

The Agricultural Regulatory Measures (ARM) Digest

Issue 1



“The ARM Digest”

Collaboration is the name of the game

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01



Editor's Remarks

Welcome to the first edition of the Agricultural Regulatory Measures Digest (ARM Digest) highlighting key developments around the implementation of the provisions of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act in agricultural sector. We endeavour to update Directly Affected Groups (DAG's) on developments around approvals and publication of decisions of the Minister in respect of the provisions of the Marketing of Agricultural Products (MAP) Act, No. 47 of 1996. This publication also includes ongoing investigations of statutory measures or any other measures of the MAP Act.

The following statutory measures were approved by the Minister and gazetted:

- Application for statutory levies on table eggs – gazetted on the 31 March 2026)
- Application for statutory measures by Milk Producers' Organisation (MPO) and South African Milk Processors' Organisation (SAMPRO) – gazetted (26 June 2026),
- Application for ad hoc statutory levy from FruitFly Africa levy to combat *Bactrocera dorsalis* – gazetted (24 July July)
- Application for the designation of inspectors for dairy (request is for 2 inspectors),

Application for statutory levies wheat, barley and oats for breeding and technology purposes:

- Application for the designation of inspectors for table eggs (request is for 19 inspectors),
- Application for the designation of inspectors for olive industry (request is for 2 inspectors),
- Application for statutory levies on lucerne,
- Application for statutory measures on red meat, cattle, goat and sheep.

The red meat industry's application is currently under investigation. Inspectors were designated for the olive and dairy industries, and eleven fruit industry pool applications were processed. On the transformation front, the Transformation Review Committee (TRC) approved various business plans and conducted a productive oversight visit to Western Cape horticulture projects in March 2026. Engagements with industry bodies further reinforced alignment with NAMC Transformation Guidelines.

Agricultural Industry Trusts in 2024 showed resilience, with combined assets rising by approximately R83 million to R2.61 billion. The Winter Cereal Trust is being wound up, and SAWCIA has been established as the new levy administrator. We welcome the newly appointed and re-appointed ministerial representatives across field crops, livestock and horticulture trusts. The registration of Trustees of the Red Meat Research and Development Trust was finally done through the Master of High Court (Gauteng North).

02



Statutory Measures and other measures



2.1 Statutory measures investigations

Dairy Industry:

The NAMC received a joint application from Milk Producers Organisation (MPO) and South African Milk Processors Organisation (SAMPRO) to establish statutory measures relating to levies, records & returns and registrations in the South African dairy industry in terms of section 10 of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act, 1996 (Act No. 47 of 1996) (MAP Act). On 27 May 2026, the Minister approved the request and on 26 June 2026 and notices were promulgated.

Fruit industry:

the Minister received a request from FruitFly Africa (Pty) Ltd, on behalf of the fruit industry, for the continuation of the area based, per hectare ad hoc, statutory levy for the funding of *Bactrocera dorsalis* (BD) (also known as the Oriental Fruit Fly) programmes in specific production regions for a four-year period. This application includes the Lower-Orange-River area (on table-grapes and citrus)

a new area where the levy will be introduced for the first time which was previously not part of this ad-hoc producer levy. The Minister approved the request which was published in the Gazette.

Red Meat industry:

In the second quarter the Minister received, a request from the red meat industry for the continuation of statutory measures relating to levies, registration, the keeping of records and the rendering of returns. The Red Meat and Livestock Primary Cluster (RMLPC) is the applicant, which is comprised of the Red Meat Producers' Organisation (RPO), Red Meat Abattoirs Association (RMAA), South African Feedlot Association (SAFA) and African Farmers Association of South Africa Red Meat Chapter (AFASA RMC), applied for the continuation of the statutory measures on cattle, goats, sheep and red meat. These statutory measures will be administered by the Red Meat Industry Services (RMIS) NPC. The application is currently being investigated.

2.2 Designation of inspectors

SA Olive requested the Minister to authorise and designate inspectors in the olive to ensure that the approved statutory measures are complied with.

Milk South Africa requested the Minister to authorise and designate inspectors in the milk industry to ensure that the approved statutory measures are complied with.

2.3 Agricultural Pools in the fruit industry

Section 17 (1) of the MAP Act provides for the Minister to give notice that a pool shall be conducted as set out in the Notice and publish in the Government Gazette. All the applications meet the set requirements of Section 17 and the NAMC is satisfied that they are requested to serve the industry. Application for pools (in terms of Section 17 of the MAP Act) started to reach the NAMC with Kromco (pty) Ltd being the first company to approach the NAMC. Their application was recommended by Council to the Minister who subsequently approved the application (gazetted).

