

UPDATE ON NEW AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

04 FEBRUARY 2020



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Presentation Outline

1. ABBREVIATIONS
2. EXPORT MEASURES
3. EXPORT PROTOCOLS
4. MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR ANIMAL AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS
5. CHALLENGES WITH MARKET ACCESS



Abbreviations

DALRRD:	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
FMD:	Foot and Mouth Disease
KZN:	KwaZulu-Natal
NPPO:	National Plant Protection Organization
SOP:	Standard Operating Procedure
UAE:	United Arab Emirates
USA:	United States of America



EXPORT MEASURES

Import authorisation by trading partners are administered according to the legislative provisions of their respective countries, therefore export measures are based on import requirements.

Commonly applied import authorisations:

- Permit systems;
- Directives;
- Protocols;
- Regulations; and
- Or combinations of the above.



EXPORT PROTOCOLS

- ❑ An export protocol is located at the end stage of a continuum of activities aimed at securing market access. An export protocol can only be concluded once the trade negotiations are finalised.
- ❑ At any given stage there are trade negotiations with trading partners and these are invariably at different stages of advancement within the market access continuum.
- ❑ Some market access requests for some commodities are at questionnaire (initial) stage, others are at health certification (final) stage. However, there are requests where negotiations have stalled.
- ❑ Trade negotiations on sanitary and phytosanitary matters do not unfold in a straight-line trajectory as there is consistent exchange of notes on scientific and technical facets. Moreover, any projected or assumed pathway or timeframe may be impeded, interrupted or curtailed by a range of factors. The table provided responds to questions 1 (a) (b) (c).
- ❑ The dates given in this response are dependent on the complexity of the matter, and therefore the time it takes for the importing country to complete its risk analysis processes. For example the request to export beef to the USA had been going through a “Rule Making Process” of the USA for almost 10 years and was not even concluded when South Africa reported its 2011 Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak in KZN; following this South Africa was told to start the process from beginning.
- ❑ With negotiations, the department sends a reminder shortly after the initial communication, if there is no response from the trade partner. If after one (or two) reminders there is still no response, the file is closed unless there is an indication of interest from the local industry.



MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR ANIMAL AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

In the 2019/20 financial year, the following new markets have been opened:-

- Poultry meat to the UAE
- Sheep to Kuwait
- Beef to Oman
- Live cattle, sheep and goats to Qatar
- Caprine genetic material to Brazil

A number of markets were re-opened following the January 2019 FMD outbreak. The biggest by volume and revenue being:

- Beef, pork, lamb, dairy to neighboring and African countries
- Beef to China, UAE, Jordan
- Wool to China



MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR ANIMAL AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

The following are in the final stages of negotiations:

- Saudi Arabia – beef
- Malaysia – beef, wool
- China – Fish meal
- Brazil – Genetic material



MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR PLANT AND PLANT PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

Since 2018 to date, the following new markets have been opened:

- Bulk reefer shipments of citrus fruit to China (signed in 2018, amendment of an existing 2006 export protocol);
- Lucerne export to China (signed in 2018);
- Apples to Taiwan (in 2018 after temporary closure in 2017);
- Citrus to US (SOP for inspection and pre-cooling signed in 2018);
- Blueberry propagation material to Peru (2019);
- Revised phytosanitary import requirements for Table Grapes to Vietnam (2019).



MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR PLANT AND PLANT PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

The following Export Protocols are in the final stages of negotiations (possible conclusion in 2020):

- Protocol for Exports of Pears to China (requires signing between the two Countries).
- Protocol for Exports of Avocados to Japan (technical negotiations concluded, awaiting approval by the Japanese Authorities).
- Revision of the Citrus Protocol to include lemons (change of temperature protocol).
- Protocol for Export of Citrus to Philippines (technical negotiations concluded, awaiting approval by the Philippine Authorities).



MARKET ACCESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR PLANT AND PLANT PRODUCTS EXPORT PROTOCOLS

The following Export Protocols requires more detailed research: and negotiations:

- Table grapes to Mexico (pest surveillance).
- Table Grapes to Philippines (negotiations on the Pest Risk Analyses).
- Avocado to Taiwan (information on pest occurring in South Africa, submitted).
- Apples to Thailand (Pest list of apples communicated at end of 2019).
- Table grapes to South Korea (Research/ surveillance on quarantine pests).



CHALLENGES WITH MARKET ACCESS

Sanitary & Phytosanitary measures:

The animal and plant health status of the country, and the ability to detect, control and eradicate outbreaks.

Resources:

Countries evaluate the competency based on the available resources.

Structure of Veterinary Services:

Distinct break in the chain of command (Provincialization), worsened in some provinces by a further 'matrix system'.



CHALLENGES WITH MARKET ACCESS

❑ Reciprocal market access requests:

Expanding SA's export markets equally incur reciprocal requests from other countries to export their products of interest to South Africa. Such requests might not necessarily be limited to the agricultural sector but might be influenced by trade negotiation requests and developments in unrelated sectors.

❑ The use of SPS measures as technical barriers to trade:

SPS measures have to be scientifically justified. However there is an observation that these measures are unjustifiably used as technical barriers to trade in global trade .

❑ **The nature of negotiations** - Market access requests are mostly dealt with one commodity at a time.



THANK YOU



**agriculture,
forestry & fisheries**

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA