

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LAND REFORM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**NO. R. 5707****20 December 2024****MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, 1996 (ACT NO. 47 OF
1996)****ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY MEASURE AND DETERMINATION OF
LEVIES ON DRIED VINE FRUIT**

I, John Henry Steenhuisen, Minister of Agriculture, acting under sections 13 and 15 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.

**MR J.H. STEENHUISEN, MP
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE**

SCHEDULE

Definitions

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

"currants" means the dried vine fruit obtained from seedless currant-type vine fruit;

"dried vine fruit" means all dried vine fruit (i.e. raisins, seedless raisins, sultanas and currants) where either in the whole, cut up or minced form, subjected to any acknowledged drying process during which the largest part of the moisture had been abstracted therefrom, irrespective whether having been treated with water or steam or any preservative;

"exporter" means a person who exports dried vine fruit from the Republic of South Africa, and includes a person who arranges or handles the exports in the name of or on behalf of another person;

"handle(s)" or "handled" means receive, store, dispatch or process;

"importer" means a person who imports dried vine fruit into the Republic of South Africa, and this includes a person who arranges or handles the imports in the name of or on behalf of another person;

"packer" means a person who handles dried vine fruit and packs it for the purpose of sale;

"process" means to sort, clean, wash, cut, mince, mix or prepare to be packed for sale;

"processor" includes any person concerned in the processing of dried vine fruit;

"producer" includes any person concerned in the production of dried vine fruit;

"raisins" means the dried vine fruit other than currants and seedless raisins that is obtained from vine fruit;

"Raisins South Africa NPC (Raisins SA)" means the non-profit company incorporated in terms of the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008 as amended) and which operates under the name "Raisins South Africa NPC (Raisins SA)". Raisins SA is a non-profit company with the aim to keep the local dried vine fruit industry abreast of the need for agricultural research, strategic information on volumes and quality to meet all sanitary and phytosanitary requirement for local and export marketing to serve the best interest of the industry as the need arises and keep the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) and the Minister of Agriculture, informed on strategic issues. Raisins SA is located at, 9 Groenpunt Avenue, Keidebees, Upington, Northern Cape, South Africa;

"seedless raisins" means the dried vine fruit obtained from seedless non-currant type vine fruit, and is either lyed or lyed and bleached or unlyed and unbleached;

"the Act" means the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, 1996 (Act No. 47 of 1996), as amended; and

"vine fruit" means the fruits of the plants of *Vitis vinifera*.

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

2. The purpose and aim of this statutory measure and the required levy are to place Raisins SA in a position to provide financial support to the role-players in the industry in relation to the functions listed below which the dried vine fruit industry has identified as essential and in the interest of the industry as a whole:

A) The payment of the traditional functions levy

To fund 1) market access and development; 2) information and communication; 3) research and development programmes and technology transfer; 4) transformation and training and 5) administration for dried vine fruit.

This statutory measure is necessary to ensure that continuous, accurate and timeous macro-economic and industry specific information relating to the dried vine fruit industry, is available to all role-players in the industry in order for such role-players to make informed decisions in the spheres as indicated. This will advance transparent market information to all relevant parties.

The advancement of dried vine fruit production can deliver a material on food security and job creation in the Republic of South Africa.

Research is important to ensure a competitive dried vine fruit industry is advanced, especially in context to a global competitive industry. Research is important for both the commercial and emerging sector. The maintenance of effective cultivar development programmes and the study of cultivar characteristics, such as yield potential, adaptability, weather resistance against pest and diseases, enable dried vine fruit growers to make informed cultivar decisions for specific conditions.

As per the guidelines, funds will also be used to support previously disadvantaged individuals (PDI's) and empower the emerging sector accordingly.

The levies will advance market access for all, but furthermore contribute to furthering the viability of the industry at large. The establishment of this statutory measure is aligned to the objective set out in the Act, as stipulated in section 2 of the Act.