Currently, the NAMC received eleven (11) applications from different companies applying to conduct pools The (eleven) 11 applications were received from:

- Komati Fruit (Pty) Ltd;
- Dole South Africa (Pty) Ltd;
- Goede Hoop Citrus (Pty) Ltd;
- Sundays River (Pty) Ltd;
- Ceres Fruit Group (Pty) Ltd;
- The Grape Company (Pty) Ltd;
- The Grape Alliance (Pty) Ltd;
- Berry World SA (Pty) Ltd;
- Angon Fruit (Pty) Ltd;
- Two a Day (Pty) Ltd; and
- Westfalia (Pty) Ltd.



03



Agricultural Transformation



**Black-owned enterprises*

3.1 Transformation Business Plans reviewed and Approved by the TRC

The NAMC TRC reviewed and approved the transformation business plan of the following industries:

- Lucerne Trust;
- South African Cultivar and Technology Agency (SACTA) and
- Milk South Africa, Milk Producers Organisation and South African Milk Processors' Organisation.

3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

3.2.1 Visited Transformation Projects

3.2.1.1 Horticulture Industries in the Western Cape

The Transformation Review Committee (TRC) undertook a five-day oversight visit to the Western Cape from 2nd to 6th March 2026 to assess the implementation and impact of transformation initiatives funded through the statutory levies across the horticulture sub-sector. The visit included engagements with enterprises supported in the deciduous fruit, fynbos, olive, table grape and wine industries, specifically visits to farms, packhouses, processing facilities, community projects and black-owned enterprises. The Committee also engaged with beneficiaries of government support programmes, including the Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy (PLAS), Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP), Recapitalisation and Development Programme (RECAP) and Hortfin, to appreciate the contribution of these interventions to the enterprises supported through the transformation levy. The visit further enabled the Committee to identify common challenges affecting transformation, including limited access to water rights, infrastructure constraints, high debt levels, logistics inefficiencies and market access barriers, while highlighting successful partnerships, export opportunities, skills development initiatives and innovative business models that continue to advance transformation within the horticulture sector.



3.2.2 Annual Meetings with industry bodies

The TRC also held meetings with Red Meat Industry Services, Grower Development Company & Citrus Academy of the Citrus Growers Association, Potatoes South Africa to get a status update on the transformation implementation and further re-affirm the importance of alignment to the NAMC Transformation Guidelines when allocating transformation spending.



**The NAMC team and the representatives of the Citrus Growers Association, Grower Development Company and Citrus Industry and the Red Meat Industry.*

04



Agricultural Industry Trusts



4.1 Performance of the Trusts

The combined asset value of the Agricultural Industry Trusts increased by approximately R83 million during the period under review, reaching R2.61 billion, driven by the recovery in investment markets. The Wool Trust experienced absolute growth, while the Sorghum Trust had relative percentage growth. The Maize Trust saw the most significant decline due to underperformance in its investment portfolio. At the same time, the Oil and Protein Seeds Development Trust (OPDT) recorded a slight asset value reduction that was similarly linked to its portfolio's performance. During the period under review, the Agricultural Industry Trusts demonstrated a generally positive economic environment and a commitment to their mandates as stipulated in their respective deeds of Trust.

The Winter Cereal Trust (WCT) is being wound up as per the Section 15 of its Trust Deed. This process emerged from discussions between the Ministerial representatives and appointed representatives of industry stakeholders constituting the Board of Trustees. A two-member winding-up committee oversees the proceedings, comprising a ministerial representative and an industry representative supported by legal advisors. To address the gap left by WCT, the wheat industry collaborated with the Minister to establish the South African Winter Cereal Industry Agency (SAWCIA) on 1 October 2024. SAWCIA was designated as the administrator of winter cereals' statutory levies.

4.2 Appointment of ministerial representatives

The Minister of Agriculture has appointed the below ministerial representatives in the Agricultural Industry Trusts and levy administrators to represent him.

4.2.1 Field Crops

Ministerial representative re-appointments on the board of Oil and Protein Seeds Development Trust



