



Circular LA 8/2021

1 September 2021

To all Livestock Agents

APAC BIOSECURITY FACILITY & PROCEDURE AUDIT

On 13 November 2020, the Biosecurity Rules for Livestock Agents (Rules) were published in Government Gazette 43900, Board Notice 135 of 2020. Adherence to these Rules became compulsory on 1 July 2021 and all livestock agents (auction facilities and procedures) are now eligible to be audited as contemplated in section 1(d). An audit will serve to determine overall biosecurity compliance. It is also a specific requirement that all auction facilities must be audited before 31 December 2021, upon which a status report on biosecurity-readiness of the livestock auction industry will be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.

Initially compliance audits were to be performed by the South African Meat Industry Company (SAMIC). This has however changed, and audits will now be facilitated by the Foot-and-Mouth Forum (under the chairmanship of Mr Willem van Jaarsveld). The first such audit (as a trial) was performed on 9 August 2021 at Tobie Myburg Auctioneers in Bloemfontein. This livestock agency performed exceptionally well and was awarded “good standing in terms of biosecurity measures for livestock agents” by APAC. This accolade has paved the way for, among other things, feedlots to procure animals again from this livestock agent. The SA Feedlot Association has also voiced its approval of auction facilities that adhere to the high standards commanded by the Rules.

To determine the state of readiness of all livestock auction facilities in South Africa, you are requested to complete the attached form (Annexure A) with a clear indication of the progress made with each individual auction facility that you manage on the following scale:

- Fully implemented and compliant to the Rules,
- Significant progress made with the implementation of the Rules,

- Some progress made with the implementation of the Rules, but significantly more work must be done to be compliant,
- No progress made with the implementation of the Rules.

The progress that you submit will be placed and displayed on the APAC website as a measure to inform the industry on progress made with adherence and compliance to the Rules.

Failure to reply to this circular will be deemed as “no progress has been made to date”. This will also lead to an immediate audit.

In addition, the following must also be submitted:

- The addresses of all auction facilities that you use,
- The GPS coordinates of all such facilities.
- The name of the person who manages each auction facility, together with a contact number and e-mail,
- ***Upon receipt of the completed Annexure, you will be registered for the online “Biosecurity for Livestock Agents course”. This is provided to you at no cost.***

Please forward annexure A to Me. Stephanie Nel (Deputy Registrar) at stephanie.nel@apacouncil.co.za by no later than end of business on **Friday 10 September 2021.**

Yours sincerely


CF Knowles
REGISTRAR APAC

