

South Africa

Disaster Management Act, 2002

Directions Regarding Livestock Auctions

Board Notice 85 of 2020

Legislation as at 31 July 2020

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Directions Regarding Livestock Auctions

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Board Notice 85 of 2020

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Commenced on 31 July 2020

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I, Angela Thoko Didiza, Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, hereby issue the Directions set out in the Schedule in terms of regulation 4(10) of the Regulations issued by the Minister of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs in terms of section 27(2) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 ([Act No. 57 of 2002](#)), and published on 29 April 2020 in Government Notice No. R.480 of *Government Gazette* No. 43258.

Angela Thoko Didiza, MP

Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

1. Definitions

In these Directions any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Agricultural Produce Agents Act or the Regulations bears the meaning so assigned and, unless the context indicates otherwise—

"**Agricultural Produce Agents Act**" means the Agricultural Produce Agents Act, 1992 ([Act No. 12 of 1992](#));

"**Disaster Management Act**" means the Disaster Management Act, 2002 ([Act No. 57 of 2002](#));

"**Regulations**" means the Regulations issued in terms of section 27 (2) of the Disaster Management Act and published on 29 April 2020 in Government Notice No. R.480 of *Government Gazette* No. 43258;

"**Stock Theft Act**" means the Stock Theft Act, 1959 ([Act No. 57 of 1959](#)).

2. Purpose

The purpose of these Directions is to allow for auctions of livestock under specified control measures to—

- (a) enable supply of livestock into the food value chain; and
- (b) ensure compliance with the Regulations by livestock owners, livestock agents, livestock agencies, hosts of auctions and owners or managers of auction venues and their employees and representatives and any other attendees of auctions.

3. Application

These Directions are applicable to livestock auctions conducted within the borders of South Africa until further notice and must be complied with by all persons (natural and juristic) involved in the holding and or attendance of auctions.

4. Directions

4.1 All persons conducting or attending livestock auctions must comply with the—

- (a) Agricultural Produce Agents Act;

- (b) Stock Theft Act;
 - (c) Animal Identification Act, 2002 ([Act No. 6 of 2002](#));
 - (d) Animal Diseases Act, 1984 ([Act No. 35 of 1984](#)).
- 4.2 Only owners of livestock and livestock agents and livestock agencies, registered with the registrar on the date of these Directions, shall be allowed to hold or attend auctions.
- 4.3 Any livestock owner, livestock agent and livestock agency, must have the necessary documentation required under the Stock Theft Act, to transport livestock to and from the venue where the auction is conducted.
- 4.4 Any livestock owner, livestock agent, livestock agency, host of an auction and owner or manager of an auction venue and their employees and representatives must comply and ensure compliance with the Regulations as well as these Directions.
- 4.5 The host of the auction and the owner or manager of the auction venue must—
- (a) at least 48 hours before the auction, in writing, inform all attendees of the auction of the COVID-19 measures to be complied with;
 - (b) display marked boards and distribute other information at the auction, to inform the attendees about the risks associated with COVID-19 and the necessary and compulsory measures to mitigate such risks;
 - (c) conduct inspections, before and during the auction, to ensure that the safety measures are being observed by the attendees of the auction;
 - (d) ensure that there are no more than 50 persons, excluding workers, present at the auction venue;
 - (e) keep a register in which the identity number, physical address and telephone number of all attendees, as well as workers is entered;
 - (f) ensure that physical distancing of 1.5 metres is strictly applied;
 - (g) ensure compliance with the health protocols by all workers and attendees by—
 - (i) providing sanitizers and hand washbasins with running water, soap and disposable hand towels which must be strategically placed at the auction venue;
 - (ii) encouraging all attendees and workers to wash their hands on a regular basis for at least 20 seconds;
 - (iii) ensuring there is no personal contact between individuals;
 - (iv) reminding attendees and workers to cover their mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing;
 - (v) ensuring all workers and attendees wear cloth facemasks, or a homemade item to cover the nose and mouth;
 - (vi) sanitising both the card and machine after each transaction at the checkout point when using a card machine;
 - (vii) cleaning all surfaces, including all handrails, with disinfectant containing an alcohol base sanitiser;
 - (viii) screening all attendees and workers before every auction and referring any attendee or worker, that shows any symptoms of COVID-19, for testing by the relevant authorities;
 - (h) ensure that any attendee who does not comply with these Directions is refused entry to the auction or leave the auction immediately.

- 4.6 Any livestock owner, livestock agent, livestock agency, host of an auction, the owner or manager of an auction venue and their employees and representatives or any other attendee at an auction, must report any attendee or worker, who does not comply with the Regulations and these Directions, to the relevant authorities.

5. Inspections

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development shall inspect and monitor the conduct of auctions held in terms of these Directions and inform all interested parties of any amendments of these Directions or the Regulations.

6. Commencement and duration

These Directions come into effect on the date of publication in the *Government Gazette*, and will apply for the period of disaster declaration.