for all products including customs duties, applicable taxes, storage, and ad hoc costs relating to disposal, removal or rerouting of the consignment, including costs incurred by the South African government or agencies to monitor the action taken. The average release times for products under normal circumstances ranges from three to five days based on the port of entry in South Africa. Average release times are largely driven by the standard demurrage free time from the date the vessel completes discharge; the level of congestion of the respective port; and the type of port i.e., product release times at airports are much lower at between one to three days. It is estimated that about 90 percent of cargo is generally cleared within four days and only less than 10 percent of cargo is moved to bonded warehouses where the average stay is estimated at around seven to eight days. Free storage for transshipments is 7 days, which explains the higher average release times for trans-shipments.

Meat products such as poultry, pork, and beef, as well as consumer-oriented products face the most delays. Meat products face delays due to issues relating to certificates e.g., authentication of certificates, errors on dates etc. Other issues faced by meat products are SPS related e.g., microbial issues and bacterial contamination; uncompliant packaging and labelling; faulty temperature controls during transit. Consumer oriented products usually face delays due to incorrect HS codes declarations, and uncompliant labelling.

SARS has adapted to the Customs and Excise Act, 1964 ([The Act](#)) on 22 October 2021, bringing it in line with the World Customs Organization’s (WCO) Harmonized System (HS) 2022, and has come into effect on 1 January 2022. As from the beginning of 2022, all declarations had to be in accordance with the tariff structure that was published at the end of 2021. The processing system does not accept declarations containing deleted commodity codes. To confirm the codes for the goods that are being traded, traders are advised to confirm the codes by visiting the WCO website ([click here](#)) or the SARS website ([click here](#)) for the corresponding HS 2017/HS 2022 code.

Table 14: Import Protocols and/or Preclearance Programs in South Africa.

Protocol/ Preclearance Program	Link
Phytosanitary work plan for the importation of Persea spp. (Hass, Pinkerton and Fuerte varieties of avocado) fresh fruit from Kenya to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Fresh Mango from Brazil to South Africa	Download
protocol for import of Chinese dates into South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Apples from China to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Apples from Netherlands to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Litchi from Mozambique to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Litchi Madagascar to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Papaya from Mozambique to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Pears from China to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Stone Fruit Spain to South Africa	Download
Phytosanitary import requirements for importation of Apples from USA, PNW to South Africa	Download

Source: DALRRD

The importer or trader in South Africa is responsible for all costs at the port for all products including customs duties, applicable taxes, storage, and ad hoc costs relating to disposal, removal or rerouting of the consignment, including costs incurred by the South African government or agencies to monitor the action taken. The average release times for products under normal circumstances ranges from three to five days based on the port of entry in South Africa. Average release times are largely driven by the standard demurrage free time from the date the vessel completes discharge; the level of congestion of the respective port; and the type of port i.e., product release times at airports are much lower at between one to three days. It is estimated that about 90 percent of cargo is generally cleared within four days and only less than 10 percent of cargo is moved to bonded warehouses where the average stay is estimated at around seven to eight days. Free storage for transshipments is 7 days, which explains the higher average release times for trans-shipments.

Meat products such as beef, poultry and pork, as well as consumer-oriented products face the most delays. Meat products face delays due to issues relating to certificates e.g., authentication of certificates, errors on dates etc. Other issues faced by meat products are SPS related e.g., microbial issues and bacterial contamination; uncompliant packaging and labelling; faulty temperature controls during transit. Consumer oriented products usually face delays due to incorrect HS codes declarations, and uncompliant labelling.

On August 1, 2022, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition announced a decision to suspend the imposition of Anti-Dumping Duties (ADDs) on poultry from Brazil, Denmark, Ireland, Poland, and Spain for a period of twelve months “considering the rapid rise in food process... as well as the impact

that the imposition of the anti-dumping duties may have on the price of chicken.” Although the Commission investigating dumping found that poultry originating in these countries was dumped into the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) market and recommended the application of ADDs, the Minister determined that the imposition of these duties would have a negative impact on the poor. ([GAIN report](#))

APPENDIX I: GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY CONTACTS

Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Contacts

Table 15: Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Contacts

Responsibility	Contacts
Import and Export Permits- Animals and Animal Products	Head Permit Office: Mr. Weekend Mantshidi (Acting) Tel: +27 12 319 7514/ 7632 / 7503 / 7414 E-mail: WeekendM@daff.gov.za
Import and Export Permits- Plant and Plant Products	Mr. Bennie Kgomo/ Ms. Priscilla Baloyi Tel: + 27 12 319 6130 Fax +27 319 6383 E-mail: benjk@dalrrd.gov.za
Import regulations for Animals and Animal Products	Ms. Lerato Diale Tel + 27 12 319 7559 Fax + 27 12 329 6892 E-mail: LeratoDi@daff.gov.za
Import regulations for plants, and plant products	Division: Policy Norms and Standards Tel: +27 12 319 6164/ 6116 Fax: +27 12 319 6025 E-mail: MaandaR@daff.gov.za / CharlesN@daff.gov.za
List of approved foreign abattoirs & slaughterhouses; applications and certificates for facilities and compartments.	Ms. Tsholofelo Malatsi Tel + 27 12 319 7546 Fax +27 12 329 7699 E-mail: TsholofeloM@dalrrd.gov.za
Airport/ Port/ Border Inspections	City Deep – Inland Port Vacant Tel: +27 11 613 1636 Cell: +27 83 661 6809 Durban: Meat & Meat Products Dr. D. Naidu Tel: +27 31 368 8564 Cell: +27 83 775 5171 E-mail: DaveN@daff.gov.za or MelanieA@daff.gov.za

