



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Media Statement

22 April 2016

PUBLICATION OF THE POULTRY MEAT REGULATION AMENDMENT

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Mr Senzeni Zokwana, has published the long anticipated amendment to the Regulations Regarding Control over the Sale of Poultry Meat in the Government Gazette on Friday, 22 April 2016.

These latest amendments include, among others, the following major changes for producers of both fresh and frozen poultry meat:

- The total brine injection allowed for whole carcasses is limited to maximum 10% (versus the maximum of 8% that was previously prescribed).
- Total brine injection allowed for individual portions is limited to maximum 15% (no limit was previously prescribed).
- The product name shall include a true description of the added formulated solution. [e.g. 'chicken with brine based mixture', 'sweet 'n sour marinated chicken drumsticks', etc.]
- Producers must regularly perform tests to ensure compliance with the new water uptake and injection limits, and must keep records thereof for at least 1 year for auditing purposes.

These amendments will be phased in over a period of 6 months to allow for producers to adjust the levels of brine injection and to bring the labelling of these products in line with the new requirements.

The Minister would like to give assurance to all stakeholders that, should there be a need to effect amendments which may have been necessitated by either scientific research outcomes or objective rationale, the Minister would not hesitate to review the gazetted poultry meat regulations. The Minister would like to thank all the participants who took part in bringing forth the successful amendment of the poultry meat regulations.

The Department remains committed to ensuring that these amendments to the regulations are enforced, the quality of poultry meat is maintained and that consumers are enabled to make informed choices about the poultry meat products they intend to buy.

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