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**Report Highlights:**

This report has been updated to reflect current export requirements for South Africa. The Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) Certificate Report provides a comprehensive list of principal certificates required for exporting plants, animals, and animal products to South Africa. For a complete understanding of South Africa's market access requirements and certification procedures, exporters should review the FAIRS Certificate Report together with the FAIRS Country Report. These documents provide comprehensive guidance on regulatory requirements, import procedures, and specific attestations necessary for successful market entry.

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## Executive Summary

Importing plants, animals, and animal products into South Africa requires obtaining specific export certificates and import permits, and compliance with established health requirements. The process involves the following:

- **Import Permits:** Most consignments must be accompanied by an import permit issued by South Africa's Department of Agriculture (DoA).
- **Phytosanitary Regulations:** Compliance with phytosanitary regulations is mandatory for all plant materials and plant products.
- **Health Certificates:** Accredited veterinarians or competent authorities must provide health certificates for animals and animal products.

Exporters should consult the regulatory authorities listed in the FAIRS Annual Country Report to understand the specific conditions applicable to each shipment.

The FAIRS Export Certificate Report provides comprehensive details on all export certificates required by South Africa for importing plants, animals, and animal products, including specific attestations that must appear on these certificates.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are recognized by South Africa as certifying authorities. These agencies provide inspection and certification services to U.S. exporters to facilitate compliance with South African import requirements.

Veterinary health certificates must be signed by the relevant officials from the appropriate certifying authority prior to shipment. Failure to obtain proper certification may result in rejection of the consignment at the port of entry.

### **DISCLAIMER:**

This report was prepared by the USDA - Foreign Agricultural Service in Pretoria, South Africa, for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care has been taken in the preparation of this report, the information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since their preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any products are shipped. **FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.**

## SECTION I: LIST OF ALL EXPORT CERTIFICATES REQUIRED BY SOUTH AFRICA

*Table 1: Export Certificate Matrix for Animals and Animal Products*

Products	Title of Certificate	Required Attestations on Certificate	Purpose	Requesting Ministry
<a href="#">Milk and Milk Based Products for Human Consumption</a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa (RSA).	- Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conform to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	Department of Agriculture (DoA)
<a href="#">Milk and Milk Based Products for Animal Consumption</a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Animal Consumption to the RSA.	- Products are fit for animal consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conform to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Caseins, Caseinate or Milk-Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries</a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Caseins, Caseinate or Milk Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries for Export to the RSA.	- Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conform to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Protein Drinks/Supplements for Human Consumption Containing Both Dairy and Eggs</a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Egg from the United States to the RSA.	- Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conform to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit. <b>Note:</b> Egg products are not eligible for export to South Africa currently. Negotiations for a health certificate are ongoing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of product and ingredients.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA

<b>Products</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Required Attestations on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
<a href="#"><u>Raw Animal Wool, Mohair and Scoured Animal Wool / Mohair</u></a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair, and Scoured Animal Wool/Mohair from the United States to the RSA.	- Products are from areas free from specified diseases, sourced from an officially approved establishment, and conform to the specific conditions (such as packaging and storage requirements) stipulated on the import permit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent the introduction of animal diseases.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#"><u>Hides and Skins</u></a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides and Skins from the United States to the RSA.	- Hides were obtained from animals slaughtered at licensed abattoirs, from areas where no FMD has been reported, and animals showed no evidence of specified diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent the introduction of animal diseases.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#"><u>Bile salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only)</u></a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only) from the United States to the RSA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bile salts were derived from animals born and raised in Canada, United States, or Mexico.</li> <li>- Cattle were slaughtered at a US establishment.</li> <li>- Bile was processed at an officially approved establishment and conforms to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent the introduction of animal diseases.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products and ingredients.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#"><u>Pet Food</u></a>	Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food from the United States to the RSA.	- Product was manufactured in a USDA-approved facility, ingredients were sourced from the United States and/or Canada, and shipment complies with specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent the introduction of animal diseases.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products and ingredients used in manufacturing</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA

<b>Products</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Required Attestations on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
<a href="#">Poultry meat</a>	Veterinary Certificate for the Export of Poultry Meat (excluding trimmings, mince, mechanically recovered poultry meat and other anatomically unrecognizable cuts) to South Africa	<p>- FSIS safe handling instructions for poultry must be followed and applied to product exported to South Africa.</p> <p>- All FSIS export certificates accompanying the product must be signed by an FSIS veterinarian.</p> <p>- U.S. exporters should ensure that the products do not ship until after the certificate is signed by the veterinarian.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Poultry and poultry products derived from birds originating from several States are ineligible for exports to South Africa due to HPAI. Please visit the APHIS website for updates (<a href="#">APHIS animal health export restrictions for South Africa</a>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Frozen Pork cuts for processing</a>	Veterinary Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Including Trimmings and Mechanically Recovered Meat, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for processing at approved facilities.	<p>- Products are fit for human consumption, processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant, and conform to the specific conditions stipulated on the import permit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Frozen Pork Meat from Specified Cuts</a>	Veterinary Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Specified Cuts, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for Unrestricted Sale.	<p>- Only pork cuts on the <a href="#">indicated list of pork products</a> are exempt from further processing on arrival in South Africa.</p> <p>-Prior to the issuance of this certificate, FSIS Inspection Program Personnel must be provided with documentation verifying that lymph nodes have been removed from the product.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA

<b>Products</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Required Attestations on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
<a href="#">Beef Products</a>	FSIS Letterhead Certificate for Importation of Beef and Beef Products from the United States to South Africa.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The cattle from which the beef or beef products were derived passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection.</li> <li>- Beef or beef products were derived from cattle that comply with U.S. traceability requirements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety.</li> <li>• Food quality.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the product.</li> <li>• Disease prevention and control.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Other Animal and Animal Products</a>	Veterinary Health Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Country of origin of consignment.</li> <li>- Country/zone is free from prescribed or notifiable diseases (e.g., BSE, FMD, Anthrax, etc.).</li> <li>- Prescribed inspections, isolations, treatments, and tests have been carried out.</li> <li>- Prescribed bedding, fodder, feedstuffs, transportation, and supervision by official veterinary authority.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm that the prescribed regulations and conditions have been met.</li> <li>• Prevent the introduction of animal diseases and protect human health.</li> <li>• Traceability.</li> </ul>	DoA
<a href="#">Plant and Plant Product Export Certificates</a>	Phytosanitary Certificate for the Export of Plant and Plant Products to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Attests to the phytosanitary status of any consignment governed by phytosanitary regulations.</li> <li>- Country of origin.</li> <li>- Prescribed regulations, quarantine, treatments, and other prescribed procedures have been fulfilled.</li> <li>- Follows model certificates of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent the introduction or spread of quarantine pests.</li> <li>• Quality control.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products.</li> </ul>	DoA

<b>Products</b>	<b>Title of Certificate</b>	<b>Required Attestations on Certificate</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requesting Ministry</b>
<a href="#">Liquor</a>	Import Certificate	- Product matches the liquor category and meets the prescribed minimum quality standards of <a href="#">Liquor Products Act</a> (Act No. 60 of 1989) - Import certificate number remains valid for subsequent shipments of identical product composition, content, bottle size, and labeling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food safety and quality.</li> <li>• Preliminary approval to import a specific liquor product.</li> <li>• Confirm the origin of the products.</li> </ul>	DoA

