

Legal Notice No.

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE BEEKEEPING AND BEE PRODUCTS ACT, CHAP. 67:53

REGULATIONS

Made by the Minister under section 9 of
the Beekeeping and Bee Products Act and subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament

THE BEEKEEPING AND BEE PRODUCTS (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2023

Citation **1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Beekeeping and Bee Products
(Amendment) Regulations, 2023.

G.N. 17.12.1936 **2.** The Beekeeping and Bee Products Regulations are amended—
amended

(a) by revoking regulation 2 and substituting the following regulation:

“Interpretation 2. In these Regulations—

“approved exporting country” means a country
listed in the First Schedule;

“approved form” means a form approved by the
Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture);

“beekeeper” means the owner or person having the
charge or management of an apiary; and

“Inspector” means the Inspector of Apiaries referred
to in section 4 of the Act.”;

(b) in regulation 3—

(i) by renumbering regulation 3 as regulation 3(1); and

(ii) by inserting after regulation 3(1) as renumbered, the following
subregulation:

“(2) The establishment of an apiary consisting of Africanised Honey
Bees (known scientifically as *Apis mellifera scutellata*) and its
subspecies, shall be in accordance with these Regulations and an
apiary shall be—

(a) at least two hundred metres from the nearest residence, office building or business premises, livestock farm, kennel, rabbitry, stable, zoo or any compound housing animals; and

(b) at least fifty metres from the nearest boundaries.”;

(c) in regulation 4—

(i) by renumbering regulation 4 as regulation 4(1);

(ii) in regulation 4(1) as renumbered, by inserting after the words “All honeybees” the words “housed in apiaries”; and

(iii) by inserting after regulation 4(1) as renumbered, the following subregulations:

“(2) Where the Inspector finds that bees are not being kept in movable frame hives, the Inspector shall issue a directive to the beekeeper that the bees are to be transferred to movable frame hives within fourteen days or such reasonable time as the Inspector thinks fit.

(3) A beekeeper who fails to comply with subregulation (2) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars.

(4) Where a beekeeper is convicted under subregulation (3), the Court may, in addition to the penalty under subregulation (3) and upon application by the Inspector, make an order that the beekeeper transfer the bees to movable frame hives within such reasonable time as the Court thinks fit.

(5) Where a beekeeper fails to comply with an order made under subregulation (4), the Court may order the Inspector to have the hives destroyed in a manner consistent with international best practices.”;

(d) by revoking regulation 7 and substituting the following regulations:

“Application for registration or renewal of registration of apiary

7. (1) A person shall not manage an apiary in Trinidad and Tobago unless the apiary is registered with the Inspector.

(2) An application for registration or renewal of the registration as an apiary shall be in the approved form and shall include—

- (a) the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the person;
- (b) a copy of photo identification of the person making the application in the form of a valid national identification card or passport;
- (c) the location of the apiary;
- (d) the number of colonies constituting the apiary; and
- (e) a fee of six hundred dollars.

Power to grant registration

7A. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), where the Inspector is satisfied that an applicant has met the requirements of these Regulations for registration as an apiary, he shall—

- (a) approve the registration of the apiary; and
- (b) issue to the applicant a certificate of registration.

(2) The Inspector may refuse to register the registration of an apiary if—

- (a) the information contained in the application for registration is incorrect or incomplete;
- (b) an applicant has been convicted of an offence under the Act or these Regulations;
- (c) the registration of the apiary, having been previously registered under these Regulations has been cancelled under regulation 7C; or

(d) he has other reasonable grounds for doing so.

(3) Where the Inspector refuses to register an apiary under this regulation, or refuses to renew the registration of an apiary under regulation 7B, the Inspector shall issue a notice to the applicant and provide reasons in writing for such refusal.

(4) Where an applicant receives a notice under subregulation (3), he may write to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) to review the decision of the Inspector and provide the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) with written reasons as to why his application should be reconsidered for approval.

(5) Upon receipt of reasons under subregulation (4) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall determine whether the registration should be granted or refused and a notice shall be sent to the applicant accordingly.

