

Department of Agriculture

National Directorate Animal Health

Notice No. VPN-2003-29

Date: 8 May 2003

TO: STATE VETERINARY OFFICERS

SUBJECT: Standards for the registration of a veterinary approved quarantine facility poultry

- 1 DUTIES OF THE IMPORTER**
 - 2 DUTIES OF A QUARANTINE FACILITY OWNER**
 - 3 DUTIES OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**
 - 4 DUTIES OF THE QUARANTINE VETERINARIAN**
 - 5 DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD OF A LABORATORY**
 - 6 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD OF A REFERENCE LABORATORY**
 - 7 UNDERTAKING OF POICY SUPPORT BY THE VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION**
- ANNEXURE A APPLICATION TO IMPORT POULTRY**
- ANNEXURE B APPLICATION TO IMPORT POULTRY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ANIMAL IMPROVEMENT ACT**
- ANNEXURE C REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE APPROVAL OF POULTRY QUARANTINE STATIONS**
- ANNEXURE D AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT THE DUTIES OF QUARANTINE VETERINARIAN AT A POULTRY QUARANTINE FACILITY**
- ANNEXURE E VETERINARY QUARANTINE CANCELLATION NOTICE**
- ANNEXURE F APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION/RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION OF VETERINARY APPROVED POULTRY QUARANTINE FACILITY**
- ANNEXURE G INSPECTION REPORT FOR A PRIVATE POULTRY QUARANTINE STATION**
- ANNEXURE H AGREEMENT FOR THE NECESSARY VETERINARY CONTROL**

POULTRY IMPORT POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to provide poultry importers and *Veterinary Authorities*¹ with guidelines as to how poultry imports should be managed. Correct management will ensure that safe, uniform standards are applied throughout the country, regardless of the importer or *Veterinary Authority* involved. All quotes in the footnotes of this text are from the Ninth Edition, of 2000, of the O.I.E. International Animal Health Code. All words printed in italics are to be interpreted as defined in this *Code*²

1. DUTIES OF THE IMPORTER

1.1 Application for a Veterinary Import Permit

The below listed documents must please be submitted on application for Veterinary Import Permits. Only once all of these documents have been submitted to the permit office of the South African *Veterinary Administration*³, can a Veterinary Import Permit be issued. Without an original Veterinary Import Permit, a consignment will be regarded as illegal and either returned to the exporting country or destroyed. This can also happen if the instructions on the Veterinary Import Permit are not followed. Offenders must note that they run the risk of being prosecuted.

1.1.1 Application form – Annex A

This form gives essential information about the importer, origin of the consignment and state of preparedness of the proposed quarantine facility. This information determines whether or not a permit can be issued, from a disease risk perspective. The permit will only be valid between the dates recommended by the *official veterinarian*⁴.

The form is obtainable from the permit office from (012) 319-7414/5 and can be faxed to (012) 329 8292 after completion. The importer completes the top section of the application form and the *official veterinarian* the bottom section. Both sections must be completed before a permit can be issued. Where the owner of the quarantine facility and the importer are not the same entity, the facility owner must give written consent to the importer to use the facility.

Applicable OIE International Animal Health Code (Ninth Edition, 2000) quotations:

¹ ***Veterinary Authority***

means a Veterinary Service, under the authority of the *Veterinary Administration*, which is directly responsible for the application of animal health measures in a specified area of the country. It may also have responsibility for the issuing or the supervision of the issuing of *international veterinary certificates* in that area.

² ***Code***

means the OIE International Animal Health Code.

³ ***Veterinary Administration***

means the governmental Veterinary Service having authority in the whole country for implementing the animal health measures and international veterinary certification process which the OIE recommends, and supervising or auditing their application.

⁴ ***Official Veterinarian***

means a veterinarian authorized by the *Veterinary Administration* of the country to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of *commodities* and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.2.2 of this *Code*.

1.1.2 Valid Certificate of Registration Copy

This is a certificate issued by the South African *Veterinary Administration* on an annual basis to confirm the compliance of the quarantine facility with the standards given in Annexure C of this policy. A copy of this certificate can be obtained from the owner of the facility.

1.1.3 Livestock Improvement Permit

This permit is obtained from the Registrar of Livestock Improvement. The contact person is Ms Ephesia Kgarimetsa at (012) 319-7429. Annexure B is the application form for such a permit and must be completed by, or accompanied by a letter of recommendation signed by the Southern African Poultry Association (Tel No. 012 795 2051). There is a fee payable for this permit.

