



Western Cape
Government

Agriculture

BETTER TOGETHER.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ): Covid-19 in Agriculture

Version 6

Western Cape Department of Agriculture

6 May 2020

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. GENERAL AND FOOD SECURITY

1.1. What does the lockdown mean for our sector?

In the Alert Level 4 Regulations the Agricultural Sector received permission to resume full operation. More specific, "All agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing, bee - keeping, including preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport of live animals and auctions (subject to health directions) and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including research, inspection, certification and quality control)" received permission to continue full operation..

The recognition of the important role the Agricultural Sector, as well as its forward and backwards linkages, is an important moment for the Agricultural Sector. However, this recognition also comes with responsibility and it is up to all people involved in the food value chain to accept this responsibility, to continue food production, to maintain proper Covid-19 related hygienic standards and to keep themselves from contamination.

1.2. What does it mean for those who are harvesting at the moment?

As explained above, the food value chain has been exempted from the lockdown and the South African society is relying on harvesting to continue. Hence, nothing prevents people involved in the harvesting process to continue with their important work. However, it is also expected from those involved to continue with basic preventative measures such as washing your hands, social distancing, not gathering in large groups, etc.

1.3. What does it mean for food security?

It is important to note that South Africa is a surplus producer of food with the value of food exports exceeding imports with a significant margin. The main export crops include citrus fruit, wine, grapes, deciduous fruit, maize, etc. and over the last few years the country has become a net exporter of beef. On the import side whiskey is the most important imported product, followed by rice, poultry and wheat (note that products such as rice and wheat are largely non-perishable). Furthermore, large parts of South Africa experienced good summer rainfall and a bumper crop of 15,5 million tons of maize (the 2nd largest maize crop in history) is expected to be harvested this season. In the winter rainfall area, the harvest of table grapes, stone fruit (e.g. peaches and nectarines) and pears has been completed with only about 15% of the apple harvest still to come and citrus harvesting soon to start. For the rest of the year marketing of fruit will continue from Controlled Atmosphere (CA) cold storage. Volumes of vegetables are also adequate and South Africa became a net exporter

of beef a few years ago. It follows that there should be no fear of any shortage of food over the short term.

Hence, the empty shelves recently seen in supermarkets is not as a result of a lack of the availability of food, but rather as the result of panic buying which led to temporary shortages of particular products in specific supermarkets. These products will be replenished via stocks available in the various food value chains.

2. PERMITS

2.1. Do I (or my truck driver) need a permit to travel in order to pick up farming inputs or to take agricultural products to the market/depot/distribution centre?

Transport of food as well as other logistical operations pertaining to food are exempted from the shutdown. The Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent – e.g. a farm-owner / manager) is allowed to issue the travel permit.

2.2. Where can I obtain permits for my workers?

The Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent – e.g. a farmer) is allowed to duly designate in writing people whom are required to conduct essential services (i.e. issue a “permit”). Please note that must be duly stamped with the official stamp of your business or, in lieu of a stamp, attach a copy of your own stamped permit.

However, please note that it is expected of each business / farm to develop a Covid-19 Workplace Plan prior to reopening of an enterprise employing persons or serving the public.

2.3. I am a farmer. Where can I obtain a permit for myself?

A farmer may issue a permit to essential workers, but is not allowed to issue a permit to him or herself. You could approach your farmers federation (e.g. Agri West Cape, AFASA, etc.), industry association (e.g. Hortgro, Vinpro, etc.).

2.4. I am a smallholder farmer. Where can I obtain a permit for myself?

A smallholder farmer may issue a permit to essential workers, but is not allowed to issue a permit to him or herself. You could approach Mr Darryl Jacobs at the Western Cape Department of Agriculture for a permit for yourself. Please contact him at:

E-mail: Darryl.Jacobs@elsenburg.com

Tel: (021) 808 5013

2.5. My business supply inputs to the Agricultural Sector, process farm products or distribute food and non-alcoholic beverages. Where can I obtain a permit for myself?

