

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT  
(Cap. 37:01)

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION  
AND TRACE-BACK) REGULATIONS, 2004  
(Published on 10th December, 2004)

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IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister of Agriculture by section 19 of the Diseases of animals Act, the following Regulations are hereby made —

- Citation            1. These Regulations may be cited as the Diseases of Animals (Livestock Identification and Trace-back) Regulations, 2004.
- Interpretation    2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —
- Cap. 36:01        “export slaughter house” means any slaughter house licensed in terms of the Control of Livestock Industry Act;
- “bolus” means a ceramic device designed to reside in the alimentary tract of cattle and containing an electronically stored individual animal identification number;
- “cattle” means bull, ox, cow, heifer and calves which have been weaned;
- Cap. 61:04        “Director” means the Director of Animal Health and Production or any veterinary officer, or a veterinary surgeon registered under the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons Act, authorised in writing by the Director to carry out any of the Director’s functions under these Regulations; and
- “individual identification number” means a unique 16 digit number electronically stored within a bolus.
- Inspection of     3. The Director may —  
export slaughter  
houses            (a) visit and inspect all portions of an approved export slaughter house to ensure that —
- (i) the meat hygiene at the slaughter house conforms to best practice,
  - (ii) the provisions of these Regulations, that relate to the duties of the export slaughter houses are being properly carried out, and
  - (iii) livestock identification and trace-back records are kept in accordance with regulation 6 hereof; and
- (b) require to be furnished with copies of the livestock identification and trace-back records, within such time as he or she may specify.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 26 of the Branding of Cattle Act, in any legal proceedings in which the ownership of an animal is at issue, the name recorded as that of the owner of the animal in terms of regulation 8, shall be *prima facie* evidence that the animal is the property of the person whose name is recorded as that of the owner, which name shall be confirmed by the corresponding identification number, the bolus contained in the animal whose ownership is at issue.

Use of individual animal identification number in legal proceeding  
Cap. 36:02

5. The manager of an abattoir or export slaughter house shall, before the 7th of each month, submit to the Director, in relation to all cattle slaughtered in the previous month, the boluses recovered from the alimentary tract of each animal that was slaughtered.

Submission of boluses recovered after slaughtering

6. (1) No person shall submit any animal to any export slaughter house unless such person has obtained a permit from the Director in accordance with regulation 57 of the Diseases of Stock Regulations.

Permit for submission of animals to export slaughter houses  
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(2) The Director shall not issue a permit referred to in sub-regulation (1) unless there is a record, in relation to each animal for which a permit is issued of —

- (a) the name, address, and national identity card number of the owner of the animal;
- (b) the individual animal identification number of the animal;
- (c) the brand on the animal which is the subject of the permit;
- (d) the vaccinations that the animal has received; and
- (e) such other information as the Director may from time to time require the slaughter house to record.

7. No abattoir or export slaughter house shall accept any animal for slaughter unless the owner of such animal produces —

Acceptance of cattle for slaughter by export slaughter houses

- (a) a permit obtained in accordance with regulation 6 hereof; and
- (b) any other information that the abattoir or export slaughter house may be required by the Director to obtain from such owner.

8. The manager of an abattoir or export slaughter house shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, a register in which shall be recorded, in relation to cattle —

Maintenance of trace-back data by export slaughter houses

- (a) the name, address and national identity card number of the owner of the animal;
- (b) the individual animal identification number of the animal;
- (c) the number of the permit issued in terms of regulation 57 of the Diseases of Stock Regulations;
- (d) the brand on the animal which is the subject of the permit; and
- (e) such other information as the Director may from time to time find necessary to record.

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9. The Director shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, a register in which shall be recorded, in relation to cattle -

Director to maintain traceability register

- (a) the name, address and national identity card number of the owner of the animal;
- (b) the individual animal identification number of the animal;
- (c) the number of the permit issued in terms of regulation 57 of the Diseases of Stock Regulations;
- (d) the brand on the animal which is the subject of the permit; and
- (e) such other information as the Director may from time to time find necessary to record.

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Approval of  
animal  
identification  
devices

**10.** No bolus or any other individual animal identification device, or any device used to read the information stored therein, shall be imported into, or manufactured in, Botswana unless prior written consent has been obtained from the Director.

Offences and  
penalties

**11.** Any person who contravenes any provision of these Regulations commits an offence and is liable to a fine not exceeding P500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

MADE this 2nd day of December, 2004.

**J.K. SWARTZ,**  
*Minister for Agriculture.*

**L27/131 III**