



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND FORESTRY

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Circular V4/2013

TO: All Chief Veterinarians
All State Veterinarians
All Control Animal Health Technicians
All Chief Animal Health Technicians
All Food Business Operators
All Farmers Unions
All Farmers

SUBJECT: FORTY DAY RESIDENCY COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Forty-day residency of cattle and sheep is a requirement for the eventual export of fresh or chilled or frozen beef and mutton to the European Union (EU). The purpose of this circular is to prescribe, how role players in the livestock sector can comply with this requirement.

1. The owner of the holding should ensure that all livestock on the holding are registered on the NamLITS database, properly identified with approved identification marks and that all livestock movements to the holding and out of the holding are reconciled.
2. All livestock keepers intending to slaughter cattle and sheep for the EU market are expected to complete the attached declaration on the animal movement permit.
3. In terms of the declaration, livestock keepers must ensure that such animals were born in Namibia south of the Veterinary Cordon Fence (VCF) or if introduced from approved areas were resident in the area south of the VCF for a continuous period of at least 90 days.
4. The completed declaration with the fully endorsed livestock movement permit and relevant animal movement notices, must accompany the animals to the slaughterhouse.

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5. in addition, individual cattle and the sheep flock (or individually identified sheep) should have been resident on the holding for a continuous period of at least 40 days and **should not have been in contact** with animals of a lesser status, before departure to the EU approved slaughter house. The 40-day period starts from the last date of arrival of either cattle or sheep/goats of a lesser status onto the holding
6. To comply with the 40-day residency;

- a) The livestock keeper must have maintained a closed herd and there should have been no introduction of livestock from a holding of a lesser status in the last 40 days;

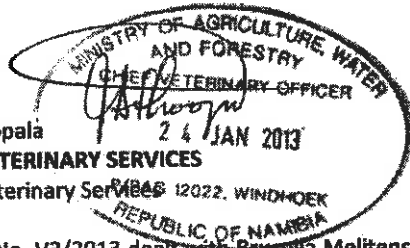
OR

- b) Animals should have been kept in a veterinary approved isolation camp(s) on the holding/stock inspection unit for at least 40 days to separate them from animals that are not eligible for EU market.
- c) Newly introduced animals should be kept in isolation in a veterinary approved camp on the holding/stock inspection unit for at least 40 days before mixing with EU eligible animals
- d) At the feedlots animals should be kept in separation in pens according to the date of introduction and a distance away from animals of a lesser status as approved by the DVS

7. No livestock will be allowed for EU slaughter market directly from animals gathering(s) unless all animals presented at such animal gathering(s) are eligible for EU market.
8. On application for an animal movement permit to the EU eligible animal gathering, the veterinary official will interrogate the NamLITS system to verify compliance.
9. Livestock that have met the 40-day residency requirements on the last holding can be transported directly to the EU approved slaughterhouse. The transport of animals destined to the EU slaughter in the same trucks/trailers as animals from holdings of a lower status will result in disqualification for the EU market.
10. The Food Business Operator (FBO) must, upon receipt of the consignment interrogate the NamLITS database to verify the 90 and 40 day residency requirement before accepting the animals for slaughter to the EU.
11. At the abattoir, EU eligible livestock must be kept in separate pens/ kraals from the rest of the animals of lesser status and **must be slaughtered first**, in case the non- EU eligible animals are slaughtered first, a session of cleaning and disinfection of the **slaughter line** must take place under official veterinary supervision. The State Veterinarian must keep detailed records of non-compliance which should include what happened to animals that did not comply with the 40/90 day residency requirement.
12. State Veterinarians and Animal Health Technicians are required to verify compliance to the conditions outlined above.

Please note that this Circular supersedes Circular V10 of 2011 and veterinary officials are expected to implement it immediately.

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The last Circular No. V3/2013 dealt with *Brucella Melitensis* Sampling Protocol & Maintenance of free status.

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