**Source:** DoA, APHIS, and FSIS

## SECTION II: SPECIFIC ATTESTATIONS REQUIRED ON EXPORT CERTIFICATES

*Table 2: Specific Attestations Required on Export Certificates*

<b>Certificate Name</b>	<b>Required Attestations</b>
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type of product and animal species of origin.</li> <li>• Number of packages or units/net weight.</li> <li>• Product was produced from milk or milk-based products, derived from animals in or from a country not under restrictions due to FMD or rinderpest.</li> <li>• Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant.</li> <li>• Product was subjected to prescribed processes such as ultra-high temperature treatment, pasteurized, heat sterilized, or acidification.</li> <li>• Products do not contain any ingredients derived from animals other than milk.</li> <li>• Products are fit for human consumption.</li> <li>• Products do not contain harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-Based Products for Animal Consumption to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type of product and species of origin.</li> <li>• Number of packages/units and net weight.</li> <li>• Product was produced from milk or milk-based products, derived from animals in or from a country not under restrictions due to FMD or rinderpest.</li> <li>• Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant.</li> <li>• Product was subjected to prescribed processes such as ultra-high temperature treatment, pasteurized, heat sterilized, or acidification.</li> <li>• Products do not contain any ingredients derived from animals other than milk.</li> <li>• Products do not contain harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Caseins, Caseinate or Milk Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD-Infected Countries for Export to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product was produced from casein or dairy proteins legally imported from an FMD-infected country.</li> <li>• Product was processed at an officially approved manufacturing plant.</li> <li>• Product was subjected to one of the following processes: ultra-high temperature treatment, pasteurized, heat sterilized, or acidification.</li> <li>• Products do not contain any ingredients derived from animals other than milk or milk-based products.</li> <li>• Products are fit for human consumption.</li> <li>• Products do not contain harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious or contagious diseases into South Africa.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Eggs from the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origin of the consignment.</li> <li>• Products were produced from ingredients derived from flocks and herds that were not under any veterinary restriction for diseases to which the species is susceptible and can be transmitted by the product.</li> <li>• Ingredients used, such as milk from herds kept in an FMD-free or FMD-</li> </ul>

Certificate Name	Required Attestations
	<p>infected zone, have been subjected to the correct ultra-high temperature treatments, pasteurized, and acidification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eggs used were produced and packaged in a zone free from highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) or underwent time and temperature treatments suitable for the inactivation of HPAI in eggs and egg products.</li> <li>• Eggs used were produced and packaged in a country or zone free from Newcastle disease, as defined by the World Organization of Animal Health (WOAH) or were subjected to time and temperature treatments suitable for the inactivation of Newcastle disease.</li> <li>• Eggs were subject to pasteurization process to destroy harmful microorganisms including salmonella.</li> <li>• Product was manufactured in facilities inspected and approved by the competent authority and subject to regular audits or inspections aimed at ensuring that the processing is properly and hygienically carried out, so the product is fit for human consumption.</li> <li>• Products do not contain any harmful additives or constitute any danger of introducing infectious diseases into South Africa.</li> <li>• Cartons are marked with an expiration date as required by South African regulations."</li> </ul>
<p>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair, and Scoured Animal Wool/Mohair from the United States to South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of Product.</li> <li>• Origin of the consignment.</li> <li>• Product was derived from area where anthrax is not prevalent, and which is free from FMD, rinderpest, east coast fever, sheep scab, and sheep pox.</li> <li>• Vesicular stomatitis has not occurred on farms of origin.</li> <li>• In the case of greasy/raw wool or mohair, products were stored under official veterinary supervision for a minimum of 30 days prior to export.</li> <li>• In the case of scoured animal wool or mohair, the wool or mohair was scoured at an approved establishment, which consists of the immersion of wool/mohair in a water-soluble detergent held at 60-70°C, and the scoured wool/mohair did not encounter raw materials prior to export.</li> <li>• The wool/mohair/scoured wool are sourced from a plant that is approved and regularly inspected by the veterinary authority of the United States.</li> <li>• The consignment will be packed in new packaging materials.</li> </ul>
<p>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides and Skins from the United States to South Africa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The hides were obtained from animals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Slaughtered at licensed abattoirs approved for export by the veterinary authority of the USDA.</li> <li>- Presented for slaughter for human consumption and were inspected by officers authorized for that purpose.</li> <li>- That came from districts where no FMD had been reported for the previous six months and where anthrax is not prevalent, and where no restriction was in force for the control of epizootic diseases of the species.</li> <li>- That at the time of slaughter showed no evidence of vesicular stomatitis, FMD, or anthrax.</li> <li>- That has not been slaughtered in a disease-eradication campaign.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hides were loaded/containerized and sealed under authorized supervision with container numbers or seal numbers stipulated.</li> </ul>