This statutory measure will not be detrimental to the number of employment opportunities or fair labour practices and will support the statutory measures

relating to registration and the rendering of returns applicable to dried vine fruit products.

This statutory measure shall be administered by Raisins SA.

- B) The payment of the fruit fly statutory levy.
It will finance the Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*) (Medfly) control programme and the Oriental Fruit Fly (*Bactrocera dorcalis*) (BD), control programme, in the Orange River Valley.

This is a separate and differentiated levy, meaning that it does not form part of the traditional statutory levies in the dried fruit industry (to finance research, information, transformation etc). The fruit fly statutory levy will fully (100%) be utilised for monitoring, mapping and aerial baiting in the Orange River Valley.

Product to which statutory measure applies

4. This traditional statutory measure shall apply to all dried vine fruit (as defined in section 1 above), which is produced in, processed in, handled in, marketed, exported from and/or imported into the Republic of South Africa.

The fruit fly statutory measure shall apply only dried vine fruit in the Orange River Valley (from Boegoebergdam to Blouputs) which is produced in, processed in, handled in, marketed, exported from and/or imported into the Republic of South Africa.

Area in which statutory measure applies

5. This statutory measure shall apply within the geographical area of the Republic of South Africa.

Imposition of levy

6. a) the traditional levy is hereby imposed on dried vine fruit (gross mass delivered/received) bought or received locally by a packer, marketer, trader,

handler, processor and exporter or produced locally by a producer and/or processed locally by a processor and any importer of dried vine fruit. A packer, processor, marketer, trader, handler and exporter who has paid a levy may recover the amount of the levy from the primary grower / importing entity from which he / she / it has bought / received the dried vine fruit on which the levy is payable, or who has produced the dried vine fruit.

b) The payment of the fruit fly statutory levy shall be imposed on dried vine fruits specifically within the Orange River Valley.

Amount of levy

7.1 The traditional statutory levy (excluding VAT) shall be imposed on all dried vine fruit gross mass delivered / received at the following rates:

Products	20224/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Dried vine fruits (raisins) Produced and imported	22.4c/kg	23.8c/kg	25.4c/kg	27c/kg

7.2 The payment of the fruit fly statutory levy in the Orange River valley (excluding VAT):

Products	20224/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Fruit fly statutory levy in the Orange River valley	17.2c/kg	18.6c/kg	20.2c/kg	21.9c/kg

Persons by whom and to whom levy is payable

8. The levy imposed in terms of section 6 above shall
- (a) be payable by producers, packers, importers, exporters, marketers, processor or any other traders/handlers on behalf of producers (the primary grower / importing entity) of dried vine fruit; and
 - (b) be payable to Raisins South Africa NPC (Raisins SA) in accordance with section 9 below.

Determination and payment of levy

9. (1) The levy amount payable by the persons to whom the levy is imposed against shall be determined by Raisins SA in accordance with the weekly records and returns submitted by the persons to whom the levy is imposed against as stipulated in accordance with the provisions of the other statutory measures referred to in section 2 above.
- (2) Payment of the levy shall be made no later than 60 (sixty) days from the date on which the invoice is received. Any amount not paid within the stipulated period will be charged interest on at a rate of 1.5% (one point five percent) per month.
- (3) Payment shall be made by means of an electronic fund transfer in favour of and into the bank account of Raisins SA. The bank details are obtainable from Raisins SA on request.

Use of levy

10. The Act provides that -
- (a) at least 70% (seventy percent) of the levy funds shall be used for the core business functions e.g. research, market access and development, information and communication activities;
- (b) not more than 10% (ten percent) shall be used for administrative purposes; and
- (c) at least 20% (twenty percent) shall be allocated towards transformation. The second levy is exempted from a transformation levy as it is directed toward regional wide aerial baiting.

Offences and Penalties

11. In the event of any person contravening and / or failing to comply with any provision of this statutory measure, section 24 of the Act shall apply.

Commencement and period of validity

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