	<p>Durban: Animal Quarantine & Animal Products Dr. S. Soni Tel: +27 31 368 8503 E-mail: SharonS@daff.gov.za</p>
<p>Airport/ Port/ Border Inspections</p>	<p>Kempton Park Dr. Ian McDonald Tel: +27 11 973 2827 Cell: +27 76 519 1977 E-mail: ianM@daff.gov.za</p> <p>Port Elizabeth Dr. I. Burnand Tel: +27 41 585 8907 Cell: +27 82 829 8512 E-mail: ianB@dalrrd.gov.za</p> <p>Dr. C. Darke Tel: +27 41 585 8907 Cell: +27 82 925 1436 E-mail: ChrisD@daff.gov.za</p>

Source: DALRRD

Department of Health Contacts

Table 16: Food Control Division

Responsibility	Contacts
Director: Food Control	Penny Campbell Tel: +27 12 395 8799/8800 Cell: +27 72 373 6441 E-mail: Penny.Campbell@health.gov.za
Senior Biological Scientist: Contaminants	Ms. Juliet Masuku Tel: +27 12 395 9359 Cell: +27 63 680 2766 E-mail: Juliet.Masuku@health.gov.za
Manager: Regulatory Nutrition & Interagency Matters Manager: Codex Contact Point/Office (National Codex Contact Point: South Africa)	Malose Daniel Matlala Tel: +27 12 395 8789 Cell: +27 79 693 3632 E-mail: Malose.Matlala@health.gov.za cacpsa@health.gov.za
Deputy Manager: Genetic Modification (GM); Pesticides, MRLs	Aluwani Madzivhandila Tel: +27 12 395 9359 Cell: +27 63 680 2565 E-mail: Aluwani.Madzivhandila@health.gov.za
Deputy Manager: Additives, Contaminants, Food Contact Materials, Packaged waters & Soft Drinks Regulations	Yvonne Tšiane Tel: +27 12 395 8779 Cell: +27 63 680 2976 E-mail: Yvonne.Tsiane@health.gov.za
Senior Biological Scientist: Nutrition Labeling, General Labeling and Regulatory Nutrition	Ms. A.A. Godzwana Tel: +27 12 395 8174 Cell: +27 63 680 2623 E-mail: Anna.Godzwana@health.gov.za

Table 17: Liquor Labeling Contacts

Responsibility	Contacts
Directorate: Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Dr. Kgalabi Ngako Tel: +27 12 395 8016 Cell: +27 82 462 4079 E-mail: Kgalabi.Ngako@health.gov.za Tebogo D. Tladi Tel: +27 12 395 8016 E-mail: TladiT@health.gov.za

Port Health Services and Inspectors at Various Ports of Entry

The list of contact details of the port health services can be downloaded by visiting the following link:
<http://www.health.gov.za>

Department of Trade, Industry and Competition Contacts

Table 18: Food Control Division

Responsibility	Contacts
Companies and Intellectual Property Commission	<p>Ms. Fleurette F Coetzee <i>Patents, Designs and Innovation Division</i> <i>Senior Manager: Trademarks</i> Tel: +27 12 394 5109 Fax: + 27 12 394 6109 E-mail: fcoetzee@cipc.co.za</p>
National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS)	<p>Maphuti Kutu <i>Technical Specialist: Food & Agro-processing</i> <i>Division: Regulatory Research and Development</i> Tel: +27 12 482 8930 Cell: +27 82 584 6086 E-mail: maphuti.kutu@nrcs.org.za Website: www.nrcs.org.za</p> <p>Ms. Ntomboxolo Meisie Katz <i>General Manager</i> <i>Food and Associated Industries</i> Tel: +27 21 526 3400 Cell: +27 84 974 3164 Fax: +27 21 526 3451 E-mail: mesie.katz@nrcs.org.za 14 B Railway Road, Montague Gardens, Cape Town, South Africa</p> <p>Principal Inspector Tel: +27 21 526 3406 Fax: +27 86 746 8512 E-mail: prinsak@nrcs.org.za 14B Railway Road, Montague Gardens, Cape Town, South Africa</p>
South African Bureau of Standards (SABS)	<p>WTO/TBT Enquiry Point <i>Economic Impact & IP Department</i> Tel: +27 12 428 6229 E-mail: wto@sabs.co.za Website: www.sabs.co.za</p>

National Liquor Authority (NLA)	Ms. Nkoe Ramphele Tel: +27 12 394 5573 E-mail: NRamphele@thedti.gov.za or contactus@thedtic.gov.za
South African Revenue Service	Norah Lethuka <i>Accreditation & Licensing: Manager</i> <i>Relationship Management</i> Tel: +27 11 862 5284 Cell: +27 76 658 8819 E-mail: nlethuka@sars.gov.za

APPENDIX II: OTHER IMPORT SPECIALIST CONTACTS

Office of Agricultural Affairs (FAS/USDA)

U.S. Embassy Pretoria, 877 Pretorius Street, P.O. Box 9536

Pretoria, South Africa 0001

Tel: (+27) 12 431 4057

Fax: (+27) 12 342 2264

E-mail: agpretoria@usda.gov

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

U.S. Embassy Pretoria, 877 Pretorius Street, P.O. Box 9536

Tel: (+27) 12 431 4740

Fax: (+27) 12 342 3385

Website: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

Food & Allergy Consulting & Testing Services (FACTS)

Gabrielle Jackson, B.Sc. Dietetics (Stellenbosch)

Tel: +27 21 882 9883

E-mail: www.factssa.com

Attachments:

No Attachments