1.1.4 Proof of Payment

A fee is payable for the permit. The amount can be paid in the Department's bank account at Standard Bank. A deposit slip can be requested from Ms T. Celia Maluleke 012 319 7414/5, fax (012) 329-8292. Alternatively cash or cheque payments can be made at the cashier at Delpen building, in which case the receipt or a copy thereof must accompany the application. Details pertaining to fee payment can be obtained from (012) 319 7414/5.

1.2 **Actions on receipt of Permit**

1. Read the permit and perform the necessary actions to ensure the conditions of import are complied with. Where a condition presents a problem discuss a possible solution with the Deputy Director or veterinarians of the Import/Export Subdirectorates of the *Veterinary Administration*.
Dr. J van Wyk – 012 319 7679
Dr. M Maja – 012 319 7417
Dr. M Bronkhorst – 012 319 7444
2. Inform the supplier of the poultry of the conditions of import and impress upon them the need to certify all requirements listed in the permit.
3. Inform the Quarantine Master at the port of entry at least 48 hours in advance of the pending arrival of the birds and keep him/her updated with any changes. This enables the Quarantine Master to ensure that the birds are cleared as quickly as possible. It is also advisable to supply him/her with a copy of the health certificate in advance, even if it is only a specimen copy of what will actually be signed. This allows the Quarantine Master an opportunity to check that everything is in order, and if not the problem can be rectified BEFORE the birds are shipped.
4. The *official veterinarian* responsible for *official veterinary control*⁵ at the quarantine facility must also be informed at least 48 hours in advance of the pending arrival of the birds and kept up to date with any changes. This enables the *official veterinarian*, or his/her representative, to arrange to be present when the birds arrive and thus prevents unnecessary delays.

⁵ *Official veterinary control*

means that the *Veterinary Authority* knows the location of the *animals* and the identity of their owner or responsible keeper and is able to apply appropriate animal health measures, as required.

5. Arrange either a vehicle or crate, which can be sealed to prevent tampering with the consignment en route from the port of entry to the quarantine facility. Where this is absolutely impossible an official escort must be arranged to accompany the consignment to destination. Usually such an official will come from the state veterinary office of the *official veterinarian* responsible for the quarantine facility, however sometimes officials from the *Veterinary Administration* will assist.
6. Work out contingency measures in the event of a break down, accident, hijack etc. The contingency measures must be agreed upon with the *official veterinarian* responsible for the facility and the Quarantine Master at the port of entry. These measures must address the welfare of the imported birds and ensure that quarantine is not breached.
7. Co-operate with the owner of the quarantine facility to ensure that all the management requirements of a quarantine facility given in Annexure C are complied with.

2. DUTIES OF A QUARANTINE FACILITY OWNER

1. Construction and maintenance of the quarantine facility to ensure the structural requirements of Annexure C are met.
2. Management of the facility in accordance with the management requirements stipulated in Annexure C.
3. Engagement of a quarantine veterinarian, acceptable to the *veterinary administration*, to supervise the facility according to the requirements given in Annexure C and allow him/her the necessary access, freedom and support to perform the tasks undertaken by him/her in Annexure D.
4. Timely procurement of the annual certificate of registration.
5. Timely invitation of the responsible *official veterinarian* to inspect significant procedures significant to quarantine e.g. arrivals, disinfection etc.

3. DUTIES OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

3.1 General

The *official veterinarian* has no vested interest and it is his/her responsibility to ensure that Annexure C is complied with. The private veterinarian is there to assist, but not replace, the *official veterinarian*. However, both veterinarians have an ethical obligation to report problems to the *veterinary administration*, especially when a dispute arises.

3.2 Signature of permit application

This necessitates inspection of the quarantine facility to ensure it still complies with Annexure C and is ready to receive birds. This need not be an additional inspection when there has been a recent inspection to ensure disinfection procedures were completed. However, when a facility has been used for other purposes or has been unused for a long period a reinspection before signature is necessary. It must also be established that the facility is large enough to accommodate all the birds in the proposed consignment, comfortably for the entire quarantine period.

The *official veterinarian* must ensure that reasonable contingency plans are in place, should something go awry during transport from the port of entry to the quarantine facility, before signing the application. These contingency plans will be unique to the situation of each consignment and must be documented to prevent misunderstandings. The *official veterinarian*, private veterinarian, importer, facility owner and port of entry quarantine master must all have a copy of these procedures. These contingency plans must address the following:

- The availability of a standby vehicle, spare boxes for live chicks, plastic bags for dead chicks, etc.
- Responsibilities of the driver, cellular communication and security checks.
- Location, who goes to assist eg. an accident 5km from the port of entry means that the Quarantine master can assist, take dead chicks for destruction etc. but 50 km from destination must be managed differently.
- Description of conditions under which seals can be broken eg. not for a flat tyre.
- List of persons to be contacted with contact details.