Renewal of registration

7B. (1) A certificate of registration issued under regulation 7A is valid for a period of three years from the date of issue.

(2) A beekeeper of a registered apiary shall apply to the Inspector for the renewal of the certificate of registration no later than one month before the certificate expires.

(3) A beekeeper who submits an application for renewal may continue to manage until a decision is made by the Inspector.

Suspension or cancellation of registration

7C. (1) The Inspector may suspend or cancel the registration of an apiary where he has reasonable grounds for doing so.

(2) Where the Inspector determines that the registration of an apiary should be suspended or cancelled in accordance with subregulation (1), the Inspector shall give notice in writing for the suspension or cancellation to the relevant beekeeper.

(3) The notice referred to in subregulation (2) shall include the following:

(a) the reasons for the suspension or cancellation;

(b) the exact date that the suspension or cancellation will take effect; and

(c) a statement that the beekeeper may submit written reasons to the Inspector as to why the apiary's registration should not be suspended or cancelled.

(4) Where the Inspector is in receipt of written reasons under subregulation (3), the Inspector shall—

(a) consider and make a determination on those reasons within a reasonable time; and

(b) notify the beekeeper in writing of his determination, as soon as practicable.

(5) Where the registration of an apiary is suspended or cancelled, the relevant beekeeper shall cease to conduct business as an apiary from the date of suspension or cancellation.

Offence 7D. A person who manages an apiary that is not registered under these Regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars.

Court order 7E. Where a certificate of registration has been refused or cancelled for good cause, the Inspector may apply to the Court for an order to have the relevant hives destroyed in a manner consistent with international best practices.

Notification of change of particulars 7F. An applicant shall notify the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) of any change in the particulars referred to in regulation 7(2) within thirty days of such change.

Notification of bee disease 7G. (1) A beekeeper shall as soon as practicable notify the Inspector that his apiary is—

(a) infected by a bee disease; or

(b) suspected of being infected by a bee disease.

(2) A beekeeper who fails to give notice under subregulation (1) commits an offence and is liable

on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars.”;

(e) in regulation 8—

(i) by deleting the full stop at the end of paragraph (e) and substituting the words “; and”; and

(ii) by inserting after paragraph (e), the following paragraph:

“(f) such other information as may be required.”;

(f) by revoking regulation 21 and substituting the following regulations:

“Prohibition 21. (1) The importation of comb foundation and beeswax, other than beeswax included in manufactured articles, is prohibited except as provided in this regulation.

(2) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may grant a permit authorising the importation of comb foundation and prepared beeswax to be used solely for medical or dental purposes where such goods are accompanied by an export health certificate from the competent authority in the approved exporting country, to the satisfaction of the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture).

(3) A person who contravenes subregulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred thousand dollars.

Importation of honey 21A. (1) A person shall not import honey into Trinidad and Tobago unless –

(a) the importation is in accordance with the terms and conditions of an import permit granted by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) under regulation 21C;

(b) the honey originates from an approved exporting country and is imported —

(i) directly from that approved exporting country; or

(ii) via a route approved by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture); and

(c) the importation is at a point of entry listed in the Second Schedule.

Application for import permit

21B. (1) A person who wishes to import honey into Trinidad and Tobago shall apply to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) for an import permit.

(2) An application under subregulation (1) shall be in the approved form and shall include—

(a) the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the applicant;

(b) a copy of photo identification of the applicant in the form of a valid national identification card or passport;

(c) a fee of one hundred dollars; and

(d) such other information as the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may require.

Power to grant import permit

21C. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is satisfied that a person has met the requirements under regulation 21B for an import permit, he shall issue an import permit to the applicant.

(2) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may refuse to issue an import permit to an applicant where—

(a) the information contained in the application is incorrect or incomplete;

(b) the applicant has been convicted of an offence under the Act or these Regulations;

(c) the importation of honey presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago; or

(d) he has other reasonable grounds for doing so.

