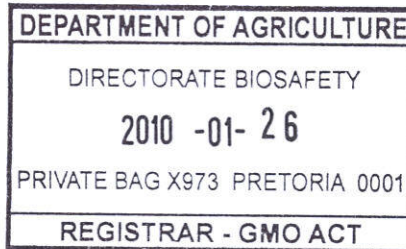




agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



To whom it may concern:

Genetically Modified Crops

In terms of the Genetically Modified Organisms Act (Act No.15 of 1997), three crops, containing various genetically modified events, have received approval for commercial cultivation in South Africa. These crops include maize (white and yellow), cotton and soybean.

Any activity, which may also include the import or export of raw/unprocessed GM products, must be processed via the Office of the Registrar within the Directorate Biosafety.

In the case where the Authority within the importing country may require certification of the GM status of a crop or specific consignment from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, applicants will be required to apply for a GM status certificate. In the case of the certification of crops that have GM equivalents also being cultivated commercially, the applicant would have to provide along with the application, quantitative PCR results (original or certified copy) obtainable from a facility registered in terms of the GMO Act, for the specific consignment due for export. South Africa has determined the threshold for non-GM exports to be 1% or less.

In terms of the Cartagena Protocol, the importing country have the right to refuse entry or confiscate a specific consignment, if found to contain GM that was not declared.

Please direct any queries in this regard to the Office of the Registrar or refer to our website www.daff.gov.za, whereafter you navigate to Divisions then to Biosafety where you may obtain further information.

Registrar of Genetically Modified Organisms Act : Gillian Christians

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