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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. R. 8133 **5 November 2026**

MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, 1996
(ACT NO. 47 OF 1996)

ESTABLISHMENT OF LEVY AND DETERMINATION OF GUIDELINE PRICES: LEVY ON CATTLE, SHEEP, GOATS AND RED MEAT

I, Willem Abraham Stephanus Aucamp, Minister of Agriculture hereby in terms of Sections 10, 13, 14 and 15 of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, 1996 (Act No. 47 of 1996), as amended —

(a) introduce the levies as set out in the attached Schedule; and

(b) determine that the guideline prices for cattle, sheep, goats and red meat for purposes of determining the said levies shall be as set out in the attached Schedule.

WILLEM ABRAHAM STEPHANUS AUCAMP
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

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SCHEDULE

1. Definitions

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 —

"abattoir" means a slaughter facility as defined in Section 4 of the Meat Safety Act, 2000 (Act No. 40 of 2000), and were used in the context of an obligation placed on an abattoir in this notice, refers to the owner of the slaughter facility;

"agent" means any person who acts as the agent of the buyer or seller of the designated animals, whether the risk of ownership of such designated animals has passed to such person or not;

"designated animals" for purposes of this notice, means cattle, sheep and goats;

"handled" in relation to red meat, means deboning, portioning, dicing, mincing, cooling or freezing;

"head" means one designated animal irrespective of its age, size or weight or whether it is sold together with another animal, animals or offspring;

"DoA" means the national department responsible for agriculture

"Levy Administrator" means the juristic person entrusted with the implementation, administration and enforcement of the statutory levy established in this notice, being Red Meat Industry Services NPC, a non-profit company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008);

"owner" for the purposes of this notice means, in relation to any designated animal —

(a) the person liable to pay the price charged by the abattoir for the slaughter of that animal; or

(b) the person on whose behalf the designated animal is delivered for slaughter, in the event that no price is charged by the abattoir for the slaughter of the designated animal; or

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(c) the abattoir, if the abattoir was the last person to own or acquire the designated animal prior to the slaughter of such animal;

"person" includes natural and juristic persons, partnerships, trusts, voluntary associations, co-operatives and any other bodies, institutions or establishments, whether incorporated or not;

"processing" in relation to red meat, means altering the meat, other than cutting, portioning, dicing and mincing such meat, to enhance the meat, and "process" and **"processes"** shall have a corresponding meaning;

"red meat" means any carcass or part of a slaughtered and skinned designated animal, fresh or frozen, which has not undergone any processing other than deboning, portioning, dicing, mincing, cooling or freezing;

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

"transformation" means expanding the participation of small-scale, subsistence and emerging farmers in the red meat industry value chain, and improving their access to markets and economic opportunities, through support to strengthen their production systems and biosecurity practices. Support to these farmers will be allocated based on an assessment of need. Transformation interventions must be considered by the Transformation Review Committee and overseen and monitored by the National Agricultural Marketing Council; and

"year" for the purposes of Section 5 of this notice, means the 365-day period after the inception of this levy, and every subsequent such period.

2. Purpose and aim of the levy and the relation thereof to the objectives of the Act

The red meat industry has been identified by the national department responsible for agriculture as a productive sector and job driver with potential for accelerated economic growth and job creation through the Agricultural Policy Action Plan and the Agricultural and Agro-Processing Master Plan processes. The red meat industry has, since 5 November 2022, delivered on the functions identified in the statutory measure established in Government Gazette No. 47300 of 14 October 2022. As such, the red meat industry

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wishes to continue the existing levy for a further period of four years in order to complete the delivery of those functions against the Red Meat Industry Strategy 2030. These functions are —

(a) Animal Health, Public Health and Biosecurity

(i) FMD high risk prioritisation

(ii) Traceability and Identification

(iii) Consumer assurance and product safety

(b) Market Access

(i) Increase market size and value-chain participation

(c) Inclusive Growth

(i) Transformation in the developing sector

(d) Competitiveness & Sustainability

(i) Production development

(ii) Industry Information

(iii) Red meat research and development

(iv) Consumer communication and education

(e) Administration and Governance

The levy is not detrimental to any of the objectives of the Act, and in particular will not be detrimental to the number of employment opportunities or to fair labour practices in the red meat industry.

The levy will be administered by the Levy Administrator who will act in terms of the mandate granted to it by the Red Meat & Livestock Primary Cluster, the representative structure of the primary red meat industry. The Levy Administrator will appoint a Levy Collector if and when necessary to assist it with the collection of statutory levy.

This levy is necessary to finance the above-mentioned functions and the levy will be utilised in accordance with the levy application submitted to the Minister, being the Application for the Continuation of Statutory Measures and Levies on Cattle, Sheep, Goats and Red Meat dated 4 June 2026 as supplemented by Addendum 1 thereto. The

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Auditor-General will solely be responsible for auditing the statutory levies collected and expended.

The actual beneficiaries of the levy will be determined by the Levy Administrator in accordance with their approved business plans and budgets for the benefit of the entire industry.

3. Products to which the levy applies

This levy shall apply to all —

(a) designated animals slaughtered at an abattoir;

(b) red meat from designated animals handled within the boundaries of the Republic of South Africa; and

(c) designated animals exported live from the Republic of South Africa.

4. Area in which the levy shall apply

This levy shall apply within the geographical boundaries of the Republic of South Africa.

