



# agriculture, land reform & rural development

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries: Directorate Inspection Services

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10<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## **Fresh Produce Exporters' Forum (FPEF)**

Private Bag X5  
Century City  
7446

Dear Mr. Werner van Rooyen,

### **RE: NEW PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CITRUS CONSIGNMENTS THAT ARE INTENDED FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION**

This letter serves to inform you about the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/ 715 which was replaced by the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/ 263 of 13 April 2022) on 01 May 2022 with regards to the management of CBS on South African citrus intended for the European Union (EU).

The new changes in the subject regulation affect both the technical operations and phytosanitary certification. Changes associated with the former are encapsulated in the CBS RMS 2022 while those associated with the latter are as follows:

- a) The specified fruits are accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate which includes:
- The date of the last inspection
  - Number of packages from each site of production, and
  - The relevant traceability codes.

In order to comply with the afore-mentioned conditions, the EU phytosanitary certificates have been designed to include an attachment/ annexure that indicates:

- the PUC list,
- associated orchard number(s) and number of packages,
- commodity (citrus type/s),
- Tracking Unit IDs,
- and the phytosanitary dates.

The system has also been updated to ensure that applications for EU phytosanitary certificates for citrus must have both the addendum document as well as the Trade Unit Additional Information.

Exporters are having an additional responsibility to ensure that they implement Step 6 (compulsory) when applying for ephytos for EU citrus. This requires that the trade units must be added either through the use of a button or an excel list of trade units maybe uploaded.

The certifying officer will have the responsibility to verify that the tracking units that are indicated on Annexure 2 match the tracking unit information as it appears on the addendum document for all phytosanitary certificates that belong to AGM0014.

Due to the additional above-mentioned requirements, there is no need for PUCs to be indicated again under the “distinguishing marks” as previously applied.

Exporters whose citrus consignments are rejected in the EU due to non-compliance with the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/ 263 of 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 may apply for replacement phytosanitary certificates in accordance with the above mentioned compliance measures.

The DALRRD wishes the exporters a successful 2022 citrus export season.

Yours faithfully,



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Mr G. Mediroe  
Deputy Director: Inspection Services (DIS)

CC: Directorate Plant Health