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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 several countries in the region has been widely revised, with some taking a phased approach to ease restrictions and to allow their economies to re-open. Such steps include revising curfew hours, re-opening schools, and imposing targeted lockdowns for localized viral 'hotspots', or the at district or provincial levels. Zambia and South Africa have had primary and secondary schools re-open, with students who are candidates for national exams being the first to resume courses. Tanzania and Uganda are in the process of re-opening their borders to allow for international passenger flights. Zambia has started operating regional passenger flights and Kenya is reviewing plans to resume domestic passenger flights. Many countries continue to receive aid from various sources such as World Bank grants and IMF loans to help with both medical staffing and equipment requirements, including testing capacity.

► **Fertilizer Availability:** There have been no reported shortages of fertilizer from a supply side, barring some minor issues with shipping lines sending out blank sailing notices, possibly affecting lead times for future fertilizer orders in the coming months. The long rains are ongoing in East Africa and the winter cropping season in Southern Africa is also under way.

► **Ports:** Modified operations continue largely unchanged. Isolation periods, restrictions for and quarantining of returning crew members are still standard requirements. Ports continue to operate on reduced shifts (1/3 operational on a 15-day cycle).

► **Road Freight:** Normal movement of cargo has been observed in the region, however the unavailability or reduction in back-freight cargo is causing losses for logistics companies. Countries are still undertaking mandatory testing and isolation of truck drivers at border crossings; as well as testing for motorcycle drivers as countries look to reinstate some limited passenger services.

► **Border Crossing:** Truck driver testing is operational at all border crossings. However, the rigor applied to testing regimes can often depend on the country of departure. Additional measures to limit viral transmission by transporters crossing borders range from the use of "relay drivers" for the transport of goods internally, to isolation at border posts, to escorted/tracked mandatory isolation, to denial of entry and repatriation to the country of origin. There are some border posts in countries only requiring temperature testing.

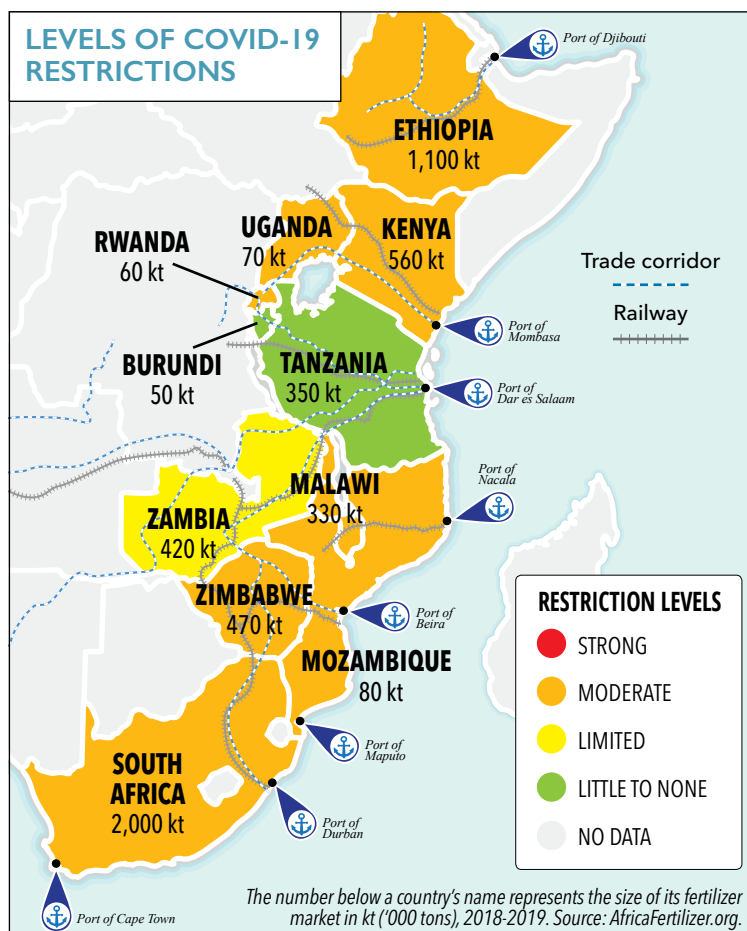
► **Fertilizer Sector Response:** As the winter cropping season is underway in most countries, fertilizer associations and private sector companies continue working closely with Ministry of Agriculture officials to ensure efficiency in the distribution channel within the needs of the COVID-19 restrictions.

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
BURUNDI	83									
ETHIOPIA	2,506									
KENYA	3,094									
MALAWI	455									
MOZAMBIQUE	472									
RWANDA	476									
SOUTH AFRICA	55,421									
TANZANIA	509									
UGANDA	794									
ZAMBIA	1,252									
ZIMBABWE	320									

PANDEMIC INDICATORS:	NO CHANGE, OR IMPROVED	UP TO 25% INCREASE	25-50% INCREASE	>50% INCREASE	NO DATA REPORTED
LOGISTICS INDICATORS:	LITTLE TO NO IMPACT	LIMITED IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	STRONG IMPACT	NO DATA OR N/A
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	

LEVELS OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS



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THE WATCH WEBPAGE

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