agriculture
Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT **7 October 2025**

PUBLICATION OF PLANT HEALTH REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS IN TERMS OF THE PLANT HEALTH ACT, 2024 (ACT NO. 35 OF 2024)

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr John Steenhuisen, invites all interested institutions, organisations, and individuals to submit written inputs and comments on the draft Plant Health Regulations in terms of the Plant Health (Phytosanitary) Act, 2024 (Act No. 35 of 2024) as published in the *Government Gazette* No. 53424 on 26 September 2025. The Act provides for the regulation of the movement of plants, plant products, and other regulated articles into, within, and out of South Africa. The Act was assented into law on 10 December 2024 and has not been proclaimed pending the finalisation/approval of the Regulations.

The Minister of Agriculture therefore deems it fit that the Regulations under the new Act are widely consulted to obtain public inputs and comments towards their finalisation. The objective of these Regulations is to improve and strengthen the plant biosecurity system of South Africa through phytosanitary measures to prevent the introduction and spread of regulated pests that threaten the agricultural sector.

The draft Regulations under the Plant Health Act, 2024 (Act No. 35 of 2024) are as follows:

1. Draft Control Measures R.6664 of 26 September 2025 (Prohibiting the movement of infested plant material from infested areas to non-infested areas);
2. Draft Export Regulations R.6665 of 26 September 2025 (Export Control of consignments to comply with the import requirements of the importing country);
3. Draft Import Regulations with a permit R.6667 of 26 September 2025 (Preventing the introduction, establishment, and spread of regulated pests into the Republic);
4. Draft Import Regulations without a permit R.6666 of 26 September 2025 (Importation of regulated articles without import permit, subject to the import requirements).

To access copies of the draft Regulations, follow the department's website link: www.nda.gov.za–under latest news.

Inputs and comments can be submitted within 30 days of the publication date (26 September 2025) to the contact details indicated in the notice.

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