A business can register on the website of DTI by follow the link to: <http://bizportal.gov.za>. This can be done on-line and the registration certificate could be downloaded.

The Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent – e.g. a Managing Director) is allowed to duly designate in writing people whom are required to conduct essential services (i.e. issue a “permit”).

3. AGRI WORKERS

3.1. A significant number of my workers live off-farm. Am I allowed to transport my workers to and from my farm during the lockdown? Are there any special terms and conditions?

Public transport has been allowed to resume, under certain conditions, during Level 4.

As per the Transport Directions issued by Minister Mbalula on 4 May 2020 in Government Gazette No 43272:

- a) Public Transport Sedan vehicle is limited to carry not more than 50% of its permissible passenger carrying capacity, sedan vehicle with carrying capacity of 5 persons is allowed to carry two passengers plus a driver (3 persons).
- b) E- hailing, meter taxis, shuttle services, chauffer driven vehicles are permitted to carry not more than 50% of their permissible passenger carrying capacity as follows:
 - i. vehicle with a permissible carrying capacity of 5 persons is allowed to carry two passengers plus a driver (3 persons);
 - ii. vehicle with a permissible carrying capacity of 7 passengers is allowed to carry three passengers plus a driver (4 persons); and
 - iii. vehicle with a permissible carrying capacity of 10 passengers is allowed to carry five passengers plus a driver (6 persons).
- c) Mini and Midibus Taxi vehicles must not carry more than 70% of their maximum licensed passenger carrying capacity as follows
 - i. A minibus licensed to carry 10 passengers, is limited to carry a maximum of 7 passengers plus a driver;
 - ii. A minibus licensed to carry 15 passengers, is limited to carry the maximum of 10 passengers plus a driver; and
 - iii. A midi -bus permitted to carry a maximum of 22 passengers, is limited to carry a maximum of 15 passengers plus a driver.
- d) Busses are permitted to carry not more than 50% of their permissible passenger carrying capacity which includes both seating and standing passengers.
- e) In the case of LDVs and trucks, see 3.2.

In addition to the above:

- a) All directions in respect of hygienic conditions and the limitation of exposure to persons with Covid-19 must be adhered to.
- b) All employees must be in possession of a permit (see 2.2).
- c) Public transport vehicles must be sanitised before picking up and after dropping off passengers.
- d) All passengers and drivers must wear masks.

3.2. The vehicle I use to transport my workers is not registered to transport people (e.g. a truck or bakkie), so I do not know how many people I may legally carry.

The licensed capacity for LDV and Trucks is not stated as a passenger capacity as it is for private and other public transport vehicles. The difference between the GVM (total maximum loaded weight) and the Tare (total unladen weight) gives the carrying capacity of a freight vehicle. The carrying capacity, divided by 68kg (average weight per person), provides the number of people that may be carried legally.

However, during the lockdown, only 50% of the normal weight may be carried. See below a table of the capacity of various vehicles. Accordingly, the following table should be applied when dealing with transport of passengers by LDV or Truck:

Capacity (KG)	KG/person	People	50% capacity
5000	68	74	37
4000	68	59	29
3000	68	44	22
2000	68	29	14
1000	68	15	7

It is also important that there is sufficient space between workers to ensure their protection. As a guide, the space utilised should only be approximately 50% of what it could be if the vehicle were fully loaded.

Please note that bakkies have a stated passenger capacity as well as a stated weight carrying capacity. Accordingly, they will only be permitted to carry 50% of their licensed passenger capacity as well as 50% of their stated weight capacity. Accordingly, if the specified vehicle is only licensed to carry 3 people within the cab of the bakkie and, under the Regulations, it cannot exceed 50% of its licensed capacity, it will not be permissible to travel with more than one 1 person (the driver) in the cab of this vehicle.

