



## agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# **PROTOCOL OF PHYTOSANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EXPORT OF APPLE FRUIT FROM CHINA TO SOUTH AFRICA BETWEEN THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF QUALITY SUPERVISION, INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

In order to safely export apple fruit (*Malus* spp., hereinafter referred as “apples”) from the People’s Republic of China to the Republic of South Africa (RSA), the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of China (hereinafter referred as AQSIQ) and the Department of Agriculture of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as DOA), on the basis of pest risk analysis (PRA), exchanged views and reached consensus as follows:

## **ARTICLE 1 REGISTRATION AND APPROVAL**

1. The apples for export to South Africa must originate from production sites (orchards) and packinghouses registered by AQSIQ in the designated export areas in the People’s Republic of China, and jointly approved by the DOA and AQSIQ.
2. A list of the registration number of each export orchard and packinghouse approved for export to South Africa in each region must be maintained by AQSIQ and made available to the DOA upon request to enable trace back in the case of non-compliance.

## **ARTICLE 2 PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND GENERAL SURVEILLANCE**

1. The apples to be exported to South Africa from China must comply with the relevant phytosanitary laws and regulations of South Africa and

shall be free from quarantine pests of concern to South Africa.

2. AQSIQ will ensure that:

i) Orchards registered for export are subjected to an orchard control program (i.e. good agricultural practice / integrated pest management (IPM) programs). Programs must incorporate field sanitation and appropriate pesticide / fungicide application for the in-field risk management of pests of quarantine concern to South Africa, as marked with ‘\*’ in Annex 1 of this Protocol. These control measures must provide regulatory assurance that the apples for export are free from pests of quarantine concern to South Africa, and must be described in a written format and signed by the responsible technician of the relevant orchard.

ii) Detection/monitoring surveys for pests that require in-field management measures shall be conducted regularly by AQSIQ in orchards registered for export within the designated areas. Upon request, AQSIQ shall submit the results to DOA using a standard reporting format. If new pest(s) of quarantine concern to South Africa (excluding Annex 1) is detected, DOA must be notified immediately for appropriate action to be taken.

### **ARTICLE 3 BAGGING OF FRUIT**

1. All apples intended for export to South Africa will be “bagged” while developing on the tree to minimize the risk of exposure to pests.

2. Bagging will occur as soon as possible after flowering, when the fruit is no more than 2.5 cm in diameter. The bags will be removed not more than 4 weeks prior to harvest.

3. The fruit is not to be mixed or stored with non-export fruit. Export fruit must be clearly identifiable from domestic fruit. No fallen fruit will be collected for export.

4. Field inspection (or monitoring) and/or chemical control for fruit boring moths must be carried out after the bags have been removed and comprehensive records should be kept and made available as required or requested.

### **ARTICLE 4**

## **PEST FREE AREA (FRUIT FLY)**

1. The Pest Free status in respect of the fruit fly *Bactrocera dorsalis* in the apple producing area in the People's Republic of China (the following provinces: Anhui, Beijing, Gansu, Hebei, Henan, Jiangsu, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Shandong and Tianjin), is accepted based on the compliance of such areas with the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM 4, 1996), *Requirements for the Establishment of Pest Free Areas* as well as other relevant ISPM's.

## **ARTICLE 5 POST-HARVEST MEASURES**

1. Packinghouses must be situated within the fruit fly free area. Only fruit identified by a registered orchard number and that meets the export conditions set out in this protocol, will be delivered to the packinghouses. During the apple packing period for export to South Africa, no fruit for the domestic market is to be packed at the same site and time. Rejected fruit must be removed from the packing area at the end of each day.

2. The apples must be appropriately processed, inspected, packed, stored and transported, and shall be subject to strict quarantine supervision by AQSIQ and/or the branch of AQSIQ known as the China Inspection and Quarantine Organization (CIQ).

3. Only mature, unblemished apples will be exported. The apples will be selected, washed and/or brushed, culled and sorted to ensure that the fruits are free of any quarantine pests of concern to South Africa and without soil, sand, leaves and plant debris.

