NOTICE 1147 OF 2013



National Agricultural Marketing Council Promoting market access for South African agriculture

REQUEST FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE STATUTORY LEVY ON LUCERNE SEED AND LUCERNE HAY IN TERMS OF THE MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, ACT NO 47 OF 1996

INVITATION TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED GROUPS IN THE LUCERNE INDUSTRY TO FORWARD COMMENTS REGARDING THE REQUEST FROM THE NATIONAL LUCERNE TRUST

The statutory levies on lucerne seed and lucerne hay that were implemented for a period of three years, will lapse on 9 September 2014. These levies (VAT excluded) amount to:

- 60c/kg on clean seed;
- R3/t for lucerne hay not analysed by a NIR Instrument; and
- R5/t for lucerne hay analysed by a NIR Instrument.

The National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) received a request from the National Lucerne Trust (NLT), on behalf of directly affected groups in the lucerne industry, for the continuation and increase of statutory levies, to be promulgated as follows (VAT excluded):

- 80c/kg on clean seed, payable by lucerne seed cleaners;
- R4/t for lucerne hay not analysed by a NIR instrument, payable by the first lucerne hay dealer dealing with such Lucerne hay; and
- R6/t for lucerne hay analysed by a NIR instrument, payable by the owner of the NIR instrument.

The purpose and aims of these statutory levies are to provide financial support for cleaning, grading and classification standards and services, research, information, technology transfer and transformation in the lucerne industry.

As the proposed statutory levies requested by the NLT are consistent with the objectives of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, the NAMC will investigate the possible implementation of the relevant statutory levies and make recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

Directly affected groups in the lucerne industry are kindly requested to submit any comments or objections with regard to the proposed statutory levies to the NAMC in writing (fax 012 341 1911 or e-mail to lizette@namc.co.za), on or before 13 December 2013, to enable the Council to formulate its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.

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