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**FSA Update and
Fishery Products
Session**
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22/06/2016
Food Standards Agency

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FSA Update

- Directorate F Fact-finding mission into composite products.
- IMTA Service Level Agreement – Imports Sampling
- GRAIL
- Port Sampling
- National Monitoring Plan
- Directorate F Mission on enhanced Import Controls (26-30 September 2016)
- Egg products (albumen)

Fishery Products Session

- Overview of key legislation

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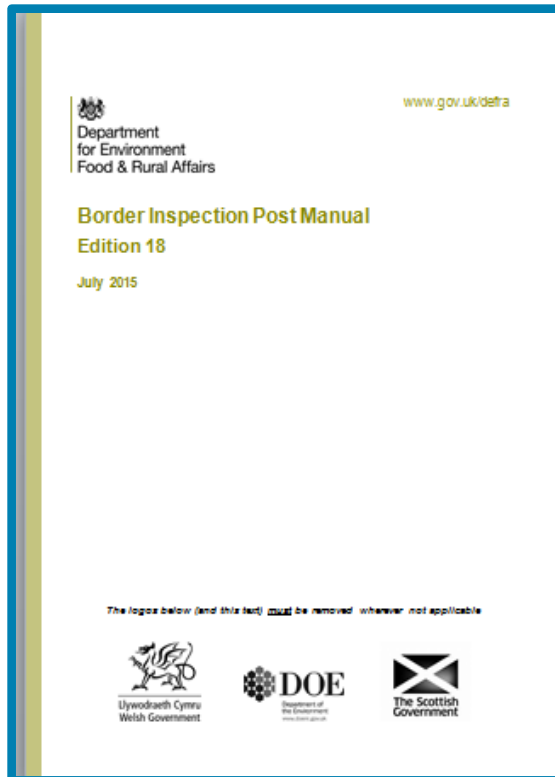
Directorate F – Fact-finding Mission on Composite Products - DG(SANTE)/2016-8880

Key findings

- Classifying composite products
- Flight manifest information
- Commodity Codes
- Problems inland (traceability and business approval process)
- Training opportunities
- UK BIPs are very impressive

UK Actions

- Develop a standalone training package on composite products
- Lobby for BTSF programme that covers composite products
- Flight manifest checks
- FSA/APHA Guidance
- Recognise and support BIPs
- Lobby DG TAXUD



BTI ruling

A BTI ruling is:

- legally binding on the customs in all of the [EU](#)
- generally valid for 6 years

Importers can

- Request a Binding Tariff Information (BTI) ruling.
- Gives certainty about the correct tariff classification for goods
- helps to work out customs duties, export refunds, licensing requirements, quotas or other restrictions in advance

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/binding-tariff-information-rulings>

IMTA Service Level Agreement – Import Sampling



IMTA SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT – IMPORT SAMPLING

OBJECTIVE: To ensure the smooth operation it is imperative that transactions with the BIP are transparent and all appropriate documents for the imported goods are provided by the importer or agent in a timely manner. It is also incumbent on the Port health officials to give clear guidance and feedback to the importer in a timely manner to minimise disruption for trade and not to create any unnecessary burden while maintaining the public and animal health interests. To support this it is key that the laboratories adequately communicate testing timeframes and provide updates.

Agreement between PHAs, laboratories involved in import testing (and third parties), IMTA, importing members.

To ensure consumer demand for access to protein year round flexibility of supply is essential. This means that both domestic production and imported products complement each other in order to meet demand. Imported food must ensure the public and animal health interests of the EU and the responsibility for the import of food is that of the importer.

The commercial import of most products of animal origin into the United Kingdom is covered by EU legislation. To protect the health and safety of consumers and to guard against contamination and disease, imported food must go through specific checks at the first point of entry into the European Union (EU).

