

Kontak / Contact: Ms S. Thiar
Verw. / Ref: Corona Virus Notification
Mspy. / Comp.: Aartappelsertifiseringsdiens (NWM) / Potato Certification Service (NPC)
Adres / Address: De Havilland Singel / Crescent No. 6, Persequor Technopark, Pretoria, 0020
Privaatsak / Private Bag X 135, Pretoria, 0001
Reg.no. / Reg. no.: 1995/005404/08
BTW no. / Vat. no.: 4300 153 790
Tel: +27 12 349 1910/11
+27 82 927 7752
E-pos / E-mail: sanette@potatocertification.co.za

Besoek ons by / Visit us at:
www.potatocertification.co.za



26 March 2020

TO ALL OUR VALUED CLIENTS, EMPLOYEES AND OTHER ROLE PLAYERS

CERTIFICATION SERVICES TO CONTINUE DURING COVID-19 NATIONAL LOCKDOWN

Following the announcement by President Cyril Ramaphosa on 23 March 2020, that South Africa will be under national lockdown as from midnight 26 March 2020, Ms Thoko Didiza, MP Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, issued a statement saying: *“Agricultural production in all its forms will remain uncompromised”*.

Further to that, the Registrar of Plant Improvement Act, Ms Joan Sadie, stated that *“Agriculture production is key to ensure sufficient food is available in the country, therefore we are of the opinion that **all services along the value chain of food production should be considered essential, including activities and inspections relating to productions intended for certification of propagating material**”*.

Potato Certification Service is committed to our vision to play a leadership role in the pursuit of a sustained supply of healthy planting material for the South African potato industry. **Service delivery to our seed potato producers in all the production areas will continue as our highest priority since South Africa’s food security relies on good planting material.**

We trust that PCS would have the capacity to provide certification services from other regional offices, should staff from a particular office be quarantined. We also remain in communication whilst working from home during the lockdown.

We appeal to our seed potato growers to ensure to the best of their ability that national measures are adhered to and only to request the most essential services during this time, thereby assisting us in protecting the health of staff and authorized inspectors, whilst ensuring the necessary certification services continue.

Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation on this matter.

PCS will show true “Tuma Mina” (send me) spirit in this difficult time to play our part to turn the situation around to restore South Africa’s economy.

Kind regards and best wishes

MS SANETTE THIART
MANAGING DIRECTOR: POTATO CERTIFICATION SERVICE

Save as: Tikwerk/Sanette/Briewe/ST1733