AFRICAN BIOLOGICALS ALLIANCE

For Africa. By Africa.

REGISTRATION · SOUTH AFRICA · AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES

How an application is assessed

Four stages between your application and the Registrar's decision. Each can end in a request for more, and an unanswered request ends in rejection.

14 days for the completeness check	**30 days** about, to answer a request for data
7 tests for registration	**1** appeal, to the Minister

THE PATH

Four stages

01 **Administrative check**
Within 14 days. Is it complete, signed, legible and paid for?

02 **Scientific screening**
Is the data there? About 30 days to supply what is missing.

03 **Evaluation**
A technical adviser studies the data and may contact you.

04 **Decision**
The adviser reports to the Registrar. You are told in writing.

STAGE ONE

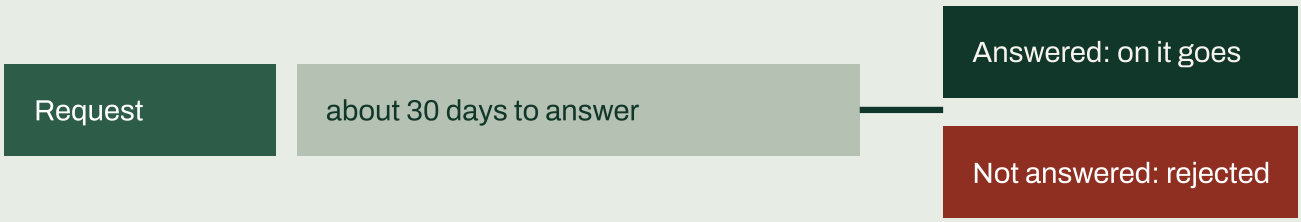
What the completeness check looks at

Cover letter	**Service request form**
Applicant details	**Approved person details**
Registration number If you have one, and it is still valid.	**Application forms** Fully filled and signed.
Legibility Any correction is initialled.	**Fees paid**
Label copies	**Anything the cover letter promises**

> If something is missing you are told and given a period to supply it. If you do not, the application is rejected. A rejected application is not evaluated.

STAGES TWO AND THREE

When the clock runs on you



The same 30-day rule applies in scientific screening and in evaluation.
Total days can stretch if the applicant is slow to respond.

STAGE FOUR

The Registrar's seven tests

If the Registrar is satisfied of all seven, the Registrar must register the remedy and issue a certificate (regulation 8). Otherwise it may be refused.

01

Complete and true

In all material particulars.

02

No unreasonable harm

To the environment and human health, used in the usual way.

03

Meets the standards

The active ingredient complies.

04

No substance of concern

And not banned.

05

Effective as claimed

Labelling and packaging comply.

06

Residues in order

Under the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act.

07

Follows the Act

And the regulations.

Registered

A certificate.

1. Valid for three years, then renew
2. Shows holder, trade name, active ingredients, number and any conditions
3. Break a condition and the registration may be withdrawn or cancelled

Refused

Or you disagree with the decision.

1. The Registrar may refuse if the tests are not met
2. Appeal to the Minister under section 6 of the Act
3. The appeal fee is R8,574 from 1 April 2026

WHERE IT IS UNCLEAR

Ask before you rely on it

The 2017 guideline says	But
Application forms in triplicate, three label copies	The 2023 regulations say duplicate, and two printed label copies
Screening is against the 2015 data guidelines	See the data guides for what each type needs
The process is described for non-crop remedies	Whether it applies unchanged to every remedy is not confirmed
Faster routes exist: minor-use and low-risk applications, replacements for substances of concern	The regulations allow the Registrar to expedite them. See the fast-tracking guide

Information, not legal advice. Facts as of 26 October 2026, from the Regulations relating to agricultural remedies (25 August 2023), the Registrar's 2017 guidelines on non-crop remedies (for the process only) and Government Gazette 54123 (13 February 2026). Later changes are not reflected. Guidelines page: https://www.nda.gov.za/index.php/publication/581-guidelines

Sources

Prepared by the African Biologicals Alliance from these documents. They belong to the department and remain subject to its own terms.

- Regulations relating to agricultural remedies. Government Gazette 49189, 25 August 2023.
- Guidelines on the data and documents required for the registration of agricultural remedies used in non crop situations in South Africa (the process only). Issued by the Registrar of Act 36 of 1947, October 2017. https://www.nda.gov.za/index.php/publication/581-guidelines
- Regulations relating to tariffs. Government Gazette 54123, 13 February 2026.

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