The regulations do not prohibit the transportation of passengers on the back of a bakkie but this would be subject to the following rules:

- a) Cannot exceed 50% of the licensed capacity (see above table).
- b) Passengers must be seated at least 350mm below the sides and tailgate of a bakkie.
- c) No goods or tools are to be transported alongside your workers in the load bed.
- d) Sufficient space is allowed between workers to ensure their protection

While the lockdown regulations are silent on conditions that apply where passengers are transported on trucks or bakkies and it is not illegal to convey workers in such a

manner, it is important however, to note that there are significant safety risks involved in transporting employees in such a manner.

As a guideline, we would recommend that a maximum of 5 persons can be transported on the back of the bakkie, allowing for sufficient space between workers and ensuring that the space utilised will be approximately 50% of what it could be if the vehicle were fully loaded.

3.3. What are the minimum sanitary requirements which needs to be implemented when workers are transported?

In addition to normal transport regulations (e.g. drivers needs to be in possession of a PDP permit), the following are the minimum measures which should be in place:

- a) Every worker must have an identity document with him / her at all times.
- b) Proof that each worker's fever was taken before getting on the vehicle. This proof can be in the form of a note on the transport permit and must show the following information:
 - the date / time (hour and minute) at which the seasonal worker's fever was taken; and
 - the name and signature of the person who took the seasonal worker's fever.
- c) Sufficient hand sanitizer in each vehicle - at least one large bottle per taxi/minibus, with a content of at least 500 ml.
- d) Each worker must wear a face mask of suitable material that can serve as protection during transport.
- e) Every driver of a vehicle carrying workers must be in possession of a permit indicating when he/she is leaving and when he/she must return back.
- f) Every worker returning to his/her usual home must have his/her employment contract with him/her indicating the date of termination of employment.
- g) UI19 forms for each seasonal worker whose contract has expired.

3.4. I am living near the border of the Province/Metropole and some of my essential workers are living in another Province/area. May I transport them to work and back on a daily basis?

Workers may commute across borders to and from work on a daily basis. However such workers must be in possession of a permit to perform an essential or permitted service.

3.5. I employed seasonal workers during the harvest time. As the harvest is completed, may I transport them across a provincial border for them to return to their permanent place of residence?

A special concession has been made for long-distance inter-provincial passenger transportation on a once-off basis from 1 May to 7 May 2020. The purpose of this

arrangement is to make provision for people whom have been caught by lockdown in another province than the one in which they normally reside.

The seasonal workers returning home after seasonal work must be in possession of the following documentation:

- a) A permit that is completed by the employer for each essential worker rendering seasonal work. The permit must comply with Annexure A, Form 2 to the Regulations and state the full name and surname of the essential worker, their place of residence, the individual's identity number, and then certify that the worker is performing an essential service, namely the *Production and sale of any food product, including non-alcoholic beverages* and/or is employed in the agricultural industry, rendering an essential service in terms of Regulation 28(1) and Item A 1 of Table 1 to the Regulations. The permit must clearly indicate that the essential worker is returning to their usual home after rendering such seasonal work or is on their way to a specific farm for a seasonal activity away from his usual home. **The travelling essential worker/s must be screened by the employer before embarking on the trip.**
- b) Every essential worker must have an identity document with him / her at all times.
- c) Although not prescribed by law, it is recommended that each essential worker be screened before getting on the vehicle, and that proof of such screening be provided to the worker. This proof can be in the form of a note (with employer's stamp) on the transport permit and must show the following information:
 - a. the date / time (hour and minute) at which the seasonal worker's fever was taken;
 - b. the worker's fever at the time of screening; and
 - c. the name and signature of the person who performed the screening of the essential workers.
- d) Every driver of a vehicle carrying essential workers must be in possession of a permit indicating when he/she is leaving and when he/she must return back.
- e) Every seasonal worker returning to his/her usual home must have his/her employment contract with him/her indicating the date of termination of employment.
- f) UI19 forms for each seasonal worker whose contract has expired must be available for inspection on route.