4. Apples will be packed and stored in approved facilities. The facility must be clean and maintained free of pests, soil, plant debris and discarded or infested fruit. The facility must be cleaned prior to packing if fruit for the domestic or other export market has been packed prior to the packing of fruit for export to South Africa and no other fruit should be in the facility at the time of packing. The packinghouse must be equipped with appropriate facilities to avoid fruit re-infestation by pests.

5. The apples will be effectively safeguarded from contamination from orchards or other crops in the vicinity during packing, loading and transportation.

6. The packing materials for apples destined for South Africa must be new and clean cardboard boxes/cartons. No packing material of plant origin, such as straw, must be used.

7. In line with the relevant definitions of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms (ISPM 5), a 'lot' is defined here as a number of boxes/cartons of apples, identifiable by its homogeneity of composition, forming part of a consignment; and a 'consignment' is a quantity of apples being moved from China to South Africa on one vessel and covered by a single Phytosanitary Certificate.

8. Post-harvest inspection will be according to the following sampling procedure: 600 fruit per 'lot' containing more than 1000 fruit; 450 fruit for 1000 fruit or less, and shall be subjected to any post-harvest measures deemed appropriate to eliminate pests. This sampling procedure provides a 95% confidence level that not more than 0.5% of the units (a unit is one fruit) in a consignment are infested with a visually detectable quarantine pest.

9. Remedial action will be taken by AQSIQ if any quarantine pest(s) is detected, including the possibility of the suspension of exports from the relevant orchard(s).

## **ARTICLE 6 LABELING**

1. Each carton (box) of apples will be marked in English to indicate:
  - i) Production area (province), packinghouse or its registered number, production site (orchard) or its registered code number and
  - ii) "For the Republic of South Africa" (see Annex 2).

## **ARTICLE 7 PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION**

1. An import permit is required in terms of the Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No. 36 of 1983). Consignments will be exported in reefer containers and both container number and seal number shall be included on the Phytosanitary Certificate.
2. Upon completion of fruit sampling and inspection, a Phytosanitary Certificate will be issued by CIQ within 14 days prior to shipment,

bearing the official stamp of CIQ. Entry of the consignment into South Africa will be subject to the availability of the original Phytosanitary Certificate. The Phytosanitary Certificate will indicate the relevant province, registered production site (orchard) and packinghouse code/s. A Phytosanitary Certificate will only be issued for fruit that is grown under an appropriate pest management program in approved orchards and packed in approved packinghouses.

3. AQSIQ will provide DOA with a model of their Phytosanitary Certificate for confirmation and record keeping.

4. The Phytosanitary Certificate is to bear the following additional declaration:

“The consignment is in compliance with requirements described in the Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements for the Export of Apple Fruit from China to South Africa signed in Pretoria on Feb 6, 2007 and is free from quarantine pests of concern to South Africa.”

## **ARTICLE 8 PHYTOSANITARY INSPECTION ON ARRIVAL**

1. Ports of entry for the import of apple fruit in South Africa from China will be the following: seaports – Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth; Airports – O.R. Tambo International Airport and the container depot in City Deep.

2. After the program is initiated, AQSIQ must notify DOA in advance of the expected date of arrival and port of entry of the first shipment to enter South Africa.

3. Once a shipment of apples arrives at the designated port of entry, DOA will examine the relevant documents and markings, and conduct the corresponding phytosanitary inspection.

4. Any ‘consignment’ with certification that does not conform to specifications and/or if apple fruit originating from unapproved orchards (production sites) and/or packinghouses is found, the consignment will not be allowed entry.

5. All fruit from the drawn sample (600 fruit per ‘lot’ containing more than 1000 fruit; 450 for 1000 fruit or less) will be inspected and suspect fruit dissected to determine the status of infestation. If pests are found, samples will be sent for laboratory identification, and the shipment will

be detained pending the laboratory identification. DOA shall notify AQSIQ of interception immediately.

6. If *Bactrocera dorsalis* is detected on arrival, the consignment will be returned or destroyed. DOA will immediately notify AQSIQ that the export of apples from the designated export area is temporarily suspended. DOA and AQSIQ will consult and implement corrective measures as deemed necessary before trade commences.

