

## **Food Business Operator: Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What is the overall objective of this registration process?**

The primary aim of Food Business Operator registration is to enable traceability throughout the value chain by ensuring that all regulated plant products and products of plant origin can be tracked one step forward and one step backward in the supply chain.

**2. In the case of a single PUC (Production Unit Code) where multiple crops are produced (e.g., macadamias and citrus), is separate registration required for macadamias, or is a shared Agri Production Unit FBO code (PUC) sufficient?**

Where multiple crops are produced on the same farm, a single FBO registration is sufficient to cover the farm as a production unit.

**3. Is it necessary to register as an FBO if we are involved in processing macadamia kernel?**

Yes. A processing plant requires a PROCES FBO code.

**4. What are the expected costs associated with registration?**

There are no costs associated with registering as an FBO.

**5. What are the practical implications of non-compliance with the registration requirements?**

FBO registration is a mandatory component of the national traceability system for plant products. No person may export regulated products from South Africa without a valid FBO registration. Failure to register will result in the product being ineligible for export certification by DALRRD and PPECB.

**6. How can one verify whether an FBO code is still valid, especially given that the official Department website is currently not functioning?**

The website's accessibility issues may be related to the transition from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) to the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD). However, FBO code verification can still be conducted using the following link:

[http://webapps1.dalrrd.gov.za/FBO/fbo\\_report\\_regions.jsp](http://webapps1.dalrrd.gov.za/FBO/fbo_report_regions.jsp).

Once on the page, select “*FBO Codes Report – Region Based*” from the left-hand menu, choose the relevant region, and use the “*Find in page*” function at the top of the page to locate your farm and corresponding FBO code.

**7. Do on-farm dehusking facilities require a separate FBO registration, or are they covered under the farm’s existing registration?**

No, dehuskers **do not** need to be registered for an FBO code, as these count as pre-processing. Similarly, drying bins also do not require an FBO code.

**8. Is it necessary to include title deeds for farms in our FBO registration form?**

Yes, you are required to submit either the title deed or a valid lease agreement for the farm. This documentation verifies the applicant’s legal association with the property.

**9. On the FBO registration form, what do I need to fill in for Addendum A?**

- **Growers:** Enter the FBO code of your immediate processor (“one up”). As a grower is the starting point in the value chain, there is no “one down” to complete.
- **Processors:** Enter the FBO codes of your supplying growers (“one down”) as well as the codes of your buyers—retailers, traders, exporters, or distributors (“one up”).

**10. Is SIZA Social and Environmental accreditation recognised as an accepted standard under current regulatory requirements?**

Feedback from the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) and the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) confirms that SIZA is not currently recognised as an acceptable accreditation under the new regulations for primary production (grower level).