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**BOARD NOTICES • RAADSKENNISGEWINGS**

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**BOARD NOTICE 135 OF 2020****AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE AGENTS COUNCIL  
BIOSECURITY RULES FOR LIVESTOCK AGENTS**

It is hereby made known that –

- (a) the rules set out in the Schedule have been made under section 10(b) of the Agricultural Produce Agents Act, 1992, (Act No. 12 of 1992) (“the Act”), read with section 22(2) and (3) of the said Act;
- (b) that the rules shall come into effect on the date of publication hereof in the Gazette.

**CF KNOWLES**

Registrar of Agricultural Produce Agents’ Council.

**SCHEDULE****1. BACKGROUND and DEFINITIONS:**

These rules will regulate the livestock agent’s industry with specific reference to required precautions to take during the gathering of live animals at auctions to reduce the risk of the spreading controlled, notifiable and other animal diseases.

In summary, each livestock agent/auctioneer will comply with the following:

- a) The rules for auctions in this document.
- b) Registration with the Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC) is compulsory and only registered agents will be allowed to conduct business.
- c) Acceptance of responsibilities in terms of Sections 11 and 26 of the Animal Diseases Act, Act 35 of 1984.

- The name and location of the farm/area of origin.
- The absence of overt signs of disease and parasites.
- The absence of unexplained mortalities on the property of origin in the preceding 28 days.
- No new animal introductions to the property of origin in the preceding 14 days.
- Where possible, and especially during periods of disease control restrictions in specific localities, confirmation of this health status by the farm's attending veterinarian is ideal, see Addendum A of this document.

**“Livestock agent”** means an agent acting as such with regard to any agricultural product specified in Part B of Schedule 1 (Act) and for purposes of section 3(1)(b) includes any director of a company, trustee of a trust or a member of a close corporation which acts as a livestock agent as aforesaid.

**“Visitor”** includes any person at the auction yard e.g. administrative personnel, auctioneers, managers, sellers, owners, buyers, workers, veterinarians etc.

## **2. OBJECTIVES:**

Auction facilities are the second level of detection for animal diseases for animals that are traded through this very critical marketing section of the livestock production value chain and therefore should play a very important role in reducing the spread of animal disease(s) through transactional business activities conducted within the auction facilities. This document aims to establish an auditable and traceable system, while at the same time minimizing the spread of animal disease(s) because of auction activities.

This will be achieved by the specific objectives:

- a) Implementation of a reliable, accurate, and auditable record-keeping system that ensures that all transactions conducted at livestock auctions were carried out in accordance with these reasonable and justifiable rules.

- c) Copy of RSA ID of the owner of the animals.
- d) Original Animal Owner Health Attestation, that may have a confirmation of that attestation by a veterinarian, for the farm of origin and the specific animals.
- e) Complete details of premises of origin on the Section 6 document: physical address, farm name, Surveyor General number and portion number etc. as declared and signed by the owner of the animals as well as the owner or manager of the premises of origin.

#### **4. ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION:**

As per the Animal Identification Act, Act No. 6 of 2002 and the Regulations published in Government Gazette no 26732 of 21 November 2003; and the Stock Theft Act, Act No. 57 of 1959 with specific reference to Section 6, 7 and 8 (Guidelines as to the completion of documentation). Animals that are not compliant with these regulations should not be permitted to enter the biosecure area.

- a) All animals accepted at an auction must be properly and permanently marked with the owner's registered mark in accordance with the Animal Identification Act, Act 6 of 2002, and regulations published in Government Gazette no 25732 of 21 November 2003.
- b) Animals without registered marks shall not be off-loaded at the biosecure area.
- c) No freshly branded animals may be accepted.
- d) No animals with wet paint marks of previous auctions may be accepted within 28 days after the previous sale.
- e) No branding or marking of animals is allowed on the auction premises.
- f) The auctioneer must ensure the registered brand belongs to the owner, check the brand marking certificate and ID of the owner and driver/transporter where applicable and to follow up any suspicious brands with the local Stock Theft Unit. The livestock agent must insist on a confirmation of their reporting of the non-compliance with the Stock Theft Act and keep these on record.

- b) Registration will imply that all the documentation required from the animal owner including a copy of the Animal Owner Health Attestation (see section 3) has been provided to the livestock agent. This will form part of the audit trail.
- c) All animals should have been individually identified at the farms of origin and carry the AIDA registered brand mark of their owner. The individual identification must be verified on arrival at the facility and must correspond to the identification provided in the Animal Owner Health Attestation from the owner, a section 6 declaration.