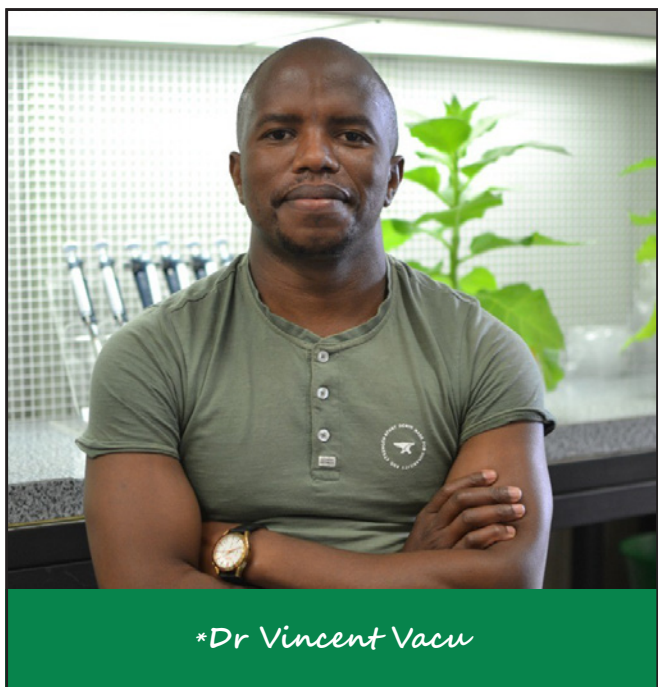
Mr Sifiso Shandu is a seasoned leader and board member sitting in different boards including South African nursing Council (FINCOM chairperson and ICT Committee deputy chairperson); The Oil and Protein Seeds Development Trust (Deputy Chairperson); Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC); Vaal University of Technology. I am also an experienced Senior Governance and Finance Manager with experience well over 15 years in auditing, tax, and management accounting in a JSE listed group and in the public sector. Participation and management of audits stretch from initial planning up to completion of financial statement audits, tax compliance and JSE reporting duties. A deliverables-oriented individual who is continually looking to improve. Vast experience in project management and project finance. I am currently a financial manager at SARS responsible for projects financial reporting, risk management, audit compliance and input in financial statements preparation

An accomplished agricultural scientist with extensive expertise in crop production and agronomy, serving as a Ministerial Trustee of the Oil and Protein Seeds Development Trust. She brings over a decade of experience in research, advisory, and programme implementation within the public agricultural sector. Her work focuses on advancing the Trust's mandate of promoting research, innovation, and sustainable development in oil and protein seeds crop industries.

Ms Mosehla is committed to strengthening stakeholder collaboration, ensuring sound governance, and driving the strategic utilization of resources to enhance the competitiveness and inclusivity of the oil and protein seeds value chain in South Africa.



Ministerial representative re-appointments on the board of South African Cultivar and Technology Agency

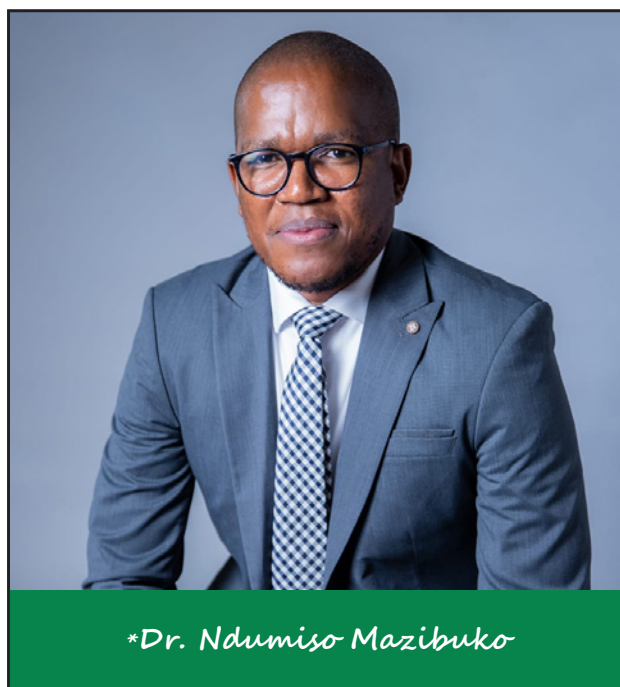


Dr Vincent Vacu is a Plant Breeding and Genetics lecturer at the University of Limpopo. He holds PhD Genetics from Stellenbosch University, MSc Crops Genetics and Breeding from Jilin Agricultural University and BSc Crop Sciences (cum laude) from the University of Fort Hare.

In terms of leadership roles, he is currently leading the establishment of the plant breeding and genetics program at the University of Limpopo, led the AgriSciences Student Association (ASA) postgraduate representative while at the Stellenbosch University and was the chairperson of Science and Agriculture Student Society (UFH) while at the University of Fort Hare in 2011. He has published academic journal articles, presented at both domestic and international conferences.

Dr. Ndumiso Mazibuko is a seasoned agricultural economist with over 15 years of experience. He holds a Ph.D., MSc, and BSc in Agricultural Economics, as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA). Dr. Mazibuko currently serves as Chief Economist at the South African Milk Processors' Organisation (SAMPRO).