Certificate Name	Required Attestations
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes Only) from the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bile salts were derived from cattle that were subjected to both ante-mortem and post-mortem veterinary inspection at the abattoir and were found to be free from clinical signs of disease.</li> <li>• Bile was derived from animals born and raised in Canada, United States, or Mexico.</li> <li>• Cattle were slaughtered at a U.S. establishment.</li> <li>• Bile was processed at an establishment approved for export by U.S. veterinary authorities.</li> <li>• During collection of the bile, precautions were put in place to ensure that the bile was not contaminated by specific BSE risk material.</li> <li>• Country of origin is officially free from FMD.</li> <li>• Bile salts have been subjected to treatments involving heating, solvent extraction, and vacuum drying.</li> <li>• Product was packed in a manner designed to prevent recontamination of the product after processing.</li> <li>• Packaging shows the identification of the manufacturing facility.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food from the United States to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product was manufactured in a USDA-approved facility.</li> <li>• Products meet the requirements of U.S. laws and regulations and may be freely sold in the United States.</li> <li>• Pet food only contains porcine and/or poultry-origin ingredients that were sourced from the United States and/or legally imported ingredients from Canada.</li> <li>• Pet food only contains fish and/or bovine dairy products sourced from the United States and/or legally imported ingredients.</li> <li>• The United States is officially recognized as a negligible BSE risk country by the WOA.</li> <li>• All bovine material was sourced from animals born, reared, and slaughtered in the United States, a negligible BSE risk country, or was sourced from animals born in Canada.</li> <li>• Hermetically sealed containers were heat-treated, manufactured, and packed in compliance with approved manufacturing practices.</li> <li>• Products comply with acceptable levels of salmonella and Enterobacteriaceae.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Certificate for the Export of Poultry Meat (excluding trimmings, mince, mechanically recovered poultry meat and other anatomically unrecognizable cuts) to South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entire consignment of meat comes from poultry which has been kept in an administrative territory declared free of infection with high pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses, in accordance with the WOA guidelines for HPAI.</li> <li>• The entire consignment of poultry meat comes from poultry which has been kept in a Newcastle disease free zone.</li> <li>• The poultry meat described was derived from poultry that was slaughtered in the United States.</li> <li>• The poultry meat comes from birds that participate in the National Poultry Improvement Plan, Avian Influenza Monitored Program, and are regularly monitored for <i>Salmonella pullorum</i>, <i>S. enteritidis</i>, and <i>S. gallinarum</i>.</li> <li>• The poultry meat was derived from birds slaughtered and produced under a hazard analysis and preventive control system consistent with the South African Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No 40 of 2000) OR pathogen</li> </ul>

