

Procedures to be followed when importing plants and plant products into South Africa

Before importing into South Africa, an importer should:

Step 1: Find out the phytosanitary import conditions that apply to the commodity to be imported by consulting the Agriculture Pets Act, 1983 (Act No. 36 of 1983) or the National Plant Protection Organization of South Africa (NPPOZA) within the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD)



Step 2: Apply for an import permit from the DALRRD if the commodity to be imported is not exempted from an import permit in terms of the Act referred to above. If the commodity to be imported is exempted from permit, ensure compliance with phytosanitary measures for such exemption.



Step 3: When applying for an import permit, submit the completed application form together with proof of payment. The R1013 Regulation for commodities exempted for an import permit, tariff information with regard to the issuance of import permits and the application form are available on the department websites (www.dalrrd.gov.za, Branches <<Agricultural Production Health and Food Safety>> Plant Health >> Importing into South Africa)



Step 4: Forward a copy of the import permit to the exporter or supplier in the exporting country to ensure that the consignment to be exported meets the phytosanitary import requirements of South Africa.



Step 5: Exporter or supplier need to ensure that all conditions stipulated on the imports are complied with prior movement of goods from exporting country.



Step 6: Inform the exporter or supplier to send the original phytosanitary certificate with the consignment to South Africa (if a phytosanitary Certification is Required).

Procedures to be followed when imported commodities arrive at the port of entry in South South:

Step 1: All goods landing at RSA Port of entry are to be declared at SARS by revelant BMA Specialist



Step 2: Border Management Authority (BMA) Specialists will verify documents and inspect accompaying consignment



Step 3: The following may happen following inspection of the imported commodities.

- a) If the consignment does not met the import requirements, risk management measures will be enforced whereafter a consignment may either be treated and released, sent back to the country of originor destroyed. On the cases where a consignment has been released by the BMA specialists a release consent will be issued and the importer or his/her agent must take the import documents to SARS for final release
- b) If the consignment meets the import requirements, it will be released by the BMA specialists

Postal address:

National Plant Organization of South Africa (NPPOZA) *
Department of Agriculture,(DOA) * Plant Health Import Permit
Office * P O Box 40024, Arcadia, 0007

To apply for import permit, please contact:

Tel: +27 319 6130/6102/6396/6207

Fax: +27 12 329 8292

Email: PlantHealth@darrd.gov.za or info.sps@darrd.gov.za

Or visit DALRRD offices at:

542 or 543 Harvest House * Hamilton Street * Arcadia * Pretoria

For Border Management Authority Inspections, please contact:

Tel +2766 019 0812

Email: ernest.phoku@bma.gov.za