(3) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) refuses to issue an import permit, he shall issue a notice to the applicant and provide reasons in writing within a reasonable time.

(4) Where an applicant receives a notice under subregulation (3), he may provide the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) with written reasons as to why his application should be approved.

(5) Upon receipt of reasons under subregulation (4) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall determine whether the import permit should be granted or refused and a notice shall be sent to the applicant accordingly.

Suspension or
revocation of
import permit

21D. (1) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may suspend or revoke the import permit of a person where he has reasonable grounds for doing so.

(2) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) determines that the import permit of a person should be suspended or revoked in accordance with subregulation (1), the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall give notice in writing for the suspension or revocation to the holder of the import permit.

(3) The notice referred to in subregulation (2) shall include the following:

(a) the reasons for the suspension or revocation;

(b) the exact date that the suspension or revocation will take effect; and

(c) a statement that the holder of the import permit may submit written reasons to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) as to why the import permit should not be suspended or revoked.

(4) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is in receipt of written reasons under subregulation (3), he shall—

- (a) consider and make a determination on those reasons within a reasonable time; and
- (b) notify the holder of the import permit of his determination.

(5) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) decides not to suspend or revoke an import permit on the basis of written reasons received under subregulation (3), he shall, as soon as is practicable, notify the holder of the import permit in writing.

Export health certificate for consignment of honey

21E. A consignment of honey imported into Trinidad and Tobago must be accompanied by an export health certificate signed and stamped by the competent authority of the approved exporting country.

Incomplete documentation and at risk consignments of honey

21F. (1) Where a consignment of honey which is imported into Trinidad and Tobago—

- (a) is not accompanied by the documents and information required under these Regulations; or
- (b) does not meet the terms and conditions of its import permit,

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the consignment shall be treated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Customs Act, the Food and Drugs Act or any other written law.

(2) Where a consignment of honey which is imported into Trinidad and Tobago presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago—

- (a) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall revoke the import permit for that consignment; and
- (b) the consignment shall be treated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Customs Act, the Food and Drugs Act or any other written law.

Notification of change of particulars 21G. An applicant shall notify the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) of any change in the particulars referred to in regulation 21B(2) within thirty days of such change.”;

(g) by revoking regulation 22 and substituting the following regulations:

“Transshipment of honey 22. (1) No honey arriving in Trinidad and Tobago by sea or by air shall be transhipped except as provided in this regulation.

(2) A person shall not tranship honey unless—

(a) the transshipment is in accordance with the terms and conditions of a transshipment permit granted by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) under regulation 22B;

(b) the honey originates from an approved exporting country and is shipped—

(i) directly from that approved exporting country; or

(ii) via a route approved by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture); and

(c) the transshipment is at a point of entry listed in the Second Schedule.

(3) No honey shall be loaded, offloaded or otherwise moved during transshipment except in the presence of, and in accordance with the directions of an inspecting officer.

(4) No honey shall be unloaded for transshipment if its containers are leaky or likely to leak, and, in such case or when the damaged containers are discovered after being unloaded, the inspecting officer shall take such measures or give such orders as may be reasonable and necessary in order to prevent any bees feeding upon the honey leaking or which may leak out of the containers.

(5) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this regulation, the Chief Technical Officer

(Agriculture) shall prohibit the transshipment of honey if he has reason to believe that—

- (a) the honey proceeds from a country or place in which a disease of honey bees is known to occur; or
- (b) the transshipment is likely to introduce a disease of honey bees into Trinidad and Tobago.

(6) Where an inspecting officer gives an order in exercise of the powers vested in him by subregulation (4), the person in charge of the honey or handling the honey in respect of which the order is given shall immediately comply with it.

(7) For the purposes of this regulation, “inspecting officer” means—

- (a) the Inspector; or
- (b) an officer authorised in writing by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) to act under the directions of the Inspector.

Application for
transshipment
permit

22A. (1) A person who wishes to transship honey through Trinidad and Tobago shall apply to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) for a transshipment permit.