Certificate Name	Required Attestations
	<p>reduction and HACCP programs set forth in United States laws and regulations, which ensure the meat is safe and fit for human consumption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The poultry meat products were hygienically handled under FSIS inspection and transported in accordance with U.S. State and Federal laws and regulations.</li> </ul>
<p>Veterinary Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Including Trimmings and Mechanically Recovered Meat, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for processing at approved facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meat was derived from animals that have not been vaccinated against Foot and Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease, and Classical Swine Fever.</li> <li>• The pork meat excludes offal (head, thoracic viscera, and abdominal viscera).</li> <li>• The meat was subjected to a freezing process that guarantees the destruction of the Trichinella larvae in accordance with the Codex guidelines for the control of Trichinella spp. in meat of Suidae.</li> <li>• The pork meat was produced under a hazard analysis and preventive controls system consistent with Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No. 40 of 2000) or pathogen and HACCP programs set forth in United States laws and regulations, which ensure the meat is safe and fit for human consumption.</li> <li>• The pork meat was hygienically handled under FSIS inspection and transported in accordance with U.S. State and Federal laws and regulations.</li> </ul>
<p>Veterinary Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Specified Cuts, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for Unrestricted Sale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meat was derived from animals that have not been vaccinated against Foot and Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever, Swine Vesicular Disease, and Classical Swine Fever.</li> <li>• The pork meat excludes offal (head, thoracic viscera, and abdominal viscera).</li> <li>• The meat was subjected to a freezing process that guarantees the destruction of the Trichinella larvae in accordance with the Codex guidelines for the control of Trichinella spp. in meat of Suidae.</li> <li>• The pork meat was produced under a hazard analysis and preventive controls system consistent with Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No. 40 of 2000) or pathogen and HACCP programs set forth in United States laws and regulations, which ensure the meat is safe and fit for human consumption.</li> <li>• The pork meat was hygienically handled under FSIS inspection and transported in accordance with U.S. State and Federal laws and regulations.</li> </ul>
<p>FSIS Letterhead Certificate for Importation of Beef and Beef Products from the United States to South Africa.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cattle from which the beef or beef products were derived passed ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection.</li> <li>• The beef or beef products were derived from cattle that were born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States or were derived from cattle that were legally imported into the United States and the beef and beef products thereof deemed fit for U.S. domestic consumption.</li> <li>• The beef or beef products were produced under a hazard analysis and preventive controls system in accordance with the South African Meat</li> </ul>

Certificate Name	Required Attestations
	<p>Safety Act, 2000 (Act No. 40 of 2000) or pathogen reduction and HACCP programs set forth in U.S. laws and regulations, which ensure the beef or beef products are safe and fit for human consumption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The beef or beef products were hygienically handled under FSIS inspection and transported in accordance with U.S. State and Federal laws and regulations.</li> </ul>
Veterinary Health Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country of origin of consignment.</li> <li>• Country/zone is free from prescribed or notifiable diseases (e.g., BSE, FMD, anthrax).</li> <li>• Prescribed inspections, isolations, treatments, and tests have been carried out.</li> <li>• Prescribed bedding, fodder, feedstuffs, transportation, and supervision by official veterinary authority.</li> </ul>
Phytosanitary Certificate for the Export of Plants and Plant Products to the Republic of South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of the consignment, including name and address of exporter, number and description of products, country of origin, and declared point of entry.</li> <li>• Plants and plant products have been inspected and/or tested according to official procedures.</li> <li>• Products are free from the quarantine pests and conform with the phytosanitary requirements specified on the import permit.</li> <li>• Treatments have been performed, and any additional declarations have been met as specified in phytosanitary regulations, import permits, and/or protocols.</li> </ul>
Liquor Import Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and origin of the product.</li> <li>• Product matches the liquor category and meets the prescribed minimum quality standards.</li> </ul>

**Source:** DoA, APHIS, and FSIS

## SECTION III: GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE LEGAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

*Table 3: Animals and Animal Products Veterinary Health Certificate*

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	No	A veterinary health certificate and its corresponding import permit cannot be applied to multiple shipments.
Will South Africa accept a suppliers' or manufacturers' export declaration as proof of compliance instead of a certificate issued by a competent authority?	No	Certificates are only accepted from recognized U.S agencies such as APHIS, FDA, or FSIS. The application can be submitted on the <a href="#">APHIS, FDA or FSIS</a> websites
Will South Africa accept a U.S. state-issued export certificate?	No	
Will South Africa waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	No	
Does South Africa specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

