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RULES PERTAINING TO THE PROCESSING OF WHITE MAIZE GRAIN INTO NON-MILLING PRODUCTS

1. INTRODUCTION

In terms of Government Notice No 268 of 31 December 2014, maize is already listed as a controlled crop in Namibia. In terms of the current rule, only registered millers of white maize are allowed to import white maize grain, upon registration.

However, the NAB Secretariat recently received a request from some individual businesses that would like to import and process white maize grain into non-milling products such as maize grit, maize rice, and maize samp. The current rules do not allow the importation of white maize grain by persons or companies that are not registered as millers in Namibia and hence limit persons or companies that would like to go into this line of business.

In 2020, a total of approximately 423 tons (N\$1.9 million) of maize grit, maize samp, and maize rice was imported into the country during the 2020/2021 financial year, and no data on local production. There are also no quantitative import restrictions on the importation of white maize non-milling products, however, importers are required to obtain permits from the NAB. In terms of Government Notice 35 of 2015, there are no levies applicable to white maize products that are not derived from milling, crushing, or grinding.

Therefore, this document provides rules that govern the processing of white maize grain into non-milling products, to ensure that such facilities are registered with the NAB as per the Agronomic Industry Act (Act 20 of 1992) and comply with the conditions of registration.

2. THE APPLICABLE RULES

The following rules shall apply to the processing of white maize grain into non-milling products for human consumption purposes:

- 2.1 The processor shall be required to be registered by the NAB, and comply with the current requirements for the registration of millers/importers of white maize, wheat, and pearl millet, as set out in the; *Import, Export, and Transit rules and procedures about controlled agronomic products.*

- 2.2 The processor license shall be issued upon satisfying the requirements for registration and after paying the applicable license fees, based on milling capacity.
- 2.3 The current license fees for white maize millers shall apply and import permits shall be subject to a permit fee determined by the NAB for each financial year.
- 2.4 The license shall be valid for 12 months (June - May each year), subject to renewal, and the processor shall undertake to comply with the license conditions.
- 2.5 Importation shall be done by submitting a permit application to the NAB and a border receipt shall be issued at the entry border post.
- 2.6 Importation of white maize grain into Namibia for manufacturing non-milling products during the close border period shall be allowed, subject to written approval obtained from the NAB before the commencement of the marketing season.
- 2.7 The processor shall be required to state the volume (tonnage) of white maize grain to be imported during the close border period, for manufacturing of non-milling white maize products.
- 2.8 The processor shall be required to submit monthly returns to the NAB using the current monthly return form for millers, for monitoring purposes.
- 2.9 The processed products shall comply with the Regulations relating to Grading and Classification of Maize in terms of Government Notice 71 of 1994, and the standards of the composition of maize products, in terms of Government Notice 72 of 1994.

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