



# agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Delpen Building, c/o Annie Botha & Union Street, Riviera, 0084  
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**From:** Directorate Food Import and Export Standards  
**Tel:** +27 12 319 7514 / 7476  
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**Enquiries:** [VetPermits@daff.gov.za](mailto:VetPermits@daff.gov.za)

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## INFORMATION ON IMPORTING ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS INTO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### Legal requirement

- ❖ In terms of Section 6 of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act no 35 of 1984), no animal or animal product (including samples) may be imported into or moved in transit through South Africa without the importer obtaining a veterinary import permit from the Directorate Food Import and Export Standards.

### Procedure to apply for an import permit

- ❖ In order to apply for a veterinary import permit, the **relevant application form** for the importation of the specific animal or animal product must be completed. The forms can be obtained from the permit office of the Directorate Food Import and Export Standards or on the website. (<http://www.daff.gov.za> → Branches → Agricultural Production, Health and Food safety → Animal Health → import/ Export Policy unit → application forms)
- ❖ The completed application form can be **posted, faxed or e-mailed** to the permit office. (See "Contact details of permit office" below). Application forms must be completed in full and signed. **In cases where an agent is used to apply for a permit, an authorization letter must also be attached to the application. This letter must state that you are authorized to act on behalf of the importer.**
- ❖ **Proof of payment** must accompany the application form. (See "Costs and payment options" below)
- ❖ Veterinary import permits are usually issued within **5 to 10 working days** once the permit has been approved by the state veterinarian (**if all relevant documentation is provided and is in order**). In certain cases, veterinary approval and/or negotiations with foreign veterinary authorities are required and it is difficult to predict how much time this will take.
- ❖ Please state on the application form whether the permit will be **collected or mailed** to you. We recommend that the permit is either mailed using Speedpost within RSA, or that the applicant makes arrangements for the permit to be collected and couriered by a courier service, as problems have been experienced with permits being lost in the post.

Should a courier be used, it is the responsibility of the applicant to arrange the service and at the applicant's expense.

- ❖ The courier service must have the following information when collecting the permit; **full name of importer, full name of importers agent (where applicable) and commodity.**
- ❖ Please confirm that the permits are **ready for collection**, before making arrangements for the collection. Permits may be collected at the permit office at the physical address provided below.
- ❖ A **Veterinary Health Certificate** will also be sent to you with the Veterinary Import Permit. This needs to be completed, before departure and within 10 days of departure, in English, by a veterinarian authorised thereto by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country.
- ❖ The following must be **presented** to the South African State Veterinarian or his/her representative or agricultural import official at the Port of Entry:
  - Original Veterinary Import Permit
  - Original Veterinary Health Certificate
  - Any other documentation specified, e.g.: Indemnity Declaration, Rabies Vaccination Certificate, etc.

#### **Costs and payment options**

- ❖ A payment of **ZAR 157.00** is required for the veterinary import permit.
- ❖ The fee is reviewed annually and is amended on 1 April.
- ❖ A payment of ZAR **1360** is required for the issue of a Master Import permit.
- ❖ Issuing of certified copies for import and master permits will be **ZAR 136** effective from 01 April 2016.
- ❖ Issuing of extension / dispensation / amendment letters will be **ZAR 136** effective from 01 April 2016.
- ❖ The applicant is responsible for bank charges as well as the Foreign Bank charges.
- ❖ Applications for veterinary import permits will not be processed unless proof of payment of payment has been received. The proof of payment must be sent to the permit office **together** with the application form.
- ❖ Normal post is done free of charge. Speed post and Sky net (within RSA only) can be requested, at an additional cost as per service provider's tariff.
- ❖ In cases where you are applying on behalf of another person or company, please make sure that you make the transfer / deposit in that person's or company's name.

❖ **Banking details:**

Name of Bank: STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA  
Account Holder: NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Account Number: 011219556  
Branch Code: 010845  
Branch Name: ARCADIA  
IB BRAND 0001982 CENTRE CODE  
Swift Code SBZA-ZAJJ  
Reference: Importers Name & Surname

- ❖ Proof of the deposit must be faxed to the permit office.  
OR  
❖ Payments can also be made at the permit office at the physical address provided below.

**Contact details of permit office**

- ❖ Telephone number:  
Switchboard: +27 12 319 7514 / 7476
- ❖ Fax numbers:  
+27 12 329 8292  
+27 12 319 7644
- ❖ E-mail  
[VetPermits@daff.gov.za](mailto:VetPermits@daff.gov.za)
- ❖ Postal address:  
The Directorate: Food Import and Export Standards  
P.O. Box 40024  
Arcadia  
0007
- ❖ Physical address:  
Room G52 Delpen Building  
Corner of Annie Botha & Union Street  
Riviera, Pretoria

**Quarantine of animals**

- ❖ In cases where **quarantine of animals** is required, the importer must contact the State Veterinarian or his/her representative at the port of entry:
- ◆ Johannesburg Tel +27 11 973 2827 Fax +27 11 973 2828 [IanM@daff.gov.za](mailto:IanM@daff.gov.za)  
◆ Durban Tel +27 31 368 8503 Fax +27 31 337 7469 [SharonS@nda.agric.za](mailto:SharonS@nda.agric.za)  
[SalulekoB@nda.agric.za](mailto:SalulekoB@nda.agric.za)  
◆ Cape Town Tel +27 21 551 2050 Fax +27 21 551 1378 [ZarinaM@daff.gov.za](mailto:ZarinaM@daff.gov.za)