In accordance with the Transport Directions issued by Minister Mbalula on 4 May 2020 in Government Gazette No 43272:

- a) Sufficient hand sanitizer must be available in each vehicle – at least one large bottle per taxi/minibus, with a content of at least 500 ml and containing at least 60% alcohol content;
- b) All operators must ensure that public transport vehicles are sanitized before picking up and after dropping off passengers;
- c) Operators must ensure that all public transport vehicles' doors and window handles, arm rest and hand rails are sanitized after every load;

- d) Passengers must be encouraged to sanitise after they enter the vehicle and after getting off the vehicle;
- e) Operators must ensure that all public transport vehicles are clean and tidy;
- f) All public transport operators must provide disinfection information materials and procedures;
- g) All drivers must wear a cloth face mask or a homemade item that covers nose and mouth;
- h) Any marshal or security officer who interacts with members of the public in a public transport facility must wear a cloth face mask or a homemade item that covers nose and mouth; and
- i) All public transport operators must put measures in place to adhere to physical distancing to curb the spread of the virus.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should seasonal workers who are tested Covid-19 positive be allowed to travel from the Western Cape to neighbouring provinces or regions as per the health protocols. Covid-19 patients should, as per the health protocols, be isolated or in quarantine sites and not be allowed to travel.

The vehicle must adhere to the carrying capacities as set out in 3.1 and 3.2.

It is also recommended that essential workers (doing seasonal work) travelling from or to the Western Cape to and from neighbouring provinces should also undergo additional screening by the provincial health authorities of the receiving provinces at the provincial borders. This is an additional precautionary measure by the receiving provinces.

3.6. I am a labour broker providing seasonal workers to a number of farms. Am I exempted from the lockdown?

Labour brokers providing essential labour to goods and services listed in Table 1 of R.480 may continue with this service. However, it is up to the labour broker to ensure that the necessary Covid-19 hygiene and sanitary measures are in place and that all employees are in possession of a permit (see 2.2). In this instance the labour broker is allowed to issue the permits (see 2.3).

3.7. Must farm workers work or are they part of the lockdown?

The production and sale of any food product (including non-alcoholic beverages), are considered essential services to which farm workers contributes. It follows that farm workers are exempt from the lockdown. Please remember that all persons performing essential services needs a permit (see 2.2)

3.8. I am an agri worker. May employees be forced to take annual/unpaid leave during the lockdown if they are not considered to be essential staff? May employers refuse to pay employees?

While government has encouraged all businesses to continue to pay their employees/workers, who may be stuck at home and won't be able to work during this time, many companies can't afford this and are considering other options.

The options for the employees during the period are as follows:

- a) Annual leave, or
- b) Temporary Lay-off; or
- c) Unpaid leave until the lockdown comes to an end. (This is not an option one wants to consider as it will mean the worker/ employee will be without an income/ salary/ wage for the lockdown period)

It is the prerogative of the employer to inform the employees that they need to take leave as currently there is no work. This is similar to indicating that annual leave (aka holiday leave) is during off time and not the busy harvest time.

The employer can indicate to employees to take annual leave for purposes of adhering to the lockdown regulations. Employees won't be allowed to work during the lockdown period of three weeks, which starts on Thursday midnight. This is if the service or duties they perform are not categorised as essential services.

If an employee has leave available, this would be the first and best option to use employees' leave allocation until it is depleted." This will ensure workers receive a wage/ salary.

Employers may consider other options to ease their cash flow during this time, including staggering wage payments. Another option would be reduced wages. The guideline on the Temporary Employer/ Employee Relief Scheme, which could assist struggling companies, is available on request. This includes contactable details of Department of Labour.

A relatively new option will be a temporary lay-off, whereby you will still officially be in the employment of a company. You will be able to claim money from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), but it won't be your full salary. A booklet/ easy guide on this matter and the processes to be followed is available on request.

