

COVID-19

SACOTA is constantly briefing its members on any amendments to regulations applicable to the COVID-19 lockdown period. Members are requested to bring any difficulties experienced regarding trading and logistics in terms of the regulations to the attention of the Secretariat to clear out with the Economic Workstream of the Agri-Sector COVID-19 Response Task Team.



COVID-19: PORT HEALTH

SACOTA has requested Port Health to inform all facilities where wheat is imported of the arrangement that:

- Imported wheat can be off-loaded and transported to an inland silo;
- Samples will be drawn during off-loading at the port facility to test for certain health requirements; and
- The wheat must not be processed until the results of analysis are available.

The above arrangement has been agreed between SACOTA and Port Health in order to alleviate congestion in the ports when exports of maize take place simultaneously.

EXPORTS OF MAIZE TO VIETNAM

South Africa needs approval in the form of a permit or letter from the Competent National Authority in Vietnam, being the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), in order to export maize. SACOTA has sent a letter in this regard to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and are awaiting their feedback.

JSE: Proposed amendments to Requirements for Approved Storage Operators

The JSE is currently in the process of reviewing the current requirements for approved storage operators as set out in Appendix C and D to the Agricultural Derivatives Contract Specifications. (The JSE is currently reviewing the wheat contract specifications to accommodate the changes to the wheat grading regulations.)

Market participants are welcome to make recommendations to the JSE in this regard. The detailed Agricultural Derivatives Contract Specifications and proposed amendments are attached for your convenience.

SACOTA members are encouraged to study these documents and to submit any comments or recommendations to the SACOTA secretariat by not later than **30 April 2020** for submission to the JSE.



PPECB INSPECTION COSTS FOR EXPORTS

PPECB has adjusted its inspection fees for exports for the 2014/15 season to R8.50 per ton, an increase of 421% compared to the 2013/14 tariff of R1.63 per ton. This increase was implemented without proper consultation with industry.

SACOTA has requested the PPECB to re-evaluate the inspection fees for especially for deep-sea exports. SACOTA and the PPECB will formally meet after the COVID-19 lockdown has been lifted to discuss this matter in detail.

WHEAT FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE MATTERS

The following matters are currently being dealt with and in the process of being finalised by the Trade Group of the Wheat Forum Steering Committee:

- Continuation of Wheat Statutory Levy with conditions
- Alternative Import Tariff System
- Reporting of Intentions to Import and Export wheat
- Grains and Oilseeds S&D Estimates Committee
- Proposed Passport System
- Grain Dispute Protocol

SAGL Crop Quality Reports



The reports published by the South African Grain Laboratory on the seasonal crop qualities are based on the quality of grains and oilseeds as received from producers at storage facilities or directly at processing facilities. The reports do not however make provision for any deviations in crop quality that

may be experienced during receipt and out loading of grains and oilseeds at storage facilities.

SACOTA has requested the SAGL to investigate this and to make proposals on how this can be accommodated in the crop quality reports.

SAGIS information/data

SAGIS' information does not make distinction between the different grades of grains and oilseeds delivered to storage facilities and those grades out loaded to processing facilities.

SACOTA has requested SAGIS to investigate this and to make proposals on how this can be accommodated in the information published.

SACOTA GOLF DAY



The SACOTA Board of Directors has decided that, following positive feedback from members, a SACOTA Golf Day should be held on **14 October 2020** to also allow members to interact with each other. Details of the format and sponsorship opportunities will be communicated to members in due course.

ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE MEETINGS



SACOTA will continue to conduct meetings via the Zoom conference facility. In order to address any concerns regarding confidentiality, SACOTA will in future issue a password to participants to take part in a meeting.

SACOTA Annual General Meeting



Members are hereby notified that the SACOTA Annual General Meeting will be held on **22 October 2020**. The time and venue will be confirmed to members in due course.

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