



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# Import of Certain Category 1 Materials for Certain uses

## Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/25

May 2022

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# 1. Important Information

Import Information Notes are technical documents containing import requirements and are for use by importers and veterinary staff.

Please be aware that import conditions may be updated due to changes in policy or legislation. Please ensure that you check the current version of the Import Information Note online.

Importers should note that the information given relates only to animal health and public health conditions of import. It does not give guidance on other conditions that may need to be met.

EU legislation as it stood on 31 December 2020 that the UK already complies with has been incorporated into our domestic law as “retained EU law” under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. References in our guidance and certification to such EU instruments should be taken to be references to this “retained EU law”. Our current standards will remain in force, without amendment, in the immediate months after our EU exit as part of UK domestic law (apart from corrections to make the EU legislation fully operable).

You can find further information on legislation, including Relevant EU Exit Statutory Instruments in the legislation section of this import information note.

Please note that any links to legislation provided in this document are for information purposes only and may not be the most recent version.

Further information regarding changes to the import controls from an EU country from 1 January 2021 can be found on GOV.UK at the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/import-animal-by-products-and-high-risk-food-and-feed-not-of-animal-origin-from-the-eu-to-great-britain>

## 2. Scope

Import conditions for certain category 1 materials for certain uses.

References to imports into Great Britain in this Import Information Note also includes imports into the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

References to trading partners includes non-EU, EU and EFTA countries. Import requirements from non-EU and EU countries will be differentiated, where required, in this Import Information Note.

Information regarding transits can be found on gov.uk:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transiting-animals-and-animal-products-through-great-britain>

### 3. Permitted imports

In accordance with Chapter VIII, Article 26 of [Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#) and Annex XIV, Chapter IV, Section I of [Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#), the competