



Import requirements for fresh meat

Administration and control

The Directorate Veterinary Public Health administers the Abattoir Hygiene Act, 1992 (Act No. 121 of 1992).

The Directorate Animal Health is responsible for the administration of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984). This Directorate controls the importation of animals and animal products. The Director: Animal Health must approve the importation of meat from a specific country in terms of acceptable risk to animal health before the Directorate Veterinary Public Health will consider the approval of establishments in that country.

Contact person: Dr Peter Jay

Tel: (012) 319 7415

Fax: (012) 329 8292

Frozen and chilled meat may only be imported from establishments (abattoirs and cutting plants) approved by the Director: Veterinary Public Health in South Africa.

Contact person: Dr L. Schoeman

Tel: (012) 319 7522

Fax: (012) 329 6892

Veterinary authorities in countries approved by the Director: Veterinary Public Health and the Director: Animal Health inspect approved establishments routinely and notify the Directorate of Veterinary Public Health as soon as the plant no longer complies with South African requirements.

Approval of establishments

New establishments in countries approved by the Director of Veterinary Public Health are listed by the Directorate upon receiving a letter confirming the establishments' compliance with our requirements from the Supreme Veterinary Authority in the country of origin.

A list of approved establishments can be obtained from:

Mrs Viviers: Tel: (012) 319 7700

Establishments in countries not exporting to South Africa must be inspected by an officer of the Directorate before the establishments will be considered for approval.



Import permit and health certificate

An importer must be in possession of a South African veterinary import permit before the product is exported from the country of origin. Veterinary import permits are issued by the Directorate Animal Health and are only issued to companies residing in South Africa.

Application forms are obtainable from the Permit Office at:

Tel: (012) 319 7514/7414.

Veterinary health certification, complying to conditions of the South African veterinary import permit, must be obtained from the veterinary authorities in the country of origin before the product is shipped.

The original veterinary import permit and veterinary health certificate must be presented to the relevant authorities at the port of entry:

Durban:	(031) 374 4346/7
Cape Town:	(021) 551 2050
City Deep Abattoir:	(011) 613 1636 (only from neighbouring countries)
Port Elizabeth:	(041) 52 4130 (special permission)

*Compiled by the National Department of Agriculture in cooperation with
the Agricultural Research Council*

*Printed and published in the Republic of South Africa by the National Department of Agriculture and obtainable from
the Resource Centre, Directorate Communication, Private Bag X144, Pretoria 0001*