The UIF normally doesn't pay out money quickly, there are stringent processes and there is uncertainty whether the local offices will be operational. With severe impact currently on businesses, it is expected that Labour/ UIF will be flooded with huge volumes of claims during this time. Therefore clarity will be required as to how payments by Labour will happen during the lockdown.

On Tuesday 24 March 2020 Minister of Employment and Labour, Mr Thulas Nxesi, confirmed that companies may do pay outs directly to staff, and then claim it back from the UIF.

For further information please visit www.labour.gov.za

Or contact your Labour Centre or the details provided in the attached guides.

3.9. I am an agri worker. Am I entitled to additional pay / benefit (danger pay) as a result of the dangerous or hazardous circumstances I will be working under during the period of lockdown?

“Danger pay” is not part of legislation and is also not in the disaster regulations gazetted over the past two weeks. Normally the allowances or benefits for working in hazardous situations form part of the collective agreements through the Bargaining Councils, which has not been the case with the Agricultural Sector and is not included in the Determination of Farm Worker remuneration.

3.10. I have lost my job. May I be evicted from the house where I stayed when I worked on the farm?

No, no person may be evicted whilst Level 4 lockdown measures are in place. Although a competent court may grant and order for the eviction of any person from land or a home under the provision of relevant legislation, such an order may only be executed after the last day of Level 4 lockdown. Nevertheless, a court may also take the decision that such an order must be executed sooner than before the last day of Level 4 lockdown.

4. MARKETING MY PRODUCTS

4.1. May I continue to deliver my products to the local market/depot/distribution centre during the lockdown period?

Yes, the sale of “food products, including non -alcoholic beverages and animal food” is allowed. For these products “wholesale and retail trade, covering stores, spaza shops, e-commerce and informal traders” is permitted. Please note that the driver needs a permit (see 2.2)

4.2. Do I need a travel permit to deliver my products to the market?

Yes. See 2.3 and 2.2.

4.3. May I transport my products across provincial and metropolitan borders?

Yes, all food products, including non-alcoholic beverages and animal food may be transported across provincial borders. This includes the transport of live animals.

Note that liquor products may only be transported by road across provincial borders if it is destined for the export market.

Please note that necessary precautions must be taken to sanitise and disinfect such cargo and that all normal and Covid-19 requirements pertaining to the transport of goods must be complied with.

4.4. I sell farm products to informal traders. Am I allowed to continue with this practice during the lockdown period?

Yes, sales to spaza shops and informal traders is allowed.

Please note that a number of conditions has to be adhered to. These conditions includes:

- a) Minimum number of staff is allowed.
- b) A permit from the local municipality must be obtained.
- c) Only food products and groceries are to be sold and no items not permitted under Level 4 regulations are to be sold.
- d) Health and hygiene requirements are to be upheld (e.g. social distancing, disinfecting, etc.).
- e) All staff must carry a permit and photo ID

However, flea markets, restaurants, open air food markets, fêtes and bazaars are prohibited. Hence, it will not be allowed to provide food to them.

4.5. I am a wine farmer. May I sell my wine?

No liquor (including wine) may be sold on the domestic market. This include wine for on or off site consumption.

However, wine may be exported via sea, air and land ports. Wine destined for export may also be transported by land, rail or air to the port of export.

4.6. May prepared food be sold?

Any food product (excluding "hot cooked food") may be sold via the retail trade (covering stores, spaza shops, e-commerce and informal traders). Grocery stores are also allowed to deliver food products (basic foodstuff) to the homes of clients.

The sales of "hot cooked food" is only for home delivery. It follows that any food prepared in-store may not be sold hot. However, it may be prepared, preserved (e.g. frozen, packed, canned, etc.) to be re-heated at home.

5. RUNNING MY FARMING BUSINESS

5.1. Am I allowed to continue with normal farming practices (e.g. irrigating my crops, milking my cows, preparing my fields for the planting season)?

All agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing, bee -keeping, including preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport of live animals and auctions (subject to health directions) and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including research, inspection, certification and quality control) is allowed.

