

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/147
23 February 1999

(99-0683)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>UNITED STATES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Certain live animals and animal products
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Change in Disease Status of the Republic of South Africa because of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Rinderpest
5.	Description of content: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to declare the Republic of South Africa, except Kruger National Park and the remainder of the foot-and-mouth disease controlled area, free of foot-and-mouth disease. APHIS is also proposing to declare all of the Republic of South Africa free of rinderpest. These proposed actions appear to be appropriate because there have been no outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in the Republic of South Africa, except in Kruger National Park and the remainder of the foot-and-mouth disease controlled area since 1957, and there have been no outbreaks of rinderpest in the Republic of South Africa since 1903. These proposed actions would relieve certain restrictions due to foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest on the importation into the United States of certain live animals and animal products from all regions of the Republic of South Africa, except Kruger National Park and the remainder of the foot-and-mouth disease controlled area. However, because we consider the Republic of South Africa to be affected with hog cholera, African swine fever, and swine vesicular disease, and because the Republic of South Africa has certain trade practices regarding animals and animal products that are less restrictive than are acceptable for importation into the United States, the importation of live swine, and meat and other products from ruminants and swine, into the United States from the Republic of South Africa would continue to be subject to certain restrictions.
6.	Objective and rationale: Animal health
7.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations: This action is taken by APHIS in accordance with standards set by the Office international des Epizooties (OIE)

8.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: 64 FR 7816, 17 February 1999 (available in English, 7 pages); 9 CRF Part 94
9.	Proposed date of adoption: To be determined.
10.	Proposed date of entry into force: To be determined.
11.	Final date for comments: 19 April 1999 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA
12.	Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: United States SPS Enquiry Point USDA/FAS/FSTSD Attn: Carolyn F. Wilson Room 5545 South Agriculture Building Stop 1027 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250 Tel: (202) 720 22 39 Fax: (202) 690 06 77 E-mail: ofsts@fas.usda.gov