## **8. ACTIONS REQUIRED AT THE ARRIVAL AREA (DIRTY AREA):**

### **8.1 Biosecurity measures on entering at the Auction's Livestock Vehicle Entrance**

- a) A standard operating procedure (SOP) for cleaning of all vehicles entering the arrival area must be adhered to. The SOP will be prepared by the Biosecurity Practitioner and approved by a veterinarian.

### **8.2 Animal Inspection at Off-loading**

- a) No vehicle transporting animals may enter the auction premises without all documentation (section 3) being checked and verified beforehand at the Arrival area.
- b) A pre-quarantine facility with a crush and proper neck clamp must be available in the arrival area where suspect animals could be examined by a trained assistant for the presence of overt signs of disease and external parasites, prior to being admitted to the Biosecure area.
- c) All animals must, upon arrival, be checked for lesions or clinical signs of disease or external parasites. In addition, animals shall be checked for official marks/brands indicating any of the controlled animal diseases such as Brucellosis, Tuberculosis and Foot and mouth disease. If there is any suspicion of any infectious disease, please refer to section 10 below.

- d) Access points must be respected, well-demarcated and notices of procedures to be followed in specific access areas should be displayed.

## **9.2 Vehicle and visitor control**

- a) control logbooks must be kept of all visitors, vehicles, equipment etc. entering or leaving the Biosecure area.
- b) No entry of persons, vehicles or products should be allowed into the Biosecure area if not expressly permitted by the Biosecurity Practitioner, subject to the rules in the biosecurity plan as drawn up by the Biosecurity Practitioner.
- c) A different access gate for visitors and their vehicles should be used, if possible.
- d) A wheel dip or spray must be used for access of vehicles into the Biosecure area.
- e) People moving into and out of the Biosecure area must use a foot dip when going in and out of the area.
- f) Ideally, persons entering the Biosecure area should make use of raised walkways and not the walkways demarcated for the livestock.

## **9.3 Cleaning and disinfection of Biosecure area after auction**

The entire Biosecure area will be cleaned and disinfected after the auction according to the SOP drawn up by the Biosecurity Practitioner.

## **10. OFFICIAL REPORTING PROCEDURES OF SUSPECT ANIMALS:**

- a) Any case of an animal showing any suspected clinical signs of FMD or any other controlled/notifiable disease will immediately be reported to the state veterinarian. (See section 11(2) of the Animal Diseases Act, Act 35 of 1984).
- b) Any instruction of the state veterinarian issued must be adhered to immediately.
- c) Any animals presented at the auction without the proper and necessary documentation at the Arrival area shall not be allowed entry at the Biosecure area at the auction facility. If there is suspicion of animal ownership the animals should

**ADDENDUM A****HEALTH DECLARATION FOR ANIMALS GOING ON AUCTION:****ANIMAL OWNER**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FARM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

POST ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

TEL \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**LIVESTOCK INFO**

BREED \_\_\_\_\_

ID NO. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**STATE VET**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TEL \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**PRIVATE VET**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_

PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TEL \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

WE REQUIRE HEALTH INFO TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE.

To accept animals at the auction pens we need info on the health status of the animals and the farm of origin.

The Vet at the auction facility need correct info and that is why this health attestation is important.

The info can be of your personal work, from the local state vet, private vet, or district animal health technicians.

- 2.5 B.V.D. 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.6 Blue tongue 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.7 Foot and Mouth Disease 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.8 I.B.R. 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2.9 Other:  
Black quarter, Bohtax, Anthrax, etc. 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Was any samples tested at a lab for:**

- 3.1 Brucellosis (CA) 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.2 Tuberculosis (TB) 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.3 Sheath washes - Trichomonas  
- Campylobacter 

YES	NO	?
YES	NO	?

 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.4 B.V.D. 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.5 I.B.R. 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.6 Leukosis 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3.7 Other 

YES	NO	?
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 Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3.8 If available attach the lab results.

4. Since when were animals kept on farm of origin \_\_\_\_\_

5. When last were any new animals introduced on farm of origin \_\_\_\_\_

6. Is the farm correctly under quarantine: 

YES	NO	?
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If YES, explain:

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