Before joining SAMPRO, he worked for more than a decade at the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) as a senior economist responsible for the execution of the statutory levy system while at the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC), which has enabled South Africa's commercial agricultural sector to sustainably generate funding for research, consumer education, export promotion and market access, transformation initiatives, and production



development since the deregulation of the sector in 1997. His work at NAMC also included overseeing transformation initiatives through industry Trusts and Levy funds. He played a pivotal role as National Coordinator of Strategic Integrated Project 11 (SIP11)—the National Infrastructure Plan for Agro-logistics and Rural Economies, under the Presidential Infrastructure Coordination Commission.

In addition, he contributed to the development of the Agriculture and Agro-processing Masterplan, a landmark framework for the sector's growth and transformation. In recognition of his leadership and influence,

4.2.2 Livestock

Ministerial representative appointment on the board of The Wool Trust



**Prof Jan Swanepoel*

Prof. Jan Swanepoel is an Associate Professor and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development, and Extension at the University of the Free State. He holds a PhD in Sustainable Agriculture, an MBA, and an MSc in Agriculture (Animal Breeding) from the same university, along with a Postgraduate Diploma in Certified Financial Planning. With extensive academic and leadership experience, he specializes in sustainable food systems, agricultural development, and enterprise growth. Prof. Swanepoel oversees postgraduate Programmes, supervises numerous Master's and PhD students, and manages third-stream income and community engagement projects. His research and consultancy work focus on food security, agribusiness competitiveness, and smallholder farmer development. A prolific

researcher and editor-in-chief of the South African Journal of Agricultural Extension, he has published widely on agricultural transformation and food systems resilience. Prof. Swanepoel has also led major national and international projects funded by FAO, MasterCard Foundation, and Standard Bank, promoting agribusiness transformation and rural development across Southern Africa

4.2.3 Horticulture

Ministerial representative re-appointments on the board of Deciduous Fruit Industry Development Trust

Dr Erna Blancquaert is a South African viticulture specialist and academic with a strong background in grapevine science and wine research. She holds a BSc in Viticulture and Oenology, an MSc in Viticulture, and a PhD focusing on berry tannin structure and phenolic development in Cabernet Sauvignon, all from Stellenbosch University. Her career spans both industry and academia, including early practical experience in vineyards and wineries, followed by progressive academic roles from junior lecturer to lecturer at Stellenbosch University, with additional international exposure as adjunct faculty at Washington State University. Her work centres on grape composition, environmental effects on viticulture, and wine quality evidenced by numerous peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations, and postgraduate supervision. She has received multiple prestigious scholarships



**Dr Erna Blanquaert*

and awards, including a Fulbright African Research Scholar Award, and contributes actively to the scientific community through teaching, research leadership, and professional service in viticulture and oenology organizations.



Ms Natasha Williams is an experienced South African winemaker, entrepreneur, and industry consultant with over 15 years in the wine and agriculture sector. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Oenology from Stellenbosch University, along with additional qualifications in wine business management and leadership. Her career includes a decade at Distell, where she progressed from assistant winemaker to Head White Winemaker at Nederburg, contributing to award-winning wine portfolios. Since 2017, she has led NBW Consulting as Managing Director, specialising in wine production, market development, and export distribution across African markets.

Beyond consulting, she has played a strategic role in industry transformation initiatives, youth skills development programmes, and mentorship, particularly supporting women in agriculture. Her experience is further strengthened by experience as a wine judge, facilitator, and project manager, reflecting a blend of technical expertise, leadership, and commitment to sector development.

Dr Job Mthombeni is a seasoned South African agricultural practitioner, leader, and entrepreneur with extensive experience spanning farming, agribusiness development, and institutional governance. With a Doctor of Divinity and multiple qualifications in auctioneering, project management, and business management, he has built a strong foundation in both technical and leadership domains.

Dr Mthombeni has held several influential positions, including chairmanship roles in agricultural and cooperative institutions, and has contributed to national transformation initiatives within the farming sector. As a commercial farmer, he manages large-scale production of maize, soybeans, apples, and livestock, while also mentoring emerging farmers and university students in agricultural development.

His career reflects a deep commitment to advancing the agricultural value chain, empowering communities, and promoting sustainable farming practices in South Africa.





Ms Wendy Petersen is a highly experienced transformation and agribusiness professional with over 30 years of expertise in the South African wine and spirits industry. She previously served as Transformation Executive Manager for the SA Wine Industry Transformation Unit where she led the establishment of the Wine ARC and is currently the CEO of SA Olive. She brings a strong combination of strategic leadership, business acumen, and ethical governance to her role.

Her experience spans the full agricultural value chain, including transformation initiatives, strategy development, marketing, product development, and project management. Known for her innovative and solutions-driven approach, she has successfully managed both local and international projects, demonstrating the ability to navigate complex trade environments and deliver impactful outcomes. Wendy is also deeply committed to mentorship and empowerment, providing guidance and support to small enterprises, farmers, and industry stakeholders, with a focus on sustainable development and inclusive growth.



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