Contents:

[Definitions](#)

[Service Level Agreement](#)

[Overview of authorities involved](#)

[Overview of Checks](#)

[EU BIP Checks](#)

[National Monitoring Plan](#)

[VMD Non-Statutory Surveillance](#)

[Re-inforced Checks](#)

[NMP 2015-16](#)

Opportunity

- *To improve transparency*
- *To ensure appropriate documents for the imported goods are provided by the importer or agent in a timely manner.*
- *To better understand testing timeframes for laboratories*
- *To better protect Port Health Authorities*

GRAIL

- Information requires updating
- Expensive to run
- Approximately 70 logins each month
- Smarter platforms being explored
- FSA Website



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Welcome

GRAIL provides users with a search facility to query the database that contains information relating to Import Conditions, Legislation and Guidance Notes for food products brought into the United Kingdom from outside the European Union.



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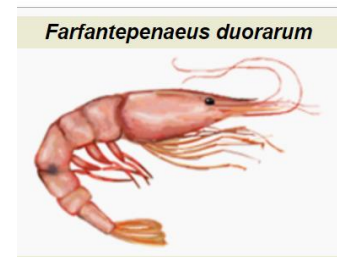
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Port Sampling – National FSA funded sampling programme

- Purdah
- Sampling 2016/2017 has begun
- Budget is significantly reduced
- Priorities based on consumer risk
- FSA's need for data in particular areas – this meant relatively few priorities were suitable for ports this year.
- More liaison with ports is required in future.
- Costs at ports are higher. This meant £100 per sample compared to £30 inland.
- Future plans to announced after purdah.

National Monitoring Plan – 2015/2016 results

- As required by Directive 97/78/EC and Regulation 136/2004
- 1587 samples
- Microbiological risks (34%), Veterinary residues (33%), Heavy Metals (20%), Chemical Contaminants (9%) and Biotoxins (4%)
- 4 non compliances:
 1. *Fish from NZ for micro (enterobacteriaceae)*
 2. *Pink shrimp from Ivory Coast for Biotoxins (PaH4)*
 3. *Pink shrimp from Ivory Coast for Chemical Contaminants (Benzo-a-pyrene)*
 4. *Molluscs from Republic of Korea for Heavy Metals (Cadmium)*



What benefits does this bring to food safety?

- The NMP gathers intelligence on POAO and associated public health risks.
- Supports POAO horizon scanning to underpin policymaking.
- Identifies emerging risks.
- Can corroborate other Agency systems (e.g. UKFSS).
- Can make more effective use of government resources.
- Working towards food we can trust.

A credible source of data to identify risks associated with various meat products imported into the UK.

National Monitoring Plan – 2015/2016 captured learning

- “Intent” to test for AMR resistance
- Use of a radio button (yes/no)
- Involve PHAs in the risk rankings



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Directorate F Mission on enhanced Import Controls (26-30 September 2016)

To evaluate:

- Emergency measures from Article 53 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002
- Regulation (EC) No 669/2009;
- Regulation (EU) No 284/2011 (polyamide and melamine kitchenware originating in or consigned from China and Hong Kong);
- Regulation (EC) No 733/2008 on the conditions governing imports of agricultural products following the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station.

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Directorate F Mission on enhanced Import Controls (26-30 September 2016)

Pre- audit questionnaire:

- 27th June 2016
- Documented procedures, information and instructions for staff
- documentary checks, identity, sampling under official supervision, detention, interpretation of laboratory results, management of non-conforming batches
- Copies of reports of verification (supervision and audits) performed since 2014 on the locations included in the audit.
- Regulation (EC) No 733/2008, indicating the numbers, type of goods (commodity), entry point and any non-compliant result.



Albumen

17 June 2016

Reference: OVS/2016/16

Dear Colleagues,

RE-ENFORCED CHECKS FOR ALBUMEN

This letter is addressed to Border Inspection Posts and Chief Port Health Officers in England only.

At the Veterinary Checks Working Group on 30th May 2016, the Commission made the meeting aware of a number of points concerning Re-Enforced Checks (REC).

The wording on the REC for albumen has now been changed. The updated wording has been altered to now say:

Labelling for egg products – BIPs do not have to sample consignments, but only check the labelling.

There is no need for BIPs to ask for an exemption if a consignment is a small quantity as they are automatically excluded. For more information on this, the Commission's guidance is here:

http://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/docs/bips_guidance_eu-dir-1997-78_art24.pdf.

Yours sincerely,

FISHERY PRODUCTS SESSION

