

13 June 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: NEW PROPOSED FEES FOR THE PROCESSED MEAT PRODUCTS COMMODITY UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT STANDARDS ACT, 1990 (ACT 119 OF 1990) AND R.1283 OF 4 OCTOBER 2019

1. Food Safety Agency (Pty) Ltd did a verification of the industry bought PERTEN NIR machine and SANAS accredited laboratories in April 2022 as per our internal verification procedure. The results of the PERTEN NIR machine indicated a large deviation from the SANAS accredited laboratories' results and R.1283 of 4 October 2019.
2. Due to the above-mentioned results, Food Safety Agency (Pty) Ltd had a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SAMPA (South African Meat Processors Association), Mr Peter Gordon, where we informed Mr Gordon that the PERTEN NIR machine will no longer be used for testing of processed meat products sampled by the assignee.
3. All testing done by the PERTEN NIR machine have therefore been stopped, with immediate effect, and all samples are being sent to SANAS accredited laboratories. Since the samples are being sent to only SANAS accredited laboratories, the non-compliance on the compositional standards of processed meat products have increased with approximately 10%.
4. As Food Safety Agency (Pty) Ltd's previous Processed Meat Products Expenditure Budget was based on a financial model where 50% of samples were sent for testing ("screening") through the PERTEN NIR machine at the Food Consulting Services Laboratory where the machine is situated, and the remaining 50% of samples, were sent to accredited laboratories, to keep the sampling cost to a minimum. This model is no longer possible, due to only SANAS accredited laboratories now being used.
5. Food Safety Agency (Pty) Ltd also indicated, when it started with the roll out of the Processed Meat Products regulations in April 2020, that a maximum of 100 kilometres would be charged for an inspection, round trip. This will however no longer be the case, as actual kilometres will be charged for actual kilometres driven.
6. We contacted four different accredited laboratories and requested them to quote on the tests that need to be conducted by Food Safety Agency (Pty) Ltd on Processed Meat Products as per R.1283 of 4 October 2019. We received their pricing and sent up a new draft budget for the approval of the Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). The budget has been approved by the Executive Officer and we therefore attach the new proposed fees for industry comments.
7. We avail ourselves to any request for a meeting to discuss the proposed fees in detail, should you deem it necessary. Meeting requests and comments can be sent to nicole.bergh@afsq.co.za.

We trust you will find the above in order.

Kind Regards.



Louis Visagie

CEO

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