5. Imposition of the levy

The following levies (VAT excluded) are hereby imposed in respect of designated animals and red meat as contemplated in Section 3 —

(1) Cattle

Levy	How payable
(a) R15.80 per head	Payable by the owner at slaughter, to the abattoir who slaughters such animal; the abattoir shall be liable to collect such levy from the owner and pay it over to the Levy Administrator. Where the abattoir is the owner, the abattoir shall make payment directly to the Levy Administrator.
(b) R15.80 per head exported live from the Republic of South Africa	Payable by the exporter to the Levy Administrator.

(2) Sheep and Goats —

Levy	How payable

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(a) R3.08 per head	Payable by the owner at slaughter, to the abattoir who slaughters such animal; the abattoir shall be liable to collect such levy from the owner and pay it over to the Levy Administrator. Where the abattoir is the owner, the abattoir shall make payment directly to the Levy Administrator.
(b) R3.08 per head exported live from the Republic of South Africa	Payable by the exporter to the Levy Administrator.

NOTES:

(a) The Levy Administrator will determine the percentage allowed to be deducted as a collection fee by the abattoir, before the levies are remitted to the Levy Administrator, on an annual basis. The maximum percentage allowed will not exceed 3%.

6. Persons by whom and to whom the levy shall be payable

The levy imposed under Section 5 shall be payable by the persons set out in this notice to the Levy Administrator, or his designated agent, within the period set out in Section 8.

7. Guideline prices

The guideline prices for the different designated animals and red meat shall be as follows —

(1) Cattle

Category	**Guideline price**
(a) Cattle — Weaners	R9800 per head
Cattle — Slaughter stock	R18 200 per head
(b) Carcass price	Average price R65.01/kg
(c) Cattle exported live	R14 000 per head

(2) Sheep and Goats —

Category	**Guideline price**
(a) Sheep and goats — Slaughter stock	R2 400 per head
Lambs and kids	R1700 per head
(b) Carcass price	Average price R105.91/kg
(c) Sheep and goats exported live	R2 400 per head

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8. Payment and enforcement of the levy

A levy imposed in terms of this notice shall be paid to the Levy Administrator —

(a) in the case of an event referred to in Sections 5(1)(a) and 5(2)(a), within 14 days after the end of the calendar month within which the purchase, sale or other event, as the case may be, took place;

(b) in the case of an event referred to in Sections 5(1)(b) and 5(2)(b), payment is made prior to the issuance of an export permit.

8.1. Payment shall be made by means of electronic bank transfer in favour of the Levy Administrator, and shall be paid into the account number obtainable from the Levy Administrator. Payment shall be made free of any bank charges, costs or deductions, and the person liable to pay the levy shall bear all costs associated with effecting such payment, so that the Levy Administrator receives the full amount of the levy imposed under Section 5. Where payment is tendered otherwise than by electronic bank transfer, and the Levy Administrator thereby incurs bank charges, those charges shall be recoverable from the person liable to pay the levy as an administrative cash handling fee, which fee shall be reflected separately on the statement rendered to that person and shall not form part of, or be added to, the levy imposed under Section 5.

8.2. The implementation, administration and enforcement of the levy established in this notice is entrusted to the Levy Administrator, a non-profit company as contemplated in the Companies Act, 2008 (Act No. 71 of 2008).

8.3. An administrative cash handling fee recoverable under sub-clause 8.1 shall not exceed the bank charges actually incurred by the Levy Administrator in respect of the payment concerned, and shall be payable within 14 days after the date of the statement on which it is first reflected.

8.4. Any amount payable under this notice, including any administrative cash handling fee recoverable under sub-clause 8.1, which is not paid on or before the date on which it becomes due shall bear interest from the day following that date until the date of payment, at the rate prescribed from time to time in terms of Section 1(2) of the Prescribed Rate of Interest Act, 1975 (Act No. 55 of 1975).

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Because this notice fixes the date on which payment becomes due, the person liable falls into default upon the arrival of that date, and no letter of demand, notice of default or other demand for payment is required in order for interest to commence running. The running of interest under this sub-clause does not preclude the Levy Administrator from exercising any other remedy available to it in law.

9. Levy and escalation

The levy will be as follows —

	2026/2027	**2027/2028**	**2028/2029**	**2029/2030**
5(1)(a)	R 15,80	R 16,59	R 17,42	R 18,29
5(1)(b)	R 15,80	R 16,59	R 17,42	R 18,29
5(2)(a)	R 3,08	R 3,23	R 3,40	R 3,57
5(2)(b)	R 3,08	R 3,23	R 3,40	R 3,57

10. Use of the levy

The Minister approves that —

(a) approximately 70% of the levy funds should be used for activities relating to Animal Health, Public Health and Biosecurity, Market Access, Inclusive Growth and Competitiveness & Sustainability, and compliance to legislation;

(b) not more than 10% for administrative use; and

(c) at least 20% of the levy funds should be allocated towards transformation, with particular emphasis on initiatives aimed at strengthening biosecurity and animal health among subsistence, emerging and small-scale farmers.

11. Commencement and period of validity

This levy shall come into operation on 5 November 2026 and will lapse on 4 November 2030, being a period of four years. The lapsing of the levy shall not —

(a) affect the previous operation of the levy so lapsed or anything duly done or suffered under the levy so lapsed; or

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(b) affect any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under the levy so lapsed; or

(c) affect any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred in respect of any offence committed against the levy so lapsed; or

(d) affect any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, forfeiture or punishment as acquired, accrued or incurred in terms of the levy so lapsed.

And any such investigation, legal proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced, and any such penalty, forfeiture or punishment may be imposed, as if the levy had not lapsed.

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