



## FAIRPLAY MOURNS THE DEATH OF PROF. MOHAMMAD KARAAN

The FairPlay movement mourns the death of Prof Mohammad Karaan, one of South Africa's leading agricultural economists and a founding member of FairPlay's panel of experts.

Prof Karaan was known and respected throughout the agricultural sector. Known for his intellect, insight and often forceful opinions on agricultural matters, he agreed to join our expert panel when it was formed. We will miss his sage advice and his friendship.

Prof Karaan, professor in Agricultural Economics at Stellenbosch University, was a former dean of the faculty of AgriSciences at the university, from which he first graduated in 1990. He went on to obtain his MSc (Agric) in 1994 and his PhD (Agric) in 2006 at the same university.

His contribution to South Africa has been huge, in both the public and private sectors. He was a member of the National Planning Commission, had served in executive positions on the Land Bank and the Agricultural Research Council and was a former president

The FairPlay movement is a non-profit initiative to end predatory trade practices worldwide.



## EXPORTS ALONE CANNOT SAVE SOUTH AFRICA'S POULTRY INDUSTRY

Increased exports are an important objective for South Africa's poultry industry. But South Africa cannot export enough to make up for the massive volumes of imported chicken, especially predatory imports.

In a recent article published in *Business Day*, Paul Mathew head of the South Africa meat importers makes the self-serving claim that flooding the country with dumped foreign imports is okay because the domestic industry can save themselves through exports.

of the South African Society of Agricultural Economists.

He served on the boards of various companies and had chaired a ministerial committee that reviewed the Agricultural Marketing Act. He was also a successful entrepreneur in his own right.

At the time of his death he was a management committee member of the Bureau for Economic Research at Stellenbosch University.

Prof Karaan brought to the FairPlay movement not only his deep expertise and sage advice, but always made his extensive network available to our cause. He made time for us and like all of us at FairPlay, he stood on the side of the people. He genuinely cared about people, especially those who are poor, powerless and voiceless. We are distraught at his passing. It is a tragedy for the country that Covid-19 has claimed his life at the young age of 52. FairPlay extends its heartfelt condolences to Prof Karaan's family, friends and colleagues.



As FairPlay's Francois Baird notes Matthew knows that chicken exports to the EU are hampered not by the industry but by EU regulations that are designed to protect the European poultry industry by keeping imports out and also by a serious shortage of SA government veterinary resources.

According to Baird perhaps more importantly, Matthew also knows that a new anti-dumping application by the local industry is imminent. The industry has said it has evidence of dumping by Brazil and four EU countries. If that application is granted, it would restrict chicken imports from these countries.

"This potential loss of profits concerns chicken importers, who have benefited hugely from massive increases in chicken imports over the past two decades. So in the months to come we can expect the usual regurgitation of anti-tariff noise, all of which has been thoroughly debunked, denigrating the local chicken industry – uncompetitive, oligopolies, protectionism, a lack of export focus, imports are needed to meet local demand, etc".

The facts, as FairPlay regularly points out, are that predatory imports have suppressed the local industry and killed thousands of South African jobs. The poultry sector master plan aims to constrain imports and encourage expansion and job creation to supply both local and export markets.

As a master plan supporter, the South Africa Association of Meat Importers and Exporters should back import limitations while explaining what the association has achieved in expanding SA chicken exports.

# POULTRY MEAT AND EGG IMPORTS SUSPENDED DUE TO BIRD FLU OUTBREAK IN EUROPE AND ASIA

To protect consumers Hong Kong has suspended the import of poultry meat and products including eggs from parts of Europe and Asia as a result of outbreaks of highly pathogenic H5 avian influenza.

The ban on imports applies to poultry products from Germany, France, South Korea and Japan.

Bird flu has also spread to India and is now present in poultry stocks in 10 different states.

In Sweden the H5N5 variant of bird flu was discovered at Sweden's biggest egg producer.

Avian influenza has hit at least 10 European countries including the Netherlands, Germany, France, Belgium, United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Croatia and Ukraine.

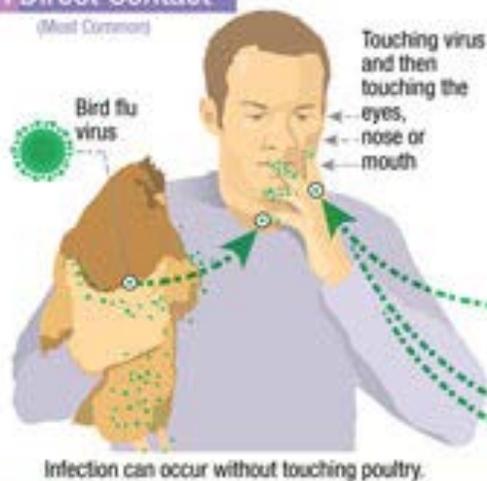
Bloomberg reports that the outbreak has spurred poultry import restrictions by nations including [China](#) and [South Korea](#). More than 2 million birds died in [Poland](#), and Germany reported almost 30 outbreaks. Turkey farms were affected in [Hungary](#) and the [U.K.](#), and Denmark [suspended](#) sales of chickens outside the EU.

