



**agriculture, land reform
& rural development**

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate Animal Health, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
Delpen Building, C/O Annie Botha & Union Streets, Riviera, Pretoria, 0084

Enquiries: Dr Tatenda R. Motsi • Tel: +27 12 319 7536 • Fax: +27 12 329 6892 • E-mail: TatendaM@dalrrd.gov.za
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ATTENTION ALL IMPORTERS

IMPORTATION RESTRICTION NOTICE:

RE: IMPORTATION OF DRY, CURED PORK PRODUCTS, HEAT TREATED PORK AND OTHER PRODUCTS NOT TREATED SUFFICIENTLY TO INACTIVATE AFRICAN SWINE FEVER VIRUS FROM ITALY TO SOUTH AFRICA: AFRICAN SWINE FEVER OUTBREAK IN ITALY

Dear Importer,

An outbreak of African swine fever has occurred in Italy (OIE Immediate Notification Reported 07 January 2022 Report ID IN_153359).

It is our policy not to import any pig/pork or products not treated sufficiently to inactivate African swine fever virus from countries where African swine fever occurs, including in wild boars.

Our agreed on certificates require attestation to the freedom of ASF in Italy, and since the reported outbreak, this clause is no longer certifiable. As a result, the Directorate Animal Health of South Africa has decided to place trade restrictions on the following pork products from Italy into South Africa.:

1. Cured and dried pork products
2. Heat treated pork
3. Other products not treated sufficiently to inactivate African swine fever virus

No new veterinary import permits will be issued for any products mentioned under points 1-3. Unused permits will be cancelled and importers have to return those permits.

The Veterinary Authority of Italy was informed that, with immediate effect, no health certificates be issued for consignments of above-mentioned products destined for South Africa from Italy. However we did indicate that we are open to re-negotiate the conditions pertaining to African swine fever in the negotiated veterinary health certificates for the import of cured and dried as well as heat treated pork products from Italy.

The following cut-off date will be applied:

Consignments containing products packed in their final packaging* on or after 22 December 2021, will be rejected and returned to Italy or destroyed at the cost of the importer.

This is due to the fact that in the OIE alert report of 7 January 2022, the “start date” of the event as 5 January 2022 and the incubation period of African Swine Fever is 15 days according to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Please note that a reefer container will be regarded as a consignment, and will be handled as an entity. We will not allow cartons (eg. in the case of porcine meat) to be sorted according to date of production.

Thank you for your understanding.

Kind regards


Dr Mpho Maja
DIRECTOR: ANIMAL HEALTH

* Final packaging means cartons permanently closed and labelled with facility identification, slaughter date and final packing date. This excludes repacked product.