*Table 4: Plants and Plant Products Phytosanitary Certificate*

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	No	A phytosanitary certificate cannot be applied to multiple shipments to South Africa. Each individual consignment requires its own unique phytosanitary certificate.
Will South Africa accept a suppliers' or manufacturers' export declaration as proof of compliance instead of a certificate issued by a competent authority?	No	Certificates are only accepted from recognized U.S. agencies such as <a href="#">APHIS</a> .
Will South Africa accept a U.S. state-issued export certificate?	No	

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Will South Africa waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	No	
Does South Africa specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

*Table 5: Liquor Import Certificate*

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Does the original certificate need to accompany the product at the time of entry?	Yes	
Can certificate be applied to multiple shipments?	Yes	Provided that the composition, content, bottle size, and label of that product do not change.
Will South Africa accept a suppliers' or manufacturers' export declaration as proof of compliance instead of a certificate issued by a competent authority?	No	
Will South Africa accept a U.S. state-issued export certificate?	No	
Will South Africa waive export certificates? Which certificates? How do you apply?	No	
Does South Africa specifically require a Certificate of Free Sale?	No	

## **SECTION IV: OTHER CERTIFICATION/ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Signature of U.S. Certifying Official to be Applied Prior to Shipment:** South African regulatory authorities will not accept certificates endorsed by officials after the consignment has shipped. U.S. exporters should ensure that the products do not ship until after the certificate is signed by the competent or certifying authority, e.g., APHIS for plants, FSIS for meat products, FDA for other products.

**Exporter/Shipper Section:** The Exporter/Shipper section at the bottom of the FSIS Letterhead Certificates for poultry meat, pork, and beef must be completed regardless of the method of shipment. Any errors in this section may result in rejection by South African officials.

**Animals and Animal Products Import Permit:** Official permit granting authority to import the specified animal or animal products are subject to the prescribed conditions and a valid health certificate. The import permit must specify the quantity to be imported and likely port of entry. Import permits can be obtained from the [DoA - Import/Export Policy Unit](#) .

**Plants and Plant Products Import Permit:** Official document authorizing importation of a commodity in accordance with specified phytosanitary measures and other import requirements. Import permits specify all conditions applicable to the imports, and whether they apply to single or multiple consignments. The import permit also confirms the origin of the products. The import permit can be obtained from DoA.

**Certificate of Origin:** The South African Declaration (or certificate) of Origin, Form DA-59, certifying the country of origin, description of goods, weight, etc., is required for shipments of some foodstuffs. South African Customs will notify the importer if a Form DA-59 is required, and the importer will notify the exporter. When the form is required, exporters or suppliers must provide at least one original signed copy attached to the original commercial invoice. The Form DA-59 can be [downloaded from the SARS website here](#).

**Organic Certification:** South Africa has no regulations or state certification programs for organic products. Certification is driven by international standards and accreditation systems. The Foodstuff, Cosmetics, and Disinfectants Act (No. 54 of 1972) and the Consumer Protection Act (No. 68 of 2008) both clearly state that the consumer must not be misled. This means that where an ‘organic’ claim is presented on a label, suitable substantiation must be available upon request. The USDA National Organic Program is widely accepted for the certification of U.S. products intended for export into South Africa. Details and procedures to obtain organic certification under the USDA National Organic Program may be found on the [Agricultural Marketing Service \(AMS\) website](#).

**Halal and Kosher Certification:** South Africa does not have an official state inspection or certification program for Halal or Kosher products. There are several voluntary organizations including the [National Independent Halal Trust](#), [South African National Halal Authority](#), and [Kosher SA](#), which are responsible for the domestic certification in South Africa. While there are no Halal and Kosher state certification programs, imported products must not mislead

consumers. As a result, where there are Halal and Kosher claims, suitable substantiation from reputable bodies may be requested at the port of entry.