## How Infected Backyard Poultry Could Spread Bird Flu to People

Human Infections with Bird Flu Viruses Rare But Possible

### 1 Direct Contact

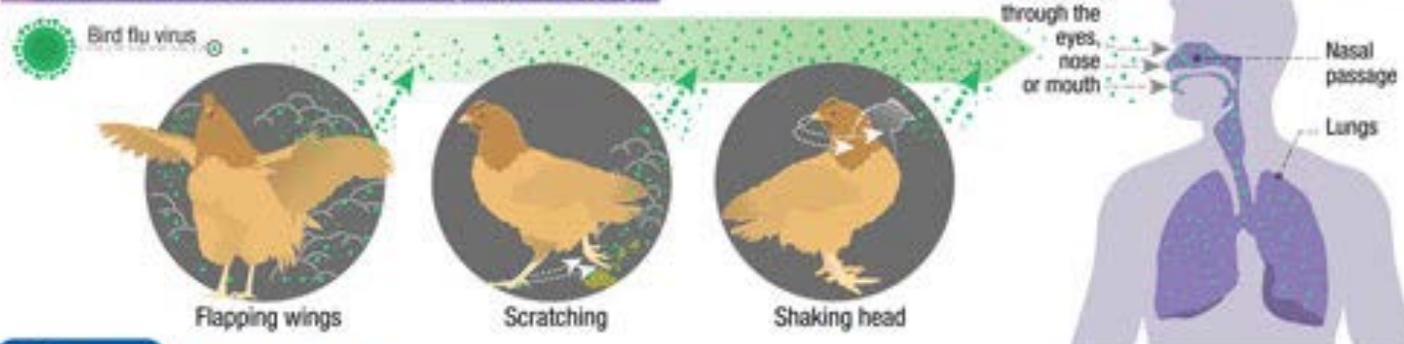
(Most Common)



### 2 Contaminated Surfaces



### 3 Bird Flu Virus in the Air (in Droplets or Dust)



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/avian-in-humans.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/avian-in-humans.htm)

12/21/12

## EXPORT PROGRESS WITH POULTRY MASTER PLAN

When the poultry industry master plan was signed over a year ago, no one could have predicted the devastating effects that a pandemic would have on the world during 2020. While the South African government is working out how to deliver on the promises of increased local production and job creation in terms of president Cyril Ramaphosa's economic recovery plan, the South African Poultry Association (SAPA) has announced that progress has been made towards increasing exports of poultry.

"It is gratifying that despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, we can confirm that certain crucial steps have been taken towards enabling more exports of South African chicken," says Izaak Breitenbach, general manager of SAPA's Broiler Organisation. "It is to the credit of ministers Ebrahim Patel and Thoko Didiza that local chicken products can now be exported to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and hopefully also soon to Saudi Arabia and elsewhere."

This follows successful negotiations by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to procure a new export certificate that opens the UAE to exports of poultry products.

Steps are also being taken to facilitate exports to South Africa's neighbours belonging to the South African Customs Union (SACU). South Africa has export certificates in place for Namibia, Botswana and Eswatini. However, access is restricted in terms of these countries' quota policy. The expectation is that the SACU arrangements will be smoothed in terms of the master plan to enable more exports.





## DTI AND SA POULTRY REPORT GOOD PROGRESS WITH MASTER PLAN

*This article was written by Simone Liedtke and [first published by Engineering News](#) on 8 December 2020.*

Progress has been made on the implementation of the Poultry Master Plan the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (DTIC) has said.

Over the course of the past 12 months, a new tariff was introduced on imported poultry which provides greater protection for local producers and which assisted in one-million additional chickens being produced locally every week since the new duty structure.

Additionally, R1.1-billion was invested in upgrading and improving the [efficiency](#) of facilities in an attempt to expand the capacity of the sector, 930 new jobs were created as a result, and transformation is being facilitated through support programmes for black farmers, with 13 new contract farmers assisted with feed and chicks from producers.

"Transformation was high on the agenda and 13 new farmers established their own contract farms with assistance for inputs like feed and chicks from the producers. 2021 will be the year of delivery in terms of the master plan where increased local production and consumption is envisaged," said Sapa's **Isaak Breitenbach**.

The Association of Meat Importers and Exporters (AMIE) also noted its commitment to improving the value of South African trade and participation in the global economy.

"The association is committed to not only the Poultry Master Plan but also the deliverables required. Part of the backbone of those deliverables is ensuring the growth of the [export](#) market. It is pleasing to note the increase in local production; the benefits to the consumer can only be realized if all the Poultry Master Plan objectives are delivered," said AMIE's **Paul Matthews**.

Grain producers supported efforts to grow the industry, while soybean producers, in particular, intended to increase hectares by 11.5% this season. Through Grain SA's developing farmer programme, it has also helped 26 new developing farmers to plant soybeans on more or less 1 200 ha across the country.

"It is [also] expected that maize hectares will increase by 5.2% from last year," said Grain SA's **Corne Louw**.

The master plan was also supported by the black farmer association and the trade union movement.

Further, the first ten months of the year also saw poultry imports decline by 17%.

During a meeting co-chaired by Trade, Industry and Competition Minister **Ebrahim Patel** and Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Minister **Thoko Didiza** this week, industry stakeholders committed to increasing their efforts in 2021.



**The FairPlay movement** is a not-for-profit trade movement that fights for jobs. Its goal is to end predatory trade practices between countries so that big and small nations play by the same rules. It supports the principle that penalties for transgressing those rules apply equally to everybody.

FairPlay was founded in October 2016. In alliance with existing organisations and experts it formulates and promotes strategies to defend communities made vulnerable by predatory trade practices and promote sustainable livelihoods.

These alliance partners are international, currently from the USA, Canada, Ireland, UK, Ghana and South Africa.

FairPlay mission: To end the scourge of dumping as an immoral trade practice.

FairPlay vision: A world where dumping no longer exists, with free trade according to the rules.

<http://fairplaymovement.org>

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