

**NEWS STATEMENT BY THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL MARKETING COUNCIL  
(NAMC)**

**REQUEST FOR THE CONTINUATION AND AMENDMENT OF STATUTORY MEASURES  
IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN PECAN NUT INDUSTRY, IN TERMS OF THE MARKETING OF  
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ACT, ACT NO 47 OF 1996**

***INVITATION TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED GROUPS IN THE PECAN NUT INDUSTRY TO  
FORWARD COMMENTS TO THE NAMC***

On 27 June 2019, the South African Pecan Nut Producers' Association (SAPPA), on behalf of the directly affected groups in the pecan nut industry, applied to the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, for the approval of the proposed continuation of the following statutory measures, for a four year period:

- The **registration** of all producers, growers, processors, packers, importers and exporters of pecan nuts and/or pecan nut products.
- The **keeping of records and submission of returns** by all producers, processors, importers and exporters of pecan nuts and/or pecan nut products, as may be required by SAPPA, relating to:
  - Pecan nut trees;
  - Volumes of pecan nuts and/or pecan nut products produced; and
  - Volumes of pecan nuts and/or pecan nut products imported and/or exported.
- Furthermore, that the **levy** of R0.30 per kilogram (excluding VAT), that will lapse on 28 February 2020, be continued and amended to the following levy rates per kg of pecan nuts for the next four year period:

	1 March 2020 to 28 February 2021	1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022	1 March 2022 to 28 February 2023	1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024
In shell pecan nuts	35 c/Kg	35 c/Kg	40 c/Kg	40 c/Kg
Pecan nut kernels	70 c/Kg	70 c/Kg	80 c/Kg	80 c/Kg

These proposed levies will be payable to SAPPa by producers, processors, packers, importers or exporters on all pecan nuts (that include in shell pecan nuts and pecan nut kernels). If supported and approved, this could create an income of between R7.7 million and R11.2 million per year over the next four years based on a pecan nut production estimate of between 22 000 tons and 28 000 tons per year. SAPPa proposed that approximately 42% of levy funds be used to fund research projects; 15% on market information and statistics; at least 20% on transformation; and the rest on crop protection, market development and other important industry functions, on behalf of the pecan nut industry. The proposed levies would represent approximately 0.5% of the domestic producers' selling price (first point of sale) of pecan nuts.

Registration, records and returns to SAPPa are necessary to:

- Ensure the availability and provision of continuous, timeous and accurate information relating to locally produced and imported pecan nuts and pecan nut products to all stakeholders in the industry, which is essential in ensuring informed decision making and a stable and profitable industry;
- Ensure adherence to sound product handling, quality control systems and ethical trading; as well as transformation of the industry, and
- Administer the proposed levy.

No records or returns shall be required in terms of this measure which discloses confidential information of a marketing nature, and in particular, no returns disclosing, *inter alia*, contracting parties; purchasers of pecan nut products; prices of services or the prices obtained for products, or any similar information.

The proposed continuation and amendment of statutory measures will assist in promoting the efficiency of the marketing of pecan nuts and pecan nut products. The viability of the pecan nuts industry would thus be enhanced. The measures will not be detrimental to the number of employment opportunities or fair labour practice.

**Directly affected groups in the pecan nut industry are kindly requested to submit any comments regarding support or objections relating to the proposed continuation and amendment of statutory measures to the NAMC in writing (fax 012 341 1911 or e-mail to [lizettem@namc.co.za](mailto:lizettem@namc.co.za)) before or on 2 August 2019, to enable the Council to finalise its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.**

ENQUIRIES: Ms Lizette Mellet

National Agricultural Marketing Council

[lizettem@namc.co.za](mailto:lizettem@namc.co.za)