The contingency plans must achieve the following:

- 1) Immediate notification of both the Quarantine master at the port of entry and the official receiving the consignment.
- 2) Allow seals to be broken and the consignment re-packed in a manner that, safeguards the welfare of the chicks by allowing sufficient ventilation etc. whilst ensuring that quarantine is preserved and losses can be accounted for.
- 3) Euthanasia of all injured chicks.
- 4) Removal of all dead/live chicks to ensure none can be left behind to spread disease.

Lastly the *official veterinarian* must ensure that his/her office will be able to supply inspection services on arrival of the consignment and throughout the quarantine period. By specifying dates between which the birds may arrive the *official veterinarian* has some control over when the quarantine period will be. If no dates are specified the permit will be valid from date of issue for six months. Unfortunately unforeseen circumstances do sometimes extend the period of quarantine and this must be considered on signature.

3.3 Arrival Inspections

Firstly this inspection ensures there has been no breach of quarantine during transport from the port of entry. This means that all seals must be intact if the consignment was not escorted and the number of birds and seal numbers must match those on the red cross permit. The birds must be signed into the register and any deaths noted, as well as the cause thereof. Destruction of all possible fomites⁶ not destined for storage in quarantine must be supervised, as well as the disinfection of the vehicle and any equipment, which is not to enter quarantine, but may be contaminated. The delivery gate access must be sealed as only a limited number of personnel will move in and out of the facility until quarantine is lifted.

3.4 Routine Inspections

Regular inspection of the quarantine facility throughout the quarantine period, including collection of samples, which have been taken by the quarantine veterinarian, and dispatch to the Poultry Reference Laboratory, Allerton or Elsenburg Provincial Laboratories. All inspections and the findings thereof must be recorded in the register.

3.5 Quarantine Lifting Inspection

The negative test results must be checked and quarantine veterinarian's reports on deaths or other losses must be evaluated to ensure infectious diseases are not present, and it is safe to terminate quarantine.

Permission to lift quarantine must be given in writing. This should be recorded in the register and a quarantine cancellation notice (Annexure E) must be supplied. A copy of this must be filed along with copies of the negative results in the office of the *official veterinarian* and the originals should be filed by the owner of the quarantine facility. Such records should be kept for at least 2 years.

The chickens are not always removed the same day, but the seal on the delivery access must be checked and broken so people can now move as freely as the poultry owner will allow.

In cases where the chickens are not to be removed and therefore are not accessible for inspection, the responsible official may depend upon the integrity of the quarantine veterinarian that all losses have been accurately accounted for and can assume that a head count would not reveal any mysterious disappearances. However, it is the prerogative of the official to verify this fact with his/her own eyes, provided he/she adheres to the internal biosecurity requirements laid down by the owner of the birds. He/she may also question such measures if they appear as an intentional barrier to viewing the birds.

⁶ Fomite: Any inanimate object or material on which disease producing agents may be conveyed, eg faeces, bedding, etc.

3.6 Disinfection Inspection

This inspection occurs once all the chickens have been removed, and is usually part of the inspection for another veterinary import permit. Where quarantine has been lifted and there were not potential biohazards disinfection procedures must consist of at least the following:

- Removal of all organic matter.
- High pressure spraying with a detergent/disinfectant combination, which is effective against Infectious bursal disease.
- Fumigation using any formaldehyde based method which will achieve the equivalent of the below specified concentrations:

Concentration A

53 ml formalin (37.5%) and 35 g potassium permanganate per m³ of space.

Concentration B

43 ml formalin (37.5%) and 21 g potassium permanganate per m³ of space

Concentration C

45 ml formalin (40%) and 30 g potassium permanganate per m³ of space.

However, where quarantine has not been lifted and the flock has to be destroyed because of infectious disease, the following must be applied in addition to the procedures described above, under *official veterinary control*.

- The *official veterinarian* must be in possession of a written instruction to destroy the chickens, signed by the executive head of the *veterinary administration*.
- Humane euthanasia of the entire flock using an inhalant anaesthetic and carbon dioxide.
- Destruction of all carcasses, litter and other solid waste by incineration or deep burial mixed with lime chlorite. This should preferably be conducted on site, but where this is not possible biosecure transport under *official veterinary control* to an approved destruction site may be permitted.
- Disinfection of all vehicles, equipment, clothing etc., which could possibly have been contaminated.

