



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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IMPORTATION OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS FOR OWN USE FROM THE OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED FMD FREE AREAS (WITHOUT VACCINATION) OF NAMIBIA, BOTSWANA, SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO, ONLY

In terms of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No 35 of 1984) and the Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No 40 of 2000)

Abbreviations: **VIP:** Veterinary Import Permit **VHC:** Veterinary Health Certificate

1. General conditions

- 1.1. This dispensation is limited to animal products intended for personal use. The **animal products may not be sold or disposed of in any way other than by own consumption / use.**
- 1.2. Only limited quantities may be imported.
- 1.3. A maximum amount of 500kg of raw meat and 100kg of biltong is allowed per importer over a period of six months.
- 1.4. This dispensation **does not apply to live animals.**
- 1.5. Veterinary import permits are issued by the permit office of the Directorate Food Import & Export Standards in Pretoria (Tel +27 12 319 7514 / -7632 / 7633/ -7503/ -7406; fax +27 12 329 8292; VetPermits@daff.gov.za). Enquiries regarding the veterinary import requirements for animal products for own use can be directed here as well.
- 1.6. Enquiries regarding border control can be addressed to:

Mr N Luvhimbi
Tel: +27 12 309 8737
Cell: +27 73 196 0858
Email: LuvhimbiN@daff.gov.za
Fax: 086 207 3952

(NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax number)
- 1.7. This dispensation may be cancelled or changed on short notice.

- 1.8. The South African Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries does not accept any responsibility for the safety of products imported for own consumption.
- 1.9. Only clean containers may be used for packaging, e.g. no second-hand hessian / jute bags may be used for the transport of products e.g. mopani worms.
- 1.10. Animal products that require a veterinary import permit (including larger quantities for own use) may only be imported through the following border posts. No other border posts will be considered, unless approved in advance (2 weeks before arrival at the border post) by the Director Animal Health
- Botswana Ramatlabama, Groblersbrug, Skilpadshek, Kopfontein
 - Lesotho Maseru Bridge
 - Namibia Vioolsdrift, Nakop or in transit through Botswana via Ramatlabama, Skilpadshek, Kopfontein & Groblersbrug
 - Swaziland Oshoek, Golela and Mananga
 - South African International airports
- 1.11. Small quantities of commodities that do not require veterinary import documentation may be imported as own use through any land border post or the international airports. Border post control officials may refuse entry of such products at any time if the concession is misused.
- 1.12. A South African VIP and VHC from the neighbouring country are required for animal products for own use from the foot and mouth disease (FMD) control area (ie the control/ surveillance/vaccination, "the red line area") and for products derived from wild or domesticated pigs, eg warthog biltong. Permits for these commodities will be considered on an individual basis and might not be granted.
- 1.13. In order to qualify as a person in terms of this guideline, the person must be older than **18 years**.

2. Importation of Edible Animal Products

2.1 Raw Products

- No raw pork and/or meat from wild pigs may be imported for own use. Permit conditions for warthog biltong will stipulate they have been processed to ensure the satisfactory inactivation of the African swine fever virus.
- No raw meat and/or biltong from equid origin may be imported for own use.
- **A maximum of 25kg meat** (cattle, game, sheep, goats or poultry) - pork & meat from wild pigs excluded) and a **maximum of 10kg biltong per person** may be imported without a South African VIP or VHC from the FMD free areas in the exporting country.

- > 25kg – 250kg meat per importer. South African VIP and VHC from the exporting country are required. **Note:** If written motivation is made and a copy of the hunting invitation/booking form provided, the Director Animal Health will consider increasing this amount to **500kg**.
- > 10kg –100kg biltong per hunter. South African VIP and VHC from the exporting country are required.
- Consignments exceeding these amounts per importer are not regarded as being imported for own consumption. The importer must apply for a **commercial veterinary import permit** and comply with those conditions.

2.2 Other Processed Meats (canned, cooked, polony, brawn, etc)

A total mass of 25kg per person may be imported without a South African VIP or VHC from the country of origin. If the 25kg limit is exceeded a South African VIP and VHC from the exporting country have to be obtained.

2.3 Dairy Products

10 kg or litres of dairy per person may be imported without a South African VIP or VHC from the exporting country.

2.4 Table eggs

2½ dozen poultry table eggs or 4 ostrich eggs per person may be imported without a South African VIP or VHC from the exporting country.

3. Importation of Inedible Animal Products for Own Use (FMD-free areas)

- 3.1 This dispensation is limited to animal products intended for personal use of the person(s) importing the products. The responsible official at the port of entry will judge the quantity of inedible products allowed.
- 3.2 Limited numbers/volume of the following products may be imported for own use without a veterinary import permit or a veterinary health certificate:
 - Mats and rugs made from fully processed animal skins
 - Fully processed leather articles (shoes, handbags, curio's, sjamboks, leather whips and other articles containing leather)
 - Duvets/pillows (fully processed products containing feathers/down)
 - Ostrich eggs – without contents, plain or painted
 - Processed pet food (less than 25kg only).

- 3.3 Limited numbers/volume of the following products may be imported for own use

without a veterinary import permit but require a veterinary health certificate:

- Curios containing the following raw products provided a Veterinary Health Certificate is produced to prove that they do not originate from the FMD area.
- Curios, drums containing dry raw unprocessed hides & skins or items from game trophies

3.4 The following products may not be imported or brought into South Africa for own use or any other purpose, without a veterinary import permit (permits for these commodities will be considered on an individual basis and may not necessarily be issued):

- Any animal product from the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) surveillance (red line) areas
- Any edible product where the mass exceeds the limits prescribed in this document.
- Raw pork or meat from wild pigs. Biltong from pigs (e.g. warthogs)
- Raw meat and/or biltong from equid origin
- Inedible animal products imported for commercial purposes (the responsible official at the port of entry will judge the quantity of inedible products allowed for own use)
- Raw unprocessed or partially processed trophies
- Curios containing dry raw unprocessed hides & skins or items from game trophies originating from the FMD infected zone
- Bones, teeth, antlers, claws or horns
- Trophies (including fully mounted trophies)
- Animal feed including bone meal, carcass meal, blood meal
- Live animals (excluding dogs and cats), live poultry or birds
- Second-hand hessian / jute bags
- Wool, hair, bristles, feathers, down
- Manure / animal waste
- Semen and embryos
- Trout ova and live trout
- Veterinary pharmaceuticals or vaccines
- Semen and embryos
- Specimens for research, diagnostic, genetic and proficiency testing, pathogens, parasites; laboratory reagents and test kits; active and inactive pharmaceutical ingredients



Director: Animal Health

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