

Are you travelling to South Africa?

"Please help safeguard South African agriculture"

South Africa (SA) is one of the world's most attractive business and leisure travel destinations because of its economic opportunities, scenic beauty, magnificent outdoors, sunny climate and cultural diversity. Global tourism is growing faster than expected, with international tourist arrivals hitting a record high of 1.4 billion in 2018, a 6% increase from 2017. SA enjoys a positive tourism trade balance with the rest of the world, but the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the South African tourism industry.

As people and commodities move around the world, pests that threaten the life and health of plants and animals travel with them. The increasing volume of international tourism and trade raises the risk of introducing alien invasive species as well as foreign pests associated with plants, plant products, animals, animal products and other regulated goods from one country to another. Once a pest has entered South Africa, climate change may influence its establishment and spread, as well as the damage it causes.

When travelling to South Africa, make sure you do not bring in prohibited agricultural products. These products may harbour pests that occur in other countries and their introduction may endanger South Africa's competitiveness in trade and agricultural productivity. The introduction, establishment and spread of these pests undermine agricultural productivity and trade because of the direct

damage to plant and animal resources, the high costs involved in pest eradication and post-harvest programmes, technical difficulties encountered in eradicating these pests and loss of markets.

Animals and animal products such as meat and dairy products, plants and plant products, honey and honey products as well as other regulated goods, are all potentially high-risk materials. These materials may only be imported into South Africa by means of an import permit, unless exempted, and must be declared with Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) inspectors for inspection at ports of entry before entering South Africa.

In the interest of protecting plant health, animal health, human health and the country's territory against exotic pests, South Africa has put legislative measures in place to control the importation of agricultural products into the country and invested in raising biosecurity awareness to the international travellers and traders. Travellers and commercial importers are therefore advised that, inspectors from DALRRD conduct luggage and consignment inspections at the ports of entry by means of visual and sniffer dogs to ensure compliance with the import permit requirements.

Prohibited products will either be confiscated, destroyed or returned to the country of export and you may face a fine of up to R20 000,00 or imprisonment.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT US AT [HTTPS://WWW.DALRRD.GOV.ZA/SERVICES](https://www.dalrrd.gov.za/services) OR CONTACT:

Directorate: Inspection Services Tel: +27 12 309 8701/8735, e-mail: Info.sps@dalrrd.gov.za or npoza@dalrrd.gov.za

Remember to declare agricultural products with the DALRRD inspectors at the port of entry!

DON'T BAG A BUG!



**agriculture, land reform
& rural development**

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



**STAY
SAFE**

VACCINATE TO SAVE SOUTH AFRICA
TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT CORONAVIRUS