4. DUTIES OF THE QUARANTINE VETERINARIAN

This veterinarian must be knowledgeable about poultry and registered with the South African Veterinary Council. The quarantine veterinarian must assist the *official veterinarian* to ensure that Annexure C is complied with. The veterinarian must ensure that he/she adheres to the signed agreement (Annexure D) signed with the *veterinary administration*. If he/she does not have the necessary co-operation to perform his/her functions, it must be reported to the *official veterinarian* and/or *veterinary administration*. Furthermore if he/she decides to withdraw his/her services, notification must be forwarded to both the *official veterinarian* at the facility and the *veterinary administration*.

5. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD OF A LABORATORY⁷

The head of a *laboratory* is responsible for creating and/or maintaining a system, which achieves internationally acceptable standards in diagnostics and result reporting. This means he/she has to:

1. Ensure the *laboratory* has a current certificate of approval from the *veterinary administration*, which is issued based on a recommendation from the reference *laboratory* and that all diagnoses are made according to international standards, especially those stipulated in the OIE Manual of Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines.
2. Perform periodical comparative tests of diagnostic procedures with other approved *laboratories* and the Reference *Laboratory*. Problems detected by these comparative tests must be reported to the *veterinary administration* for further action.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE HEAD OF A REFERENCE LABORATORY

1. Maintenance of the necessary skills and resources to perform typing of viruses and confirm diagnoses made by other *veterinary administration* approved *laboratories*.
2. Coordination of standards and diagnostic methods used in all *veterinary administration* approved *laboratories* by organising comparative tests periodically and controlling the quality of all diagnostic reagents used.
3. International liaison with colleagues especially those in the OIE Reference *Laboratories* to ensure:
 - the latest diagnostic methods are applied,
 - knowledge of new developments,
 - comparative testing is performed to prove standards are internationally acceptable.
4. Collection and collation of data both nationally and internationally as well as the creation and maintenance of a collection of virus strains and isolates.

7. UNDERTAKING OF POLICY SUPPORT BY THE VETERINARY ADMINISTRATION

The undersigned executive head of the *veterinary administration* undertakes to ensure that the below listed mechanisms are provided to support this policy:

1. A permit office, with staff trained to issue permits in accordance with this policy.
2. A service to audit for the application of this policy and the registration of poultry quarantine facilities and *laboratories*.

⁷ *Laboratory*

means a properly equipped institution staffed by technically competent personnel under the control of a specialist in veterinary diagnostic methods, who is responsible for the validity of the results. The *Veterinary Administration* approves and monitors such laboratories with regard to the diagnostic tests required for *international trade*.

3. Disciplinary action where audits show standards are below the accepted norm.
4. Amending this policy in accordance with international standards, when necessary, and to inform the provincial *veterinary authorities* of such amendments.

DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES

**APPLICATION TO IMPORT POULTRY
INTO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

A. IMPORTANT NOTICE

- (a) Please complete this form fully, in block letters, prior to the return thereof.
- (b) Import permits are valid for a limited period and one consignment only.
- (c) Application for a permit must be made at least 3 days, but not longer than eight weeks prior to importation.
- (d) Telegraphic or telephonic applications will not be accepted.
- (e) After completion, please submit to the *official veterinarian* responsible for the quarantine facility for signature of the official section.

B. PERSONAL DETAILS

1. Full name and address of applicant: _____

2. The number, species and type of poultry to be imported: _____

3. The country and part of the country of origin: _____
4. The port, airport or place from which the poultry will be loaded: _____

5. The port, airport or place in the Republic through which the poultry will be imported: _____

6. The purpose for which the poultry are to be imported: _____

7. Address where birds are to be quarantined on arrival: _____

8. The date of embarkation of the poultry for the Republic: _____

_____ Date _____ Signature

(For office use only)
 It is hereby confirmed that accommodation has been reserved at _____

 quarantine facility for _____ birds may arrive between _____ and _____
 (number and species)
 Tel: _____, Fax: _____, cell: _____
 Responsible State Veterinary Office: _____

_____ Date _____ Signature

CONFIDENTIAL

APPLICATION FOR THE IMPORTATION OF POULTRY/EGGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ANIMAL IMPROVEMENT ACT, (ACT NO. 62 OF 1998) AND THE REGULATIONS PROMULGATED THEREUNDER

A. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Complete in print using capital letters only.
2. Complete in full in duplicate. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant and no responsibility for any inconvenience will be accepted.
3. A letter of recommendation from the Southern African Poultry Association must accompany the form unless they have completed Section D of this form.
4. Ensure that the following documentation is attached to the application, namely–
 - (a) the certificate, issued by the foreign supplier of the poultry or eggs, on which the generation status of such poultry or eggs is confirmed; and
 - (b) a comprehensive motivation of the reasons why the importation of new pure breeding lines or breeds is necessary 9if applicable).
5. The application must be a juristic person, e.g. John Peter Citizen, or John Peter Citizen T/A Diepsloot Poultry, or Diepsloot Poultry CC or Diepsloot Poultry (Pty) Ltd, or Diepsloot Poultry Ltd.
6. If the applicant does not sign the application personally, a letter authorizing the signatory (agent) to sign the application on behalf of the applicant must accompany the application.
7. The correct application fee must accompany each application.
8. Make cheques and postal orders payable to; Director-General: Agriculture.

