

**Contact Details**

Tel office: +264 61 379 500  
Fax office: +264 61 22 5371  
E-mail: [nabdesk@nab.com.na](mailto:nabdesk@nab.com.na)  
Website: [www.nab.com.na](http://www.nab.com.na)

**Physical address:**

Agricultural Boards' Building  
30 David Hosea Meroro Road  
Windhoek  
Namibia

**Postal address:**

PO Box 5096  
Ausspannplatz  
Windhoek  
Namibia



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## **RULES PERTAINING TO THE PROCESSING OF YELLOW MAIZE GRAIN FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In terms of Government Notice No 268 of 31 December 2014, maize is already listed as a controlled crop in Namibia. Currently, yellow maize grain is primarily produced and imported for animal feed use and in 2020/2021, a total of approximately 28 000 tons (N\$86 million) of yellow maize grain was imported for animal feed and no records of yellow maize grain that was directly imported for human consumption purposes. A total of approximately 500 tons (N\$4 million) of yellow maize meal /polenta was imported into the country during the 2020/2021 financial year.

The NAB is aware of one registered miller who was milling yellow maize polenta for human consumption in the Karst area. However, the miller was stopped by NAB since the current rule does not allow the importation and processing of yellow maize grain for human consumption, except for the fact that it can be imported for animal feed using the NAB import permit. Furthermore, there are also no levies applicable to yellow maize, and no quantitative import restrictions.

Therefore, the new rules govern the processing of yellow maize grain for human consumption, to ensure that facilities that are involved in the processing of yellow maize grain for human consumption are registered with the NAB as per the Agronomic Industry Act (Act 20 of 1992) and complies with the conditions of registration.

### **2. THE APPLICABLE RULES**

The following rules shall apply to the processing of yellow maize grain 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 Producers of yellow maize for human consumption shall be required to register with the NAB and provide an estimated harvest before 01 May each year. The NAB shall compile and distribute the

production forecast to concerned millers and producers, and this forecast shall be used to inform industry decision-making.

- 2.3 The processor license shall be issued upon satisfying the requirements for registration and after paying the applicable license fees, based on milling capacity.
- 2.4 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.
- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 Importation shall be done by submitting a permit application to the NAB and a border receipt shall be issued at the entry border post.
- 2.7 Importation of yellow maize grain for human consumption into Namibia during the close border period for white maize grain shall be allowed, if it's not available locally, and subject to written approval obtained from the NAB before the commencement of the marketing season.
- 2.8 The processor shall be required to state the volume (tonnage) of yellow maize grain to be imported during the close border period.
- 2.9 Should the tonnage of yellow maize to be imported for human consumption during the close border period exceed 2% of the expected white maize grain local production, the NAB shall assess the impact on the white maize local industry during the close border period and advise the industry and the board accordingly.
- 2.10 Importation during the close border period shall be inspected at the entry border post and tonnage to be imported shall be monitored closely.
- 2.11 The processor shall be required to submit monthly returns to the NAB using the current monthly return form for millers, for monitoring purposes.
- 2.12 The yellow maize for human consumption 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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