

# SWAZILAND

Tel: (+268) 404 1808/9  
Fax: (+268) 404 3833  
E-mail: itd@realnet.co.sz



# GOVERNMENT

Director's Office  
International Trade Department  
Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade  
P. O. Box 451, Mbabane H100

## **RE: Swaziland's Notification on Import Permits Required for Importation of Certain Products and Levies Charged**

### **A) Imported Scheduled Agricultural Products**

The National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBOARD) is an organization responsible for the issuance of permits and collection of levy on scheduled agricultural products imported to Swaziland. These requirements are imposed on such import mainly to protect local industry and in the process develop local capacity to produce these products. NAMBOARD was established by an Act of parliament (Act No. 13 of 1985) to issue permits and collect levies on scheduled agricultural products.

#### **Procedures for applying for permit**

- A trader should have a trading license and should apply stating his business address and contact details for traceability,
- Applications should be addressed to the contact address stated below;
- The permit will only be obtained once the levy is paid to NAMBOARD and is valid for 30 days.
- Where an applicant is not granted the permit, they can appeal to NAMBOARD itself or take their appeal to the Ministry of Agriculture for the attention of the Principal Secretary. Usually an application is rejected if there is enough local production to meet demand.
- Where changes have to be made to this Act, NAMBOARD writes to the Ministry of Agriculture who then recommends to the Attorney General's office to effect the necessary amendments which are then issued through a Legal Notice passed through Parliament. Stakeholders are notified at least a month before changes are effected.

#### **List of the Agricultural Scheduled Products & levies Imposed**

| Scheduled Products             | Levy Range (%) / Permit Fee (E)<br>E = Emalangeni = Rand = US\$7 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fruits and Vegetables          | 3.5% - 15%                                                       |
| White Maize and maize products | 1% - 7.5%                                                        |
| Rice                           | 3.5%                                                             |
| Wheat and Wheaten Products     | 3% - 5%                                                          |
| Poultry and Poultry Products   | 5% - 25%                                                         |
| Animal Feed                    | E75.00 - E225.00                                                 |
| Popcorn                        | E75.00                                                           |
| Starch                         | E500.00                                                          |
| Yellow Maize                   | E75.00 - E225.00                                                 |



The IPC meets every Wednesday at 0900 hours, at the Ministry of Conference in Mbabane to discuss and approve applications for importation of such products as listed below

- Used motor vehicles
- Used Earthmoving Equipment
- Used clothing
- Used tyres/tyres casings
- Used footwear
- Used textiles
- Mineral fuels
- Mineral oils
- Automotive parts
- Arms
- Drugs
- Gold and other precious metals
- Wild animals products
- Agricultural products (wheat, flour, dairy, maize, rice)
- Electrical appliances

**Procedures for application for permit**

- Application forms are obtained from Ministry of Finance
- Application form explains in detail the required documentation
- The last day of submitting forms is Tuesday before 1430 hours
- Committee also deliberates and approves applications for sales tax exemptions for imports made by NGOs/charity organizations etc. These are goods which are imported solely for relief purposes (epidemic, poverty, community development) and will not be sold.

For more information contact  
Imports Permit Secretariat  
Ministry of Finance  
Tel: +268 404 2142/ 404 8145

  
**Sibusiso Mnisi – Swaziland NTB Focal Person**  
For: Principal Secretary



For more information contact  
The Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box 2975  
Manzini, M200  
Tel: + 268 2505 8262/3  
Email: [mdlamini@dairyboard.co.sz](mailto:mdlamini@dairyboard.co.sz)

**Schedule on Levy Charged on Milk and Dairy Products for 2011**

| Scheduled Dairy Product                                                                 | Import Levy (% of Invoiced Value) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Full cream milk UHT/Flavored Milk                                                       | 10                                |
| Low Fat UHT                                                                             | 10                                |
| Fresh Full Cream Milk, Low Fat or Skim Milk                                             | 12                                |
| Fermented Milk/Emasi/Butter Milk                                                        | 12                                |
| Fresh/Sour Cream or UHT                                                                 | 10                                |
| Yoghurt/Sip                                                                             | 10                                |
| Margarine                                                                               | 10                                |
| Honey                                                                                   | 10                                |
| Condensed milk                                                                          | 10                                |
| Dessert/ice cream/mixtures                                                              | 10                                |
| Baby formulas                                                                           | 10                                |
| Milk Substitutes (e.g. Cremora etc)                                                     | 10                                |
| Full Cream Milk Powder                                                                  | 10                                |
| Skim Milk Powder/Dairy Powder Blends                                                    | 10                                |
| Whey/Buttermilk Powder                                                                  | 10                                |
| Cheese (Cheddar, Gouda or other)                                                        | 10                                |
| Butter                                                                                  | 10                                |
| Edible Products of animal origin not elsewhere specified or included in the tariff book | 10                                |

**C) Imports Permit for Other Products**

The importation of other specified products into Swaziland is controlled by the Import Permit Committee (IPC) which is composed of relevant stakeholders and is chaired by the Ministry of Finance. The IPC is composed of the following stakeholders;

- Ministry of Finance (chair)
- Representative from the International Trade Department
- Representative from the Customs and Tax Department of the Swaziland Revenue Authority
- Representative from the Department of Commerce (Licencing)
- Representative from the Central Bank of Swaziland (foreign exchange department)



For more information contact  
Chief Executive Officer  
NAMBOARD  
Tel: + 268 2505 2646/48/51

#### **B) Measures Imposed on Imports of Scheduled Dairy Products**

The importation of Dairy products requires an import permit and that a levy be charged on these products. The Swaziland Dairy Board (SDB) is an established organization mandated by the Dairy Act of 1968 to amongst other things issue import permits and charge levy for all scheduled imported dairy products. Other legislations which controls SDB's operations are the Animal Disease Act of 1965 and the Trading Licence Order of 1975.

The aim and purpose of imposing import permits and charging levy is to protect human and animal health and to protect the local dairy industry. These measures are however reviewed periodically to determine the stage of development of the local dairy industry and to also assess possible human and animal health risk suspected. Where amendments on this regulations have to be made, consultations are undertaken with relevant key stakeholders who seats in the Dairy Industry Stakeholder Coordinating Committee (DISCC). This Committee has representatives from consumers, retailers, manufactures and producers, government and others. The representatives are given 90 days to make their submissions to any possible changes to the regulations.

Where the an applicant has been unjustly refused an import permit, the appeal process is there and is goes through the following stages;

- Permits Clerk (stage 1)
- Quality Control Manager
- Chief Executive Officer
- The Board of Directors of SDB
- The Minister of Agriculture
- Court of Law (last stage)

#### **Application procedures**

- Should have all necessary trading licence documents
- Company is issued with a multiple entry permit which is valid for 30 days
- Payment of the levy will be made after the expiry of the 30 days upon which the importer will be granted another permit. Payment is made to SDB.
- SDB posts inspectors in various entry points to inspect on quality assurance issues.
- All applications are made to  
The Dairy Board Permits Office  
Quality Control Manager  
Tel: +268 2505 8262/3