B. PARTICULARS

1. Surname and initials of the applicant/or the name of the company: _____

2. If the applicant is an immigrant, supply details: _____

3. Registered name of farm: _____

4. Magisterial district: _____

5. Complete postal address: _____

6. Postal code: _____
7. Telephone (code and number): _____
8. Poultry for which application is made (give numbers): _____

	Male	Female
Layer lines (grandparent- and great-grandparent stock)	_____	_____
Layer lines (parent stock for evaluation purposes)	_____	_____
Broiler lines (grandparent- and great-grandparent stock)	_____	_____
Broiler lines (parent stock for evaluation purposes)	_____	_____
Show purposes (fowls)	_____	_____
Ducks, geese, turkeys, muscovies (show and commercial purposes)	_____	_____

9. Purpose of importation (give complete motivation): _____

10. Expected date of importation: _____
11. Approved quarantine station: _____

12. Country of origin: _____
13. Port from where to be sent: _____
14. Port of entry: _____

C. DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the poultry or eggs to be imported –

- (a) to the best of my knowledge comply with the prescribed minimum import requirements and should this not be the case the transaction will be considered as cancelled; and
- (b) all veterinary and currency exchange requirements will be strictly adhered to; and
- (c) in the case of poultry for show purposes, it will not be used for the commercial production of meat or eggs; and
- (d) to the best of my knowledge the particulars given in this application are true and correct.

 Signature

 Date

 Initials and Surname

 Capacity

D. DECLARATION BY SOUTHERN AFRICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION

It is hereby declared that –

- (a) the poultry or eggs mentioned in this application do/do not comply with the prescribed minimum import requirements; and
- (b) all charges made in the application form have been initialized by me.

Consequently the intended importation is RECOMMENDED / NOT RECOMMENDED

Signature

Date

Initials and Surname

Capacity

REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR THE APPROVAL OF POULTRY QUARANTINE STATIONS

These are the minimum standards with which a poultry quarantine station must comply in order to be utilized for the quarantine of imported poultry.

1. Applying for approval

The below listed documents must please accompany all applications for registration as an officially approved poultry quarantine facility. Only once all of these documents have been submitted to, and scrutinized by the central office of the Import/Export Subdirectorates of the South African *Veterinary Administration*, can a certificate of registration be issued, if the facility is found to be satisfactory. These certificates of registration are annually renewable and only valid certificates will be considered when permits are to be issued.

1.1 Application form – Annexure F

This form gives information about the applicant and the facility. It is also an undertaking by management to abide by this policy. This form must accompany new applications, as well as renewals.

1.2 Plans

These must consist of a site plan, showing at least neighbouring activities, and a detailed plan showing the structure of the facility. Plans must be submitted with each new application, and with renewals, only when changes occur, or when requested by the registering officer.

1.3 Inspection report – Annexure G

This report is completed by an *official veterinarian*. This inspector must endorse the plans to verify the existence of structures. This report enables the registering officer to assess the structure and management of the facility, as well as the interpretation of the policy by the inspector. This report must accompany new applications and renewals.

1.4 Agreement with private practitioner – Annexure D

The signature of this document ensures that the private practitioner knows exactly what is expected of him/her. All veterinarians in a particular practice should complete the agreement and a new agreement will need to

be submitted each time the consulting veterinarian/practice changes. The agreement must be submitted with each new application, and with renewals, only when changes occur, or when requested by the registering officer.

1.5 Inspection service agreement – Annexure H

This agreement is signed by a representative of the provincial *Veterinary Authority* where *official veterinary control* will be applied by them. Where *official veterinary control* is to be exercised by the *Veterinary Administration*, the responsible official is to complete the agreement. This document is to accompany each new application and renewal, as it is a continuous assessment of capacity to provide a service. Should this capacity be reduced to unacceptable levels, quarantine control by the South African *Veterinary Services*⁸ would be jeopardized, therefore the registering officer can only approve a facility where the necessary support services are in place.

1.6 Local authority permission

This ensures that unnecessary conflict with the regulations enforced by local authorities is avoided. This can take the form of a letter, or simply the endorsement of the plans. This permission is normally obtained when a new facility is erected, but major structural changes may also need re-approval. Proof that permission has been obtained from the local authority must be submitted with all new applications, and with renewals, only when changes occur, or when requested by the registering officer.