7. If live specimens of *Grapholita inopinata*, *Carposina sasakii*, *Adoxophyes orana*, *Conogethes punctiferali* and *Cydia funebrana* are detected on arrival, the consignment will be treated, returned or destroyed. DOA will immediately notify AQSIQ that the export of apples from the relevant orchard(s) and/or packinghouse(s) is suspended while an investigation is carried out by AQSIQ.

8. If *Diaspidiotus ostreaeformis*, *Parlatoria oleae*, *Spilonota ocellana* or any other quarantine pest(s) of concern to South Africa are detected, the fruit will be treated, re-exported or destroyed in accordance with relevant South African legislation. DOA will immediately take the necessary corrective actions and notify AQSIQ to carry out an investigation. If brown rot (*Monilinia fructicola*) or *Rhynchites heros* is detected on arrival, DOA will notify AQSIQ immediately. DOA and AQSIQ will consult and implement corrective measures as deemed necessary before trade commence next season.

9. A registered orchard which has one rejection for quarantine pests other than those listed in paragraphs 6 and 7 above will be permitted to submit further 'lots' for the remainder of the season. However, if a second rejection occurs during the same season, then that orchard will be withdrawn from the export program for that season.

10. The importer is responsible for all costs relating to disposal, removal or rerouting, including costs incurred by DOA to monitor the action taken. The DOA will immediately advise AQSIQ of any pest interceptions and other instances of non-compliance with any condition stipulated in this protocol.

## **ARTICLE 9 VISIT BY DOA**

1. Prior to program initiation, DOA will send two quarantine experts to the relevant apple producing areas in China to review and pretest the

quarantine status in cooperation with AQSIQ, including pest surveillance and monitoring verification of pest free area status regarding *Bactrocera dorsalis*, the system of quarantine management practices and the phytosanitary condition of the production areas, orchards, packinghouses and storage facilities.

2. AQSIQ will submit a list to DOA with the production sites (orchards) and packinghouses registered with AQSIQ with approved codes (Production Site Code/PSC and Pack House Code/PHC) before the initiation of the export program. In the future, if the list is changed, AQSIQ will provide DOA with the updated list before export.

3. Based on the official documents and technical information provided by AQSIQ and the report of the South African experts, DOA will approve initiation of this program.

4. After program initiation, when necessary and agreed by both sides, DOA will send quarantine officials to China to conduct on-site inspections.

5. The expenses for the above-mentioned visit in this article will be paid by China.

## **ARTICLE 10 DEVELOPMENT OF THE RISK ANALYSIS**

1. During the process of trade, DOA will develop the risk analysis based on the pest occurrence situation in China and interceptions of such pests. In consultation with AQSIQ, the list of quarantine pests and the relevant quarantine measures may be adjusted.

2. To ensure the effective execution of risk management, including the pest free area of *Bactrocera dorsalis*, DOA and AQSIQ may undertake a comprehensive assessment and revision of this Protocol.

## **ARTICLE 11 IMPLEMENTATION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT**

1. Any dispute arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Protocol will be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation between AQSIQ and DOA

2. This Protocol will enter into effect on the date of signature thereof. This Protocol will remain valid for two years from the date of signature. If neither side gives notice to amend or terminate this Protocol at least two months prior to the expiry date, it will be extended automatically for an additional one year.

3. Signed in Pretoria on Feb 6, 2007 in duplicate in both Chinese and English. Both texts have equal force.

For the General Administration of  
Quality Supervision, Inspection and  
Quarantine of the People's  
Republic of China

For the Department of  
Agriculture of the Republic  
of South Africa



## **ANNEX 1: Quarantine pests of concern to South Africa**

1. *Amphitetranychus viennensis*
2. *Adoxophyes orana* \*
3. *Bactrocera dorsalis*
4. *Carposina sasakii* \*
5. *Conogethes punctiferalis* \*
6. *Cydia funebrana* \*
7. *Grapholita inopinata* \*
8. *Leucoptera malifoliella*
9. *Lopholeucaspis japonica*
10. *Pseudococcus comstocki*

## **ANNEX 2**

### **The Packing Mark**

Production area (province) Orchard name or its registered number Packinghouse name or its registered number  For the Republic of South Africa
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