



Vereniging - Association

NEWSFLASH

Postponement of AGM and webinar 2020.

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June 1, 2020

Postponement of AGM and webinar 2020.

The COVID 19 pandemic had a major effect on the world and the way we do business in South Africa. The damage to the South African economy will also no doubt affect the South African Red Meat Industry.

The Association provided the red meat abattoir industry with guidelines as part of a concerted effort to reduce the spread of the pandemic, whilst continuing red meat production as part of essential services in South Africa. Employers must prepare themselves and their workers of potentially worsening outbreak conditions.

The entire country will move to Level 3 from Monday 1 June 2020

SUMMARY OF REGULATIONS

ALERT LEVEL 3

STAY SAFE
PROTECT SOUTH AFRICA

WHEN CAN I LEAVE MY HOME?

You must remain at home at all times, except to:

- Travel to and from work
- Attend a school or learning institution once these are opened
- Purchase goods or obtain services that are allowed at Level 3
- Exercise, between 6am and 6pm, and not in groups
- Move children between homes, where permitted
- Attend a place of worship

You must wear a cloth face mask whenever in public

WORKPLACE PROTOCOLS

To keep workers safe, employers must:

- Minimise the number of employees at the workplace at any given time through rotation, staggered working hours, shift systems, remote working arrangements or similar measures, to limit congestion in public transport and at the workplace
- Make arrangements for social distancing at work
- Provide sanitiser or facilities for hand-washing
- Sanitise surfaces regularly
- Screen employees for symptoms daily and assist those at risk to seek treatment

ECONOMIC SECTORS

- All economic sectors are permitted to operate, except for high-risk activities that remain restricted

WHAT GOODS CAN I PURCHASE?

- All retail outlets will be open, with stringent health protocols in place
- Alcohol will be sold under strict conditions, from Mondays to Thursdays between 9am and 5pm
- The sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products remains prohibited

THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS WILL REMAIN IN PLACE:

- Consumption of food and alcohol in restaurants, bars, shebeens and taverns
- Personal care services where social distancing is not possible
- Hotels and accommodation for leisure
- Domestic air travel, except for essential work travel
- Conferences, events and gatherings
- Cinemas, theatres, museums and other entertainment venues
- Gyms and fitness centres
- Beaches, public parks, sports grounds and swimming pools

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

- Most people who are infected with COVID-19 have no symptoms
- You may be spreading the virus without knowing it
- Wear a mask, wash your hands regularly and keep your distance from others at all times

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HOTSPOTS

Hotspots will be determined based on the number of active cases per 100,000 in the population, the rate of increase in active cases, and the capacity of the health system.

Special measures will apply in hotspot areas:

- Movement in and out of hotspot areas may be restricted
- Dedicated, multidisciplinary teams will be deployed to contain the outbreak, including epidemiologists, doctors, nurses and community health workers
- Each hotspot will be linked to testing and quarantine facilities, and additional hospital beds where necessary
- All contacts will be traced and isolated to prevent further transmission

OUR COVID-19 PREVENTION TOOLBOX

At Level 3, we need to take personal responsibility for our safety and the safety of others:

- Keeping a distance of one-and-a-half metres from other people
- Regularly washing or sanitising your hands
- Wearing a cloth mask in public
- Cleaning surfaces regularly
- Avoiding crowds and gatherings

PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS' EMPLOYMENT

- All staff employed by private households may return to work, and employers must take measures to ensure a safe working environment

SPECIAL MEASURES FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE

- All those above the age of 60, and those with underlying medical conditions, should leave home only in exceptional circumstances
- Employers should allow them to work from home where possible, or put special measures in place to facilitate their safety at work

GATHERINGS

All gatherings are prohibited, except for:

- Places of worship with 50 people or less, depending on the size of the venue, and following strict health protocols
- Funerals, with specific restrictions
- Workplaces, with social distancing guidelines adhered to
- Agricultural auctions
- Professional non-contact sports matches, but with no spectators

EVICCTIONS

- No person MAY BE EVICTED from his or her land or home during the period of Alert Level 3
- A court may grant an eviction order, but this will be stayed and suspended until the end of Alert Level 3

During the development of the Contingencies for COVID 19 as decision was made to post the RMAA Annual Conference and Congress to 2021. A date of 09-11 June 2021 was confirmed with Spier for the postponement of our booking at this hotel. We are currently engaged with our sponsors and exhibitors in this regard. **Although industry and members have received an invitation to a Webinar on the initial date during the past week, and invitations were already posted to speakers, it was decided NOT to proceed with this webinar at this time due to pressing issues at abattoirs amidst the threat of positive cases in our industry. 2020 Vision in the abattoir industry is indeed currently a perfect science!**

In terms of the Constitution of the Association, the election of the Board and the approval of the financial statements will take place at the annual general meeting. (item 6.3 and 8.2) These two matters will be handled in a separate electronic motion to members of the Association.

The Annual Conference is also traditionally an opportunity for our Associated Members to exhibit their products to the industry. This advertising and interaction is further hampered by restricted visits to facilities.

For this reason, we will provide our **Associated Members, sponsors and exhibitors a specific opportunity by way of June 2020 Newsletter editorial to promote their products**, provide further background to their business contingencies and also provide background to the changes in the industry in their field of expertise.

In the mean time we urge members to ensure that:

1. The Covid19 Contingency Plan is updated according to additional regulations or as new information becomes available.
2. Provision is made for the laundering of face masks at the facility similar to other PPE should disposable masks not be used.
3. Implement working arrangements in order to achieve social distancing as far as practicable (*COVID-19 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES IN WORKPLACES -29 April 2020 –item 16.7*)
4. Workers are provided with information that raises awareness (*Item 16.9, additional information is also available on our website*)
5. Measures are provided for the screening of personnel

Kind regards



**GERHARD NEETHLING
GENERAL MANAGER
RED MEAT ABATTOIR ASSOCIATION**

