



For further information contact:

Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development
Private Bag X258 Pretoria 0001

Directorate Inspection Services

Tel: +27 12 309 8778/8701
Fax: +27 12 309 8787

Directorate Food Import and Export Standards

Veterinary Import Permit Office

Tel: +27 12 319 7514/7632/7633/7503

Fax: +27 12 329 8292
vetpermits@dalrrd.gov.za

Plant Health Import Permit Office

Tel: +27 12 319 6102/6396
Fax: +27 12 319 6370
PlantHealthPermits@dalrrd.gov.za

Directorate Food Safety and Quality Assurance

Division Liquor Products

Tel: +27 21 809 1687/1688
Fax: +27 21 887 6392
www.doawineonline.co.za

Registrar - GMO ACT, 1997

Tel: +27 12 319 6382/6364
6165/ 6033
Fax: + 27 12 319 6298

Website

www.dalrrd.gov.za

E-mail

info.sps@dalrrd.gov.za

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Private Bag X250, Pretoria 0001

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Travellers' Guide

South African biosecurity matters!

“Protecting South African agriculture, biodiversity and economy”



agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DON'T BAG A BUG

Travellers should declare all animals, animal products, plants, plant products and other controlled goods at Customs upon arrival in South Africa. This is a mandatory measure that the South African Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development takes in order to protect the health of humans, animals and plants in its territories.

Imported consignments are screened and inspected routinely for pests and diseases. Based on the outcome of these inspections, they may be rejected or returned to the country of origin, destroyed, treated or cleared and released into South Africa.

Passenger luggage is also screened. Officials from Inspection Services use detector dogs to discover any plants, plant material, animals and animal products, food items or liquor products that might be present. These are subjected to import conditions.

Persons failing to declare items will face fines of up to R20 000 or face imprisonment.



PLEASE DECLARE

Travellers should ensure that they comply with the import conditions and follow the correct procedures when importing agricultural products and other regulated goods, irrespective of quantity, quality or intended use. Please declare the following products:

- live animals and animal products, including:
 - meat and meat products and skins
 - dairy and dairy products
- plants and plant products, including:
 - flowers, fruit and vegetables
 - tobacco, bamboo, plant roots and cuttings
- any other potentially harmful items or carriers of foreign pests, including:
 - curios from plant and animal material
 - growth medium and soil
 - honey and honey products
 - insects
 - pathogens
 - liquor products

NB: On arrival at the airport if you have something to declare, PLEASE proceed to the red line. If you do not, proceed to the green line.