



# agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:  
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Directorate Food Safety and Quality Assurance, Private Bag X343, PRETORIA, 0001**

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**TO: All Processors, Packers, Importers and Retailers of dried fruits.  
Directorate: Inspection Services**

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**FROM: The Executive Officer**

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Subject

## **DISPENSATION: REGISTRATION AND LABELLING OF FBO CODES – DRIED FRUITS.**

### **1. Background**

Regulation 8(5) of the dried fruit Regulation No.R.653 of 29 August 2014 currently stipulate that the Food Business Operator Code (FBOC) shall be registered with the Executive Officer and be indicated on each container at the end of the batch code.

After much deliberation the Department has come to the conclusion that the FBOC is not a necessity for local market and the date marking e.g. batch code will be sufficient for traceability purposes. The Department has therefore decided to issue the following dispensation which shall apply to dried fruits:

### **2. Dispensation**

Permission is hereby granted by the Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards in terms of section 3(1)(c) of the Agricultural Product Standards Act, 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990), to all processors, packers, importers and retailers of Dried fruits to ignore –

- (a) the definition of “Food Business Operators (FBO) code” in Regulation 1; and
- (b) the FBOC labelling requirements in Regulation 8 (5) of R.653 of 29 August 2014:  
Provided that –
  - (i) each container of dried fruit shall be identifiable and traceable to such an extent that the factory where the final product was processed and packed can be identified as well as details regarding the specific production lot (batch); and
  - (ii) such identification shall be the same for all containers of dried fruit originating from the same production lot (batch).

### **3. This permission is subject to the following conditions:**

- (a) All other conditions of the relevant regulations shall be complied with.
- (b) It may be withdrawn at any time should a valid complaint be received.

- (c) All processors, packers, importers, and retailers of dried fruits indemnify this Directorate and this Department from any detrimental effect, financially or otherwise, which may emanate as a result of this permission.
- (d) Termination date: When the amendment to the relevant local regulations are published in the Government Gazette.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of vertical, wavy lines on the left side that transition into a more fluid, cursive-like script on the right side.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER:**  
**AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT 119 OF 1990)**