(2) An application under subregulation (1) shall be in the approved form and shall include—

- (a) the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the applicant;
- (b) a copy of photo identification of the applicant in the form of a valid national identification card or passport;
- (c) a fee of one hundred dollars; and
- (d) such other information as the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may require.

Power to grant transshipment permit

22B. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is satisfied that a person has met the requirements under regulation 22A for a transshipment permit, he shall issue a transshipment permit to the applicant.

(2) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may refuse to issue a transshipment permit to an applicant where—

- (a) the information contained in the application is incorrect or incomplete;
- (b) the applicant has been convicted of an offence under the Act or these Regulations;
- (c) the transshipment of honey presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago; or
- (d) he has other reasonable grounds for doing so.

(3) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) refuses to issue a transshipment permit, he shall issue a notice to the applicant and provide reasons in writing within a reasonable time.

(4) Where an applicant receives a notice under subregulation (3), he may provide the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) with written reasons as to why his application should be approved.

(5) Upon receipt of reasons under subregulation (4) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall determine whether the transshipment permit should be granted or refused and a notice shall be sent to the applicant accordingly.

Suspension or revocation of transshipment permit

22C. (1) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may suspend or revoke the transshipment permit of a person where he has reasonable grounds for doing so.

(2) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) determines that the transshipment permit of a person should be suspended or revoked in accordance with

subregulation (1), the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall give notice in writing for the suspension or revocation to the holder of the transshipment permit.

(3) The notice referred to in subregulation (2) shall include the following:

- (a) the reasons for the suspension or revocation;
- (b) the exact date that the suspension or revocation will take effect; and
- (c) a statement that the holder of the transshipment permit may submit written reasons to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) as to why the transshipment permit should not be suspended or revoked.

(4) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is in receipt of written reasons under subregulation (3)(c), he shall—

- (a) consider and make a determination on those reasons within a reasonable time; and
- (b) notify the holder of the transshipment permit in writing of his determination, as soon as practicable.

Notification of
change of
particulars

22D. An applicant shall notify the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) of any change in the particulars referred to in regulation 22A(2) within thirty days of such change.”;

(h) in regulation 23, by deleting the word “consent” and substituting the word “recommendation”;

(i) by revoking regulation 24 and substituting the following regulations:

“Application
for bees, bee
supplies and
bee products

24. (1) A person shall not import—

(a) Queen bees and bees for—

(i) honey production;

(ii) educational purposes;

(iii) zoological collections and display;

- (iv) agricultural purposes;
- (v) scientific research purposes; or
- (vi) any other purpose;

- (b) honeybee germplasm;
- (c) honeybee larvae and eggs;
- (d) bee supplies; and
- (e) bee products,

into Trinidad and Tobago, unless the importation is in accordance with an import permit granted by the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) under regulation 24A.

(2) A person who wishes to obtain an import permit under subregulation (1) shall apply to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) for an import permit.

(3) An application under subregulation (2) shall be in the approved form and shall include—

- (a) the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the applicant;
- (b) a copy of photo identification of the applicant in the form of a valid national identification card or passport;
- (c) a fee of one hundred dollars; and
- (d) such other information as the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may require.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation, “bee supplies” means bees honeycomb, foundation and propolis.

Power to grant
import permit

24A. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is satisfied that a person has met the requirements under regulation 24 for an import permit, he shall issue an import permit to the applicant.

(2) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may refuse to issue an import permit to an applicant where—

- (a) the information contained in the application is incorrect or incomplete;

- (b) the applicant has been convicted of an offence under the Act or these Regulations;
- (c) the import of bees, bee supplies or bee products presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago; or
- (d) he has other reasonable grounds for doing so.

(3) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) refuses to issue an import permit, he shall issue a notice to the applicant and provide reasons in writing within a reasonable time.

(4) Where an applicant receives a notice under subregulation (3), he may provide the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) with written reasons as to why his application should be approved.

(5) Upon receipt of reasons under subregulation (4) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall determine whether the import permit should be granted or refused and a notice shall be sent to the applicant accordingly.

Suspension or
revocation of
import permit

24B. (1) The Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) may suspend or revoke an import permit issued under regulation 24A where—

- (a) the import of bees, bee supplies or bee products presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago; or
- (b) he has other reasonable grounds for doing so.

(2) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) determines that an import permit issued under regulation 24A should be suspended or revoked in accordance with subregulation (1), the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall give notice in writing for the suspension or revocation to the holder of the import permit.

(3) The notice referred to in subregulation (2) shall include the following:

- (a) the reasons for the suspension or revocation;
- (b) the exact date that the suspension or revocation will take effect; and
- (c) a statement that the holder of the import permit may submit written reasons to the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) as to why the import permit should not be suspended or revoked.

(4) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) is in receipt of written reasons under subregulation (3), he shall—

- (a) consider and make a determination on those reasons within a reasonable time; and
- (b) notify the holder of the import permit of his determination.

(5) Where the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) decides not to suspend or revoke an import permit on the basis of written reasons received under subregulation (3), he shall, as soon as is practicable, notify the holder of the import permit in writing.

Export health certificate

24C. (1) A consignment of Queen bees, honeybees, honeybee germplasm, bees other than honeybees, bee supplies and bee products from an approved exporting country arriving in Trinidad and Tobago, shall be accompanied by an export health certificate issued by the appropriate competent authority of that approved exporting country.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation, “bee supplies” means bees honeycomb, foundation and propolis.

Points of entry

24D. A consignment of Queen bees, honeybees, honeybee germplasm, bees other than honeybees, bee supplies and bee products from an approved exporting country arriving in Trinidad and Tobago, shall enter into Trinidad and Tobago only at the points of entry specified in the Second Schedule.

Incomplete documentation and at risk consignments

24E. (1) Where a consignment of Queen bees, honeybees, honeybee germplasm, bees other than honeybees, bee supplies and bee products is imported in Trinidad and Tobago and—

- (a) is not accompanied by the documents and information required under these Regulations; or
- (b) does not meet the terms and conditions of its import permit,

the consignment shall be treated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Customs Act, the Food and Drugs Act or any other written law.

(2) Where a consignment of Queen bees, honeybees, honeybee germplasm, bees other than honeybees, bee supplies and bee products which is imported into Trinidad and Tobago presents an unacceptable risk of the introduction or spread of a bee disease or pest in Trinidad and Tobago—

- (a) the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) shall revoke the import permit for that consignment; and
- (b) the consignment shall be treated in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Customs Act, the Food and Drugs Act or any other written law.

Notification of change of particulars

24F. An applicant shall notify the Chief Technical Officer (Agriculture) of any change in the particulars referred to in regulation 24(3) within thirty days of such change.”;

(j) by revoking regulations 26, 27, 29, 30, 31 and 33;

(k) in regulation 36—

- (i) by deleting the word “vessel” and substituting the words “ship, aircraft or boat”; and

(ii) by deleting the words “in the harbour of Port-of-Spain” and substituting the words “at a point of entry listed in the Second Schedule”; and

(l) by inserting after Part VI, the following Schedules:

“FIRST SCHEDULE

(Regulation 2)

Approved Exporting Countries

1. Antigua and Barbuda
2. The Bahamas
3. Barbados
4. Belize
5. The Commonwealth of Dominica
6. Grenada
7. Guyana
8. Haiti
9. Jamaica
10. Montserrat
11. Saint Lucia
12. St. Kitts and Nevis
13. St. Vincent and the Grenadines
14. Suriname

SECOND SCHEDULE

(Regulation 21A, 22, 24D and 36)

Points of Entry

Airport

1. Piarco International Airport
2. A.N.R Robinson International Airport

Sea port

1. Port of Spain, including the CARICOM Wharves
2. Point Lisas
3. Scarborough”.

Dated this 24th day of November, 2023.

Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

Approved by the House of Representatives this day of ,
2023.

Clerk of the House

Approved by the Senate this day of , 2023.

Clerk of the Senate