2. **Minimum Structural Requirements**

- 1) The site must be a suitably isolated geographical location, which facilitates hygiene and disease control. The quarantine facility must be a separate, self-contained operation, situated at least 1km from any other poultry or bird enterprise.
- 2) The facility must be surrounded by a 2m high, ground bird proof and human deterrent security fence or wall and a gateway to control access to the site. A sign indicating “QUARANTINE AREA: NO ENTRY” must be posted at the entrance. The purpose of this perimeter barrier is to prevent most possible pathogen carriers from entering the protective animal free zone around the inner poultry house and quarantine yard complex. It is essential therefore that this barrier is a sturdy construction with one vehicle and one personnel entrance only.

⁸ *Veterinary Services*

the *Veterinary Services* comprise the *Veterinary Administration* and all the *Veterinary Authorities*

- 3) Where the perimeter barrier is a solid wall and door combination, which can be considered sufficiently impervious to prevent contact transfer of pathogens a second inner security fence is not necessary. Where the perimeter barrier is a fence a second inner security fence must be constructed, at least 10 m from the private fence. The outer entrance less walls of the building can form part of this inner security barrier.
- 4) The inner complex and animal free zone must be constructed and maintained to present a vermin and flying insect hostile environment: This means:
 - the area must be kept debris free
 - devegetation of the area except for trees and artificially landscaped lawns and flower beds.
 - Elimination of dead spaces, especially open ceiling/underfloor crawl spaces.
 - Covering of drains.
 - Landscaping and construction of drainage to prevent unnecessary pooling of water.
- 5) Buildings housing birds should be vermin protected and direct contact with wild birds must not be possible. Provision must also be made to prevent escape of birds under quarantine, even if they escape their holding area. Domestic and other animals must not have access to the buildings.
- 6) Buildings should be constructed so that all surfaces inside, are of an impervious, smooth material to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.
- 7) Provision must be made within the inner complex for:
 - labourer accommodation
 - office space which can be reached without entering the fowl house
 - shower and change room facilities
 - a post mortem area with refrigeration facilities
 - feed store or tanks which can be filled from the outside without allowing outside personnel/vehicles to cross the perimeter barrier, yet accessible to quarantine personnel in the inner complex.
 - An incinerator or fly-proof digestion pit must be provided for the destruction of dead poultry and other potential fomites.

- Storage space for all equipment and waste products, so that no pathogen contained in such matter can contact susceptible host, until quarantine is lifted.
- Effluent storage or treatment facilities like a municipal sewerage system collection pit or septic tank.

3. Management Requirements

1. Good co-operation and communication with the nominated private veterinarian and state officials. This includes immediate notification of any illness, death or other problem.
2. Quarantine establishments should be single purpose and the all in, all out principle strictly adhered to. Where the quarantine unit described above cannot be physically separated from other birds resident on the premises by more than 1km, all other birds on the premises will be regarded as potential fomites, therefore no bird or bird product may leave the premises until quarantine is lifted. Where this applies an inventory of other birds on the premises must be supplied to the supervising state official, at the start of quarantine, for control purposes. The perimeter of the entire premises must obviously be secure, with limited access, in this case. Also any deaths occurring in this resident flock must be investigated and reported.
3. Appropriate biosecurity measures like protective clothing, showering and secure limited access must be applied to all visitors and staff. Any person leaving the facility should be warned against contacting other poultry for at least 48 hours.
4. Management must ensure the water supply is of a satisfactory potable status and documentation to this effect should be provided.
5. Provision must be made for isolation of sick birds and dead birds must be temporarily stored in a refrigerator until the private veterinarian and state official can institute safe proceedings for the necessary diagnostic work and effective disposal.
6. Full records relating to inspection visits, arrival dates, test dates, mortality, disease diagnosis, treatment etc. should be maintained and readily available for inspection.
7. The facility must be re-approved on an annual basis and the onus of re-approval rests with the owner. The facility must be re-inspected after the necessary cleaning and disinfection has been completed on the lifting of quarantine before a new import permit

will be granted. Only disinfectants with the necessary virucidal, bacteriocidal and fungicidal effects, may be used.

In conclusion it must be stated that the approval of the facility can be withdrawn at any time, if any shortcomings are detected. Quarantine can only be lifted in writing by a state official. The duration of quarantine will be a minimum of 8 weeks and the tests listed in Annexure D must be completed by this time.

**AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT THE DUTIES OF QUARANTINE VETERINARIAN
AT A POULTRY QUARANTINE FACILITY**

The undersigned veterinarian hereby undertakes the functions listed below at: _

(name and address of the facility)

1. Weekly inspections of the quarantine facility must be undertaken to ensure all quarantine measures are strictly applied. These inspections and any comments will be recorded in the register.
 2. All gallinaceous birds must be subjected to the following tests after the 6th week of quarantine at a sampling rate of 10% up to a maximum of 100 per house, with negative results:
 - 2.1 Avian Influenza
 - 2.2 Bacillary white diarrhoea (BWD)
 - 2.3 *Salmonella enteritidis*
 - 2.4 *Mycoplasma galliseptium*
 - 2.5 *Mycoplasma synoviae*
 - 2.6 Any other tests which the Director of Veterinary Services may deem necessary.
 3. All water fowl will be subjected to the following tests after the 6th week of quarantine at a sampling rate of 10% up to a maximum of 100 per house, with negative results:
 - 3.1 Avian Influenza
 - 3.2 Bacillary White Diarrhoea (BWD)
 - 3.3 *Salmonella enteritidis*
 - 3.4 Duck Viral Hepatitis*
 - 3.5 Duck Viral Enteritis*
 - 3.6 Goose Parvovirus*
 - 3.7 Any other tests which the Director of Veterinary Services may deem necessary.
- *Not currently done, to be instituted as soon as tests become available.
4. Blood samples will be collected, sealed and sent to the approved laboratory under official supervision. Results must be reported to the State Veterinarian in charge of the facility.

5. All birds must be subjected to *Salmonella* Enteritidis monitoring. This monitoring will consist of pooled faecal samples from each pen, taken every two weeks throughout the duration of quarantine. The samples must be processed according to the standard approved culture methods for *Salmonella* Enteritidis.
- 5.1 The following protocol for testing for *Salmonella* spp has been decided upon:
 - a) Bacteriological sampling for *Salmonella* spp to be done on:
 - all dead on arrivals (pools of 10)
 - all mortalities between day 0 – 3 (pools of 10)
 - mortalities from day 4 – 7 (pools of 10)
 - b) Caecal faecal samples to be collected per house (100 samples per house pooled in 2 samples of 50 each) for *Salmonella* spp cultures during weeks 2, 4 and 6.
 - c) Serology for *Salmonella* spp after 6 weeks.
 - *Salmonella* Pullorum/Gallinarum (BWD) plate agglutination test
 - A SE plate agglutination test, using an approved SE plate agglutination antigen
 - All birds, which are positive on the SE plate agglutination test, are to be tested by means of an approved ELISA test.
 - d) All chickens, which are positive on the ELISA test, are to be identified and treated with 5mg cortisone. A post mortem must be done on day 3-4 after cortisone administration and all internal organs are to be cultured for SE. Caecal faecal droppings are to be collected during this 3-4 day period and cultured for SE as well.
 - e) Chickens that are serologically negative on the SE plate agglutination test will be regarded as negative. Chickens that are positive on the ELISA test, but bacteriologically negative for SE, will be regarded as being negative provided that all tests carried out during the previous 12 weeks were negative.
- 5.2 In the case of waterfowl, pooled faecal samples are to be collected weekly from each pen for the duration of the quarantine period and processed according to the standard approved culture methods for SE.
- 5.3 It is envisaged that the above measures will assist in facilitating decisions on the lifting of quarantine, when confusing results are obtained on the

final serological test at the end of quarantine. A decision can then be made, based on scientific information obtained over a period of time.

6. All illness and death must be investigated, recorded in the register and reported to the *Official Veterinarian* in charge of the facility.
7. No animal may be removed from the quarantine premises without written permission from the *Official Veterinarian* in charge of the facility.
8. There must be no contact with birds outside the premises for 48 hours after contact with birds in quarantine.

I, the undersigned veterinarian hereby accept duties and undertake to fulfill them to the best of my ability.

Signature at _____ on _____

VETERINARIAN

STAMP

Name in print: _____

Address: _____

ANNEXURE E

(Address of controlling authority)

Reference No.

TO _____

VETERINARY QUARANTINE CANCELLATION NOTICE

Dear _____

You are hereby notified that the Veterinary Quarantine Notice dated _____ declaring the _____ on the property _____ in the Magisterial District of _____ is cancelled from the date hereof.

This notice is issued in terms of the provisions of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984).

Yours faithfully

STATE VETERINARIAN

Official Stamp

ANNEXURE F

**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION/RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION
OF VETERINARY APPROVED POULTRY QUARANTINE FACILITIES**

1. Full name of facility: _____
2. Physical address of facility: _____

3. Postal address: _____

4. Name and address of contact person: _____

5. Tel: _____ Fax: _____
6. Provincial State Veterinarian _____
(name and area)
7. Previous approval no. _____
(if applicable)
8. Previous date of registration _____
9. Please supply a site plan giving details of your immediate neighbours and a detailed plan of your facility. The site plan must be endorsed by an official of *Veterinary Services*.

