



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GENERAL INFORMATION TO PERSONS INTENDING TO IMPORT PLANT MATERIAL

LEGISLATION WHICH REQUIRES PERMITS/AUTHORISATIONS

PLANT IMPROVEMENT ACT, 1976 (ACT NO. 53 OF 1976)

Please note that if a kind of plant (e.g. (sunflower, maize, etc.) has been declared in terms of the plant Improvement Act, 1976(Act No. 53 of 1976) and a varietal list is in existence for such a kind of plant, the name of variety that is to be imported must appear on the varietal list.

If the variety name does not appear on the varietal list, authorization must be obtained to import the unlisted variety of such a kind of plant.

The importer must send a copy of the authorisation to the foreign supplier to ensure compliance regarding varieties and amount of seed indicated in the authorisation.

In order to obtain such authorization, or in case of any uncertainty, please contact the office of the Registrar of Plant Improvement for assistance at the following contact details:

Directorate: Plant Production

Ms. Joan Sadie
E-mail:
Mr Phaladi Lediga
E-mail:

Tel: 012 319 6034
JoanS@daff.gov.za
Tel: 012 319 6169
PhaladiL@daff.gov.za
Fax: 012 319 6353

GENERALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS ACT, 1997 (ACT NO. 15 OF 1997)

Subject to the provisions of sub regulation 2 of the Genetically Modified Organisms Act, 1997 (Act No. 15 of 1997), all activities with genetically modified organisms (GMO'S) are subject to a permit.

Application forms for the permit, export, development, production, use, release or distribution of any GMO's can be obtained from the registrar for GMO'S at the numbers below.

In order to import, please take note that a permit for importation can only be issued once approval for the development, production, use, release, or distribution of the GMO has been granted. All activities must be approved by the executive council before the registrar can issue a permit.

Please accept the above as a guideline, but take note that all stipulations of the relevant Acts in SA should be complied with and that a permit issued in terms of the GMO Act does not exempt the permit holder from any other Act, ordinance or agreement. For assistance please contact:

Directorate: Genetic Resources
GMO Permit office:

Ms N. Netnou-Nkoana
Ms N.L. Mkhonza
Email:
Ms R Ngoepe

Email:

Tel: (012) 319-6024
Tel: (012) 319-6382
NompumeleloM@daff.gov.za
Tel: (012) 319-6165
Fax: (012) 319-6385
RefilweN@daff.gov.za

AGRICULTURAL PESTS ACT, 1983 (ACT NO. 36 OF 1983)

Subject to the provisions of section 3 of the agricultural pests Act, the importation of plants, plant products and other controlled goods is subject to a permit.

A copy of the permit and conditions should be communicated to the foreign supplier, by the importer/permit Holder /agent.

The national plant protection (NPPO) of the exporting country must issue a phytosanitary certificate, complying with the conditions of the South African permit. Each consignment must be accompanied by an original phytosanitary certificate.

Should the NPPO of the exporting country not be able to comply with the conditions of the permit, export cannot proceed. For assistance in this regard, the importer/permit holder should contact this Directorate.

Controlled goods can only be imported through a prescribe port of entry, except where determined otherwise by the Executive Officer.

On arrival, each consignment with relevant documentation must be presented (by the importer/permit holder/agent) to the Executive Officer for inspection at the port of entry. Goods may not be removed from the port of entry without the written authorization of the Executive Officer.

Please note:

- i. where any other place than the port of entry has been determined or when goods are imported via a courier service, the importer/permit holder/agent must on arrival, present the goods to the Executive Officer;
- ii. if brought in per passenger, the material must first be declared at the customs control point before presenting it to the Executive Officer. The red line to be taken at the customs control point.

Please take note of the expiry date of the permit. A permit expires on the date indicated on the permit. Should you wish to proceed with a similar import, please apply at least 30 days prior to the expiry date of the permit, for a new permit.

Please accept the above as guideline, but take note that all stipulations of the Agricultural Pests Act should be complied with. Authorization in terms of this Act does not exempt the holder from the provisions of any other Act, ordinance or agreement.

Other Acts that may be relevant: Plant improvement Act & GMO Act.
For assistance please contact:

Permit Office:

Mr. Solomon Matsa	Tel: (012) 319 6102
Ms. Shashika Maharaj	Tel: (012) 319 6383
Mr. Benie Kgomo	Tel: (012) 319 6130
Ms. Priscilla Baloyi	Tel: (012) 319 6396
Mr. Emmanuel Liabara	Tel (012) 319 6207

Email: PlantHealthPermits@daff.gov.za