

29 MAY 2020 – BULLETIN NO. 4 (ISSUED BI-WEEKLY)

COVID-19 FERTILIZER WATCH

PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA FERTILIZER MARKET

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lockdown Status:** The lockdown status of countries in the region largely remains unchanged, however several countries are looking to revise restrictions to allow economies to open up. Uganda and South Africa are set to ease restrictions on June 1st, while Tanzania already with limited restrictions in place, and Zambia, will re-open schools on the same date. Increased concern over the spread of COVID-19 by truck drivers crossing borders along freight routes saw the Tanzania-Kenya and Tanzania-Zambia borders temporarily closed, which have since re-opened with restrictions on cross-border movement, only permitting the transit of cargo. Many countries continue to receive aid from various sources including World Bank grants and IMF loans to help both medical staff and equipment requirements, including testing capacity.
- Fertilizer Availability:** There have been no reported shortages of fertilizer from the supply side, barring some minor issues with shipping lines sending out blank sales notices, possibly affecting lead times for fertilizer orders in the coming months.
- Ports:** Ports are still requiring isolation periods among other restrictions on merchant vessel crew-changes. Ports continue to operate on reduced shifts (1/3 of full operational capacity and adjusted staffing, etc., modifications on a 15-day cycle). Quayside bagging has been banned at Mombasa; however, this has also improved port efficiency.
- Road Freight:** Reduced copper freight continues to impact viability of back-freight out of copper export ports (e.g. Durban and Dar es Salaam). Kenya is undertaking driver testing prior to dispatch at Mombasa port, in addition to mandatory testing at designated truck stops across the country. However, test certificates are only valid in-country and transit truck operators are required test again at border crossings.
- Border Crossing:** There is heightened concern, along with more restrictive and counteractive measures in countries wishing to address/prevent new source contamination through more rigorous testing of truck drivers and transport personnel. Actions range from preventing entry of drivers – e.g. Rwanda requires “relay drivers” to transport good internally; whereas Kenya and Zambia are temporarily closing borders with Tanzania. The level of rigor for testing at borders depends on the country coming of origin – ranges from isolation at border posts, to transporters being escorted to mandatory isolation locations, to only temperature testing.
- Fertilizer Sector Response:** In most countries fertilizer associations and private sector companies continue working closely with Ministry of Agriculture officials to ensure efficiency in the distribution channel within the requirements of COVID-19 restrictions.

STATS

COUNTRY	COVID-19 CASES	PUBLIC MEASURES		MEASURES AFFECTING FERTILIZER SECTOR							
		CONFIRMED # COVID-19 CASES	COVID-19 NEW CASES PERCENT INCREASE	HEALTH MEASURES	ECONOMIC MEASURES	PORT OPERATIONS	DOMESTIC TRANSPORT	TRANSIT & BORDERS	AGRO INPUT RETAIL SHOPS	FERTILIZER SECTOR RESPONSE	FERTILIZER STOCKS AVAILABILITY
BURUNDI	42										
ETHIOPIA	701										
KENYA	1,348										
MALAWI	101										
MOZAMBIQUE	213										
RWANDA	339										
SOUTH AFRICA	24,264										
TANZANIA	509										
UGANDA	341										
ZAMBIA	920										
ZIMBABWE	56										

PANDEMIC INDICATORS:

LOGISTICS INDICATORS:

CONFIRMED # COVID-19 CASES

DOMESTIC TRANSPORT

NO CHANGE, OR IMPROVED

LITTLE TO NO IMPACT

UP TO 25% INCREASE

LIMITED IMPACT

25-50% INCREASE

MODERATE IMPACT

>50% INCREASE

STRONG IMPACT

NO DATA REPORTED

NO DATA OR N/A

HEALTH MEASURES

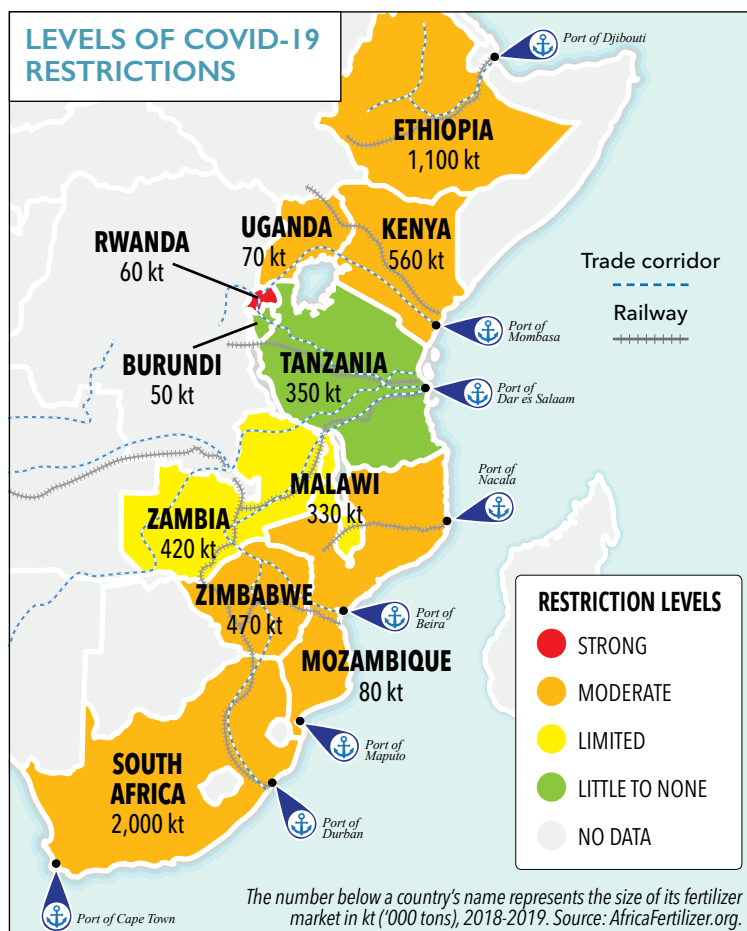
ECONOMIC MEASURES

PORT OPERATIONS

FERTILIZER SECTOR RESPONSE

FERTILIZER STOCKS AVAILABILITY

LEVELS OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS



RESTRICTION LEVELS

STRONG

MODERATE

LIMITED

LITTLE TO NONE

NO DATA

VIEW ONLINE
THE WATCH WEBPAGE

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