

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**NO. R. 3940****6 October 2023****MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, 1996
(ACT No 47 OF 1996)****ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY MEASURE: RECORDS AND RETURNS RELATING TO TREES
AS WELL AS PRODUCTION & MARKETING INFORMATION OF PLUMS & PRUNES, NECTARINES &
PEACHES, APRICOTS, APPLES AND PEARS**

I, Angela Thokozile Didiza, Minister for Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, acting under sections 13 and 18 of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, 1996 (Act No 47 of 1996), as amended, hereby establish the statutory measure set out in the attached Schedule.

MRS A.T. DIDIZA, MP
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In this Schedule, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act, shall have that meaning, unless the context otherwise indicates –

“Exporter” means a person who trade stone fruit and pome fruit for export for his own account, or acts as an agent on a commission basis on behalf of producers;

“Municipal market” means the national fresh produce markets as defined from time to time;

“Pome fruit producer” means a producer of apples and pears intended for fresh pome fruit exports and/or domestic fresh consumption and/or drying, as well as apples for apple juice concentrate;

“Processor” means an apple juice concentrate manufacturer or a packer of dried pome and stone fruit;

“Retailer” means a person who trades with fresh stone fruit and/or pome fruit on a retail level on the domestic market;

“Stone fruit producer” means a producer of plums, prunes, peaches, nectarines and apricots intended for fresh stone fruit exports and/or domestic fresh consumption and/or drying;

“Trees” means trees intended for the production of apples, pears, plums, prunes, peaches, nectarines and apricots; and

A person shall have a choice to register as either a producer or an exporter or retailer or processor. A person who is a producer as well as an exporter or dryer, or retailer or processor, must register as a producer and as an exporter or retailer or processor.

Purpose and aims of the statutory measure and the relation thereof to the objectives of the Act

2. The purpose and aims of the statutory measure is to compel the parties set out herein to keep records and render returns to HORTGRO (Pty) Ltd. This is necessary to ensure that continuous, timeous and accurate information relating to the products as defined, is available to all role players. Market information is deemed essential for all role players in order for them to make informed decisions. By prescribing the keeping of records with the rendering of returns on an individual basis, market and production information for the pome fruit and the stone fruit industry can be processed and disseminated.

The establishment of the measure will assist in promoting the efficiency of the production and marketing of products. The viability of the pome fruit and stone fruit industry will thus be enhanced. The measure will not be detrimental to employment opportunities or fair labour practice. Any information obtained will be dealt with in a confidential manner and no sensitive or potentially sensitive client-specific information will be made available to any party without the prior approval of the party whose rights may be affected.

The measure will be administered by HORTGRO a company established in terms of the Companies Act (as amended), 2008 (Act 71 of 2008). HORTGRO will implement and administer the measure as set out in the Schedule within DFPT Finance NPC, a non-profit company incorporated under the Companies Act (as amended), 2008 (Act 71 of 2008).

Products to which the statutory measure applies

3. This statutory measure shall apply to apples, pears, plums, prunes, peaches, nectarines and apricots intended for fresh domestic consumption and/or export and/or drying, as well as apples intended for processing of juice concentrate.

Area in which the measure shall apply

4. This measure shall apply in the geographical area of the Republic of South Africa.

Records to be kept and returns to be rendered

5. (1A) All producers, exporters, traders, dryers and processors of apples, pears, plums, prunes, peaches, nectarines and apricots shall keep such records and render the returns as may be required by HORTGRO relating to:
 - (a) tree surveys;
 - (b) the volume of apples, pears, plums, prunes peaches, nectarines and apricots destined for domestic fresh consumption and/or export and/or drying; and
 - (c) the volume of apples destined for processing of juice concentrate.
- (1B) No records or returns shall be required in terms of this measure which disclose confidential information of a marketing nature, and in particular, no returns disclosing, inter alia, contracting parties; purchasers of fruit; prices of services or the prices obtained for fruit, or any similar information, shall be required to be furnished.
- (2) The National Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development or its assignee shall render a copy of all export certificates or furnish the information required by HORTGRO contained in such certificates within the period specified in sub-clause (4)

- (3) The records referred to in sub-clause (1) shall –
- (a) be recorded; and
 - (b) be kept at the registered premises of the person required to keep it for a period of at least three years.
- (4) The returns referred to in sub-clause (1) shall be rendered on forms obtainable free of charge for this purpose from HORTGRO within fifteen (15) days after the end of the month in which the returns have been requested.
- (a) be submitted, when forwarded by post, to –
HORTGRO
PO Box 163
PAARL
7620
 - (b) when delivered by hand, be delivered to –
HORTGRO
258 Main Road
PAARL
7646
 - (c) when sent by E-mail, addressed to –
info@hortgro.co.za

Commencement and period of validity

6. This statutory measure shall come into operation on the date of publication hereof and will lapse four (4) years later.