I, _____, of the above mentioned facility hereby agree to abide by all the conditions set by the *Veterinary Administration* for the approval of this facility. Furthermore I have read and understand my obligations as stipulated in the poultry import policy.

Signature _____ Date _____
Capacity _____

INSPECTION REPORT FOR A PRIVATE POULTRY QUARANTINE STATION

1. The site and location must be approved by the National Department Agriculture Directorate Animal Health. A plan, indicating surrounding structures, neighbouring activities and a detailed plan of the facility must accompany the application for approval, as well as this form completed by either the Provincial State Veterinarian or an inspector from the National Department of Agriculture.

Yes

No

2. The site must be a suitably isolated geographical location, which facilitates hygiene and disease control. The quarantine facility must be a separate, self-contained operation, situated at least 1km from any other poultry or bird enterprise.

Comments:

3. The facility must be surrounded by a 2m high, ground bird proof and human deterrent security fence or wall and a gateway to control access to the site. A sign indicating “QUARANTINE AREA: NO ENTRY” must be posted at the entrance. The purpose of this perimeter barrier is to prevent most possible pathogen carriers from entering the protective animal free zone around the inner poultry house and quarantine yard complex. It is essential therefore that this barrier is a sturdy construction with one vehicle and one personnel entrance only.

Comments:

4. Where the perimeter barrier is a solid wall and door combination, which can be considered sufficiently impervious to prevent contact transfer of pathogens a second inner security fence is not necessary. Where the perimeter barrier is a fence a second inner security fence must be constructed, at least 10 m from the private fence. The outer entrance-less walls of the building can form part of this inner security barrier

Comments:

5. The inner complex and animal free zone must be constructed and maintained to present a vermin and flying insect hostile environment.

Comments:

6. Quarantine establishments should be single purpose and the all in, all out principle strictly adhered to.

Comments:

7. Buildings or cages housing birds should be vermin protected and direct contact with wild birds must not be possible. Provision must also be made to prevent escape of birds under quarantine, even if they escape their holding area. Domestic animals must not have access to the buildings.

Comments:

8. Buildings or cages should be constructed so that all surfaces inside, are of an impervious, smooth material to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.

Comments:

9. Provision must be made within the inner complex for:

- 9.1. labourer accommodation

Comments:

9.2. office space which can be reached without entering the fowl house

Comments:

9.3. shower and change room facilities

Comments:

9.4. a post mortem area with refrigeration facilities

Comments:

9.5. feed store or tanks which can be filled from the outside without allowing outside personnel/vehicles to cross the perimeter barrier, yet accessible to quarantine personnel in the inner complex.

Comments:

- 9.6. An incinerator or fly-proof digestion pit must be provided for the destruction of dead poultry and other potential fomites.

Comments:

- 9.7. Storage space for all equipment and waste products, so that no pathogen contained in such matter can contact susceptible host, until quarantine is lifted.

Comments:

- 9.8. Effluent storage or treatment facilities such as a municipal sewerage system collection pit or septic tank.

Comments:

10. Appropriate biosecurity measures such as protective clothing, showering and secure limited access must be applied to all visitors and staff. Any person leaving the facility should be warned against contact with other poultry for at least 48 hours.

Comments:

11. The water supply must be of a satisfactory potable status.

Yes No

12. Provision must be made for isolation of sick birds and dead birds must be temporarily stored in a refrigerator until the private veterinarian and state officials can institute safe proceedings for the necessary diagnostic work and effective disposal.

Yes No

13. Full records relating to inspection visits, identification, arrival dates, mortality, disease diagnosis, treatments etc. should be maintained and be readily available for inspection.

Yes No

14. The facility must be re-approved on an annual basis and the onus of re-approval rests with the owner. The facility must be re-inspected after the necessary cleaning and disinfection have been completed on the lifting of quarantine before a new import permit will be granted. Only disinfectants with the necessary virucidal, bacteriocidal and fungicidal effects registered with Act 36 of 1947 may be used.

General Comments: _____

I, _____

(Name)

of _____

(Department)

certify that I have today inspected the facility _____

(Name of facility)

at _____

(Physical Address)

and found the above detailed conditions.

Official Signature

Designation: _____

Official stamp

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____

ANNEXURE H

I, _____
(Name)

of _____
(Department)

Hereby certify that the necessary veterinary control will be provided at

_____ *(Name of facility)*

at _____
(Physical Address)

Official Signature

Designation: _____

Official stamp

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel No: _____