THIRD BIODIVERSITY ECONOMY INDABA

LEGISLATION AFFECTING GAME MEAT PROCTION AND TRADE

EAST LONDON CONVENTION CENTRE

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Purpose

To provide the background on role and responsibilities “from farm to fork” on food safety with specific focus on:

- The legislative matrix;
- Animal Diseases Act;
- Meat Safety Act;
Departments/ Institutions responsible for the regulation of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) matters in South Africa

- Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF)
- Department of Health (DoH)
- Department of Trade and Industry
South African Food Control System

**Provinces**
- **DAFF**
  - Export of agricultural products
  - Registration of pesticides & stock remedies
  - Meat Hygiene, Import & Export of fresh meat and animal products etc
  - SPS Enquiry Point

**Provinces & Municipalities**
- **Department of Health-DoH**
  - Import, Manufacture, Sale & Export ("Processed Products")
  - "Domestic Food Safety Regulations"
  - Registration of medicines
  - Nutritional Labelling
  - CODEX Contact Point
  - INFOSAN Emergency Contact Point
  - RASFF Contact Point

**Agency for Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) - NRCS**
- Canned and frozen fish/products
- Fresh seafood
- Canned meat products
- Imports & Certification of exports
- TBT Enquiry Point (SABS)
DAFF LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

Provide for control of animal diseases and parasites, for measures to control animal health and for matters connected therewith (permit required for import of meat/meat products)

Provide for measures to promote meat safety and the safety of animal products; to establish and maintain essential national standards in respect of abattoirs; to regulate the importation and exportation of meat; to establish meat safety schemes; (abattoirs and import/export of fresh/chilled/frozen meat)

Agricultural Product Standards Act (APS), 1990 (Act No. 119 of 1990)
Provide for control over the sale and export of certain agricultural products, control over the sale of certain imported products. (quality/TBT & food safety standards for local/exports of food of plant origin)

Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No 36 of 1947)
Regulate the importation, sale, acquisition, disposal or use of fertilizers, farm feeds, agricultural remedies and stock remedies; to provide for the designation of technical advisers and analysts; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.
ANIMAL DISEASE ACT

- Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984) - DAFF
  - Regulates on-farm disease control and health of the animals

Directorate: Animal Health

- Sets norms and standards for Animal Health
- Negotiates import/ export certificates
- Set import requirements
- Provide animal disease surveillance and reporting with collaboration from other Livestock industry stakeholders
RSA Zones

- Foot and Mouth Disease: FMD
- Corridor Disease: CD
- African Horse Sickness: AHS
- African Swine Fever: ASF
FMD
FMD
African Horse Sickness Control Zones

Legend
- AHS Free Zone
- AHS Surveillance Zone
- AHS Protection Zone
- AHS Infected Zone

An AHS Controlled Area in the South African legislation was accepted in 1997 to allow for the export of horses from a legally prescribed and protected AHS Free Zone. The AHS Controlled Area was amended to the current areas in September 2001. Movements of equines to the AHS controlled area are subjected to strict movement control and require certification and permits.

Map produced by
Sub-Directorate Epidemiology
Directorate Animal Health
Date: 26/03/2015
AHS

Physical boundary

Vaccination

Surveillance

Anima ID and Movement control
AHS

Role played by vector and/or reservoirs
African Swine Fever control zone in South Africa
Role played by vector and/or reservoirs
Thank you
MEAT SAFETY ACT

  - Regulates the slaughter of animals at abattoirs to ensure that only healthy animals are slaughtered and are handled in hygienic manner -

Directorate: Veterinary Public Health

- Provides oversight on compliance of abattoirs with essential national standard in collaboration with Provinces
- Set norms and standards for the imports and export of animal products
- Regulate and promote meat safety and the safety of animal products
- Manages the national microbial & residue monitoring programme

- Schedule 1 of the Act
  - lists animals to which the Act applies.
  - 15 species listed for wild game under the schedule.
- The Act prohibits slaughter of animals at places other than abattoirs and exemptions. (Section 7)
- The Act requires that an owner of an abattoir must procure meat inspection service. (Section 11 (1) (b))
- The Act states who and how that meat inspection service must be performed. (Section 11 (1) (c))
- The Act prescribes qualifications of the people mentioned in Section 11 (c). (Section 11 (1) (d) )
Game Meat Regulations

- Game Meat Regulations have been in draft form because of Section 11 (1) (i) of the Act which states that "no dead animal or animal suffering from a condition that may render the meat unsafe for human and animal consumption may be presented at an abattoir for slaughter".

- **Game meat scheme** proposed and gazetted for public comments on 28th September 2012.
  - Scheme put on hold following a legal opinion which was in favour of promulgating Game Meat Regulation instead.

- **Game Meat Regulations** gazetted for public to comment (Government Gazette No 40402 of 4th November 2016).
  - Also notice for exemption from Section 11(1) (i) of the Act for slaughter of game animals.
Game Meat Regulations

- A Socio-Economic Impact Assessment study needs to be completed before the Regulations can be promulgated under section 22 of the Meat safety Act, 2000.

- Throughput: $RT = 6$ units/day  $LT = 20$ units/day  $HT = \text{max. by PEO}$

- "unit" means a quantity standard for determining throughput of a game meat slaughter facility where one unit is equal to:
  - one category B game animal (e.g. Kudu) or
  - six category C game animals (e.g. Springbuck) and
  - where category A animals (e.g. Giraffe) may be handled only according to a protocol approved by the PEO for a specific abattoir
Regulations

Work in progress:

- Crocodile regulations
- Rabbit regulations
Meat Inspection Scheme

- **Meat Inspection Scheme** approved for implementation on the 5th May 2017.
- Scheme compulsory and applies to all abattoirs and to all animals listed under schedule 1 of the Act.
- Meat inspection system approved for implementation is a combination of public and private meat inspection service model.
  - Meat inspection assignees = HT and frequently slaughtering LT abattoirs
  - Government meat inspection service = RT and infrequently slaughtering LT abattoirs
- An infrequently slaughtering abattoir slaughters less than 3 days in a week on a regular basis.
Meat Inspection Scheme

- In the case of game, ostriches and crocodiles, an infrequently slaughtering LT abattoir slaughters on an ad hoc basis and is not linked to regular harvesting activities or culling projects to supply products to the commercial market.

- Exemptions from the provisions of the Scheme:
  - Category 1: abattoir throughput
  - Category 2: Poultry Meat Examiner Level 1
  - Category 3: Game trained person

- NB: Large operations making use of harvesting depots must have an independent meat inspection service personnel at harvesting.

- Regulates marketing of certain agricultural products

The objective of the APS Act – ensure that quality standards are applied in order to provide for:
- Consumer confidence; and
- Fair trade practices.

Criteria used are:
- Classification/grading based on a number of measurable factors, e.g. identification of a carcass, age of a carcass, fatness, etc.
- Labelling/ marking to provide the consumer with accurate and relevant information on a product.
Regulate or prohibit the importation, sale, acquisition, disposal or use of fertilizers, farm feeds, agricultural remedies and stock remedies; to provide for the designation of technical advisers and analysts; and to provide for matters incidental thereto.
International Trade

**International Standard-Setting Organizations** (the ‘3 sisters’)

- **food safety**  
  CODEX

- **animal health/zoonoses**  
  OIE

- **plant health**  
  IPPC

**Article 3: Harmonisation** - Members shall base their SPS measures on international standards, guidelines and recommendations, where they exist
Thank you