In May 2024, the DoA published [draft regulations relating to the management control system in respect of the sale and export of certain agricultural products](#) for comments. The draft regulations include additional requirements for documentation to support label claims for imported food products. The aim of the regulations is to require producers of both domestic and imported food to substantiate the control management system under which they claim their products were produced. These control management systems include kosher, halal, and organic products. DoA is in the process of reviewing the feedback received on the draft regulations during the domestic comment period. There is no indication when the proposed regulation will come into effect (also refer to FAS/Pretoria GAIN report [New Requirements Expected for Kosher, Halal and Organic Food Products](#)).

**Attestation of Radioactivity:** South Africa does not specifically require attestation of radioactivity for food and agricultural product imports. However, regulations under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics, and Disinfectants Act, 1972 ([Act 54 of 1972](#)), stipulate that irradiated foodstuff, including imported irradiated foodstuff, may not be sold in the country unless the Minister or the Director-General of the Department of Health has in writing approved the sale of such irradiated foodstuff. The authority for this has been delegated to the Director: Food Control of the Department of Health. Companies wishing to import irradiated foodstuffs into South Africa are advised to contact the Directorate: Food Control ([Department of Health](#)) via their website.

## APPENDIX I: ELECTRONIC COPIES OR OUTLINES OF EXPORT CERTIFICATES

*Table 6: APHIS Export Certificates*

<b>Export Certificate</b>	<b>U.S. Agency</b>	<b>Link</b>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-based Products for Human Consumption to the Republic of South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Milk or Milk-based Products for Animal Consumption to the Republic of South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Casein, Caseinate or Milk-Protein for Human Consumption Derived from Milk Products Imported from FMD Infected Countries for Export to the Republic of South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Products Containing Dairy and Eggs from United States to the Republic of South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Certificate for the Export of Raw Animal Wool, Mohair, and Scoured Animal Wool/Mohair from the United States to South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Hides and Skins from the United States to South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Bile Salts (for Pharmaceutical Purposes only) from the United States to South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Veterinary Health Certificate for the Export of Pet Food from the United States to the Republic of South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>U.S. Origin Health Certificate for Exportation of Bovine Embryos to South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Health Certificates/Procedures for Exporting Shell Eggs from the United States to South Africa</b>	AMS	<a href="#">Download</a>
<b>Health Certificates/Procedures for Exporting Hatching Eggs from the United States to South Africa</b>	APHIS	<a href="#">Download</a>

*Table 7: FSIS Export Certificates*

<b>Export Certificate</b>	<b>U.S. Agency</b>	<b>Link</b>
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Certificate for the Export of Poultry Meat (excluding trimmings, mince, mechanically recovered poultry meat and other anatomically unrecognizable cuts) to South Africa	FSIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Including Trimmings and Mechanically Recovered Meat, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for processing at approved facilities.	FSIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
Certificate for Raw Frozen Pork Meat (Specified Cuts, Excluding Offal) Exported from the United States of America to South Africa for Unrestricted Sale	FSIS	<a href="#">Download</a>
Certificate for Importation of Beef and Beef Products from the United States to South Africa	FSIS	<a href="#">Download</a>

*Table 8: FDA Export Certificates*

<u>Certificate Name</u>	<u>U.S. Agency</u>	<u>Link</u>
Certificate to a Foreign Government (CFG) or Certificate of Exportability (COE) for conventional foods, food additives, food contact substances, and infant formula	FDA	<a href="#">Example of Certificates</a>
Certificate of Free Sale (COFS) for dietary supplements, medical foods, and foods for special dietary use	FDA	<a href="#">Sample Certificate</a>

## APPENDIX II: INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXPORTS OF FDA-REGULATED PRODUCTS CERTIFIED BY OTHER AGENCIES

### Dairy for Other Export Markets:

The Agricultural Marketing Service's Dairy Program is responsible for issuing dairy export certificates accepted by most countries. Information on these certificates can be obtained [through this AMS Dairy Program website](#). APHIS issues export certificates for a limited number of countries including South Africa. Information regarding APHIS export certificates can be obtained [through the APHIS website](#).

### Attachments:

No Attachments