Harvesting and storage activities essential to prevent the wastage of primary agricultural, fishing and forestry goods, may also continue.

Export of all agricultural, agro- processed, fishing and forestry products.

Please remember that all directions in respect of hygienic conditions and the limitation of exposure to persons with Covid-19 must be adhered to and the necessary permits needs to be obtained (see 2). Farmers must adhere to R.479 on Covid-19 Occupational Health and Safety Measures in workplaces as well as Section 8 of the OHS Act (85 of 1993). Farmers must develop a Workplace Plan (see 5.2) and adhere to transport regulations (see 3.1 and 3.2) As an example of practical implementation, see the SIZA-guidelines. All are available on the Elsenburg website).

5.2. What should be included in a Workplace Plan?

The Plan for medium and large businesses must include the following:

- a) The date the business will open and the hours of opening;
- b) The timetable setting out the phased return -to -work of employees, to enable appropriate measures to be taken to avoid and reduce the spread of the virus in the workplace:
- c) The steps taken to get the workplace COVID -19 ready;
- d) A list of staff who can work from home: staff who are 60 years or older; and staff with comorbidities who will be required to stay at home or work from home:
- e) Arrangements for staff in the establishment:
 - a. sanitary and social distancing measures and facilities at the entrance and exit workplace; to the
 - b. screening facilities and systems;
 - c. the attendance -record system and infrastructure:
 - d. the work -area of employees:
 - e. any designated area where the public is served;
 - f. canteen and bathroom facilities;
 - g. testing facilities (for establishments with more than 500 employees);
 - h. staff rotational arrangements (for establishments where fewer than 100% of employees will be permitted to work).

- f) Arrangements for customers or members of the public, including sanitation and social distancing measures.

5.3. I am a wine farmer with a cellar. May I continue to produce wine and to export?

Yes. All agriculture, including wine production, is permitted to continue. This include preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including research, inspection, certification and quality control). The same conditions as explained in 5.1 and 5.2 must be adhered to.

Wine may also be exported via land, sea and airports and may be transported across provincial borders for the purpose of exports.

However, no wine may be sold on the domestic market in any way. The ban on domestic sales include wholesale, retail (covering stores, spaza shops, e-commerce and informal trade). This ban is applicable to on and off premise consumption.

Please visit the VinPro website for more practical information:
<https://www.wineland.co.za/covid-19-info/>

5.4. I am involved in a farming business which could be classified as non-essential (e.g. producing fynbos flowers). Am I exempted from the lockdown?

Yes. Non-essential agriculture may continue with all production activities such as preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including research, inspection, certification and quality control). The same conditions as explained in 5.1 and 5.2 must be adhered to.

All agricultural products may also be exported via land, sea and airports and may be transported across provincial borders for the purpose of exports.

On the domestic market the situation is more complex:

- a) Flowers may be sold as part of funeral services, but not to the general public via supermarkets, shops, e-trade or informal markets.
- b) Wool, cotton and leather may be sold for the manufacturing of winter clothing and personal protection equipment.

5.5. I have a smallholding with some live animals a distance from where I live. Am I allowed to travel to the smallholding to feed, water and tend to them on a daily basis?

Yes. All agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing, bee -keeping, including preparation, cultivation, harvesting, storage, transport of live animals and auctions (subject to health directions) and related agricultural infrastructure and services (including

research, inspection, certification and quality control) is permitted. However, a permit needs to be obtained (see 2.3).

5.6. I own a horse which is stabled on a smallholding outside town. May I go horse riding as a form of exercise?

No. It is only allowed to walk, run or cycle and then only between 06:00 and 09:00 daily and within five kilometers of your place of residence.

Still, all agricultural activities is allowed and animal care and veterinary services may be performed.

5.7. I own a boat and sometimes I go fishing over weekends. May I fish during the lockdown period and donate the catch to a charity or school?

All fishing, operations of fish hatcheries and fish farms are allowed. However, fishing is limited to "Commercial Fishing Right holders" and only such right holders are allowed to fish and may transport their catch to a nominated establishment.

5.8. I own a landscaping and gardening business. May I operate under Level 4 lockdown regulations?

Landscaping and gardening work may continue if the conditions for any of the following classes is met:

- a) The work consists of maintenance work which cannot be delayed for more than 21 days and the maintenance is essential in order for business operations to resume;
- b) A case can be made that the service is necessary for rendering emergency repair work;
- c) It can be shown that the services offered is in furtherance of agricultural activities;
- d) The work is part of the landscaping of road and bridge projects; including road local road repairs; or
- e) It entails the care and maintenance of workplaces or premises and it is essential to the prevention of the destruction or significant impairment of working areas, plant, machinery or inventory.

It is important that all Covid-19 health and safety measures must be complied with (see 5.1 and 5.2).

6. PROVIDING INPUTS AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO FARMERS

6.1. My business supply direct inputs to the Agricultural Sector (e.g. fertilizer, seed, chemicals, fertilizer, etc.). Is my business exempted from the lockdown

All agriculturally related infrastructure is allowed to operate and essential services may be rendered.

6.2. My business supply seedlings to farmers. Is my business exempted from the lockdown?

The provision of essential services for the production and sale of food and non-alcoholic beverages is allowed.

6.3. My business supply direct services to the Agricultural Sector (e.g. maintenance of tractors, maintenance of irrigation equipment, maintenance of wine processing machines). Is my business exempted from the lockdown

Essential services include production, manufacturing, supply, logistics, transport, delivery, critical maintenance and repair in relation to the rendering of essential services including components and equipment is allowed.

6.4. I am busy with contract work on farm (e.g. planting fruit trees on farm, etc.). Without this maintenance the farm will not be able to continue to operate. Am I exempted from the lockdown and will I be allowed to continue with my business?

Essential services include production, manufacturing, supply, logistics, transport, delivery, critical maintenance and repair in relation to the rendering of essential services including components and equipment is allowed.

6.5. I am running my business from my house and can render all services without leaving my house (e.g. via telephone, the internet, social media, etc.). May I continue my business?

Yes. All persons who are able to work from home should do so, irrespective whether the client base is domestic or international.

6.6. May on-farm construction projects continue during Level-4 lockdown?

Yes. Construction projects may continue. Below is a list of examples of permitted projects:

- a) Maintain a building by, for instance, replacing the leaking roof of a milking parlour.
- b) Clean an earthen dam / or irrigation canal – an action which needs to be completed before the rainy season starts.

- c) Do maintenance by replacing the outdated and malfunctioning milking machine in an existing milking parlour.
- d) Complete the final touches of a facility by installing the equipment in a newly built facility:
 - a. Installing a new milking machine in a recently completed building.
 - b. Installing the cages in a recently completed layer unit.
- e) Complete the construction of a semi-constructed facility in order to increase food production.
- f) Build a new building and install equipment for a:
 - a. Cold storage facility for a recently planted blueberry plantation which will be ready for its first harvest in the next month or two.
 - b. Bottling plant for the just completed harvest of wine grapes.

7. VETERINARY SERVICES AND ANIMAL HEALTH

7.1. Are private veterinary clinics to close down or are they exempted from the lockdown?

Animal care and veterinary services are considered to be essential. For this reason it is exempted from the lockdown.

7.2. Are pet food stores to close down or are they exempted from the lockdown?

Animal food is considered to be an essential good. For this reason its production and sale is allowed.

7.3. I am a farrier and need to fit new horseshoes. Am I exempted from the lockdown?

Animal care services is allowed.

7.4. Will government continue to provide important services to the Agricultural Sector (e.g. Export certificates for animals, abattoir inspections, etc.)?

Yes. Special arrangements has been made for government to continue providing essential services. Visit <http://www.elsenburg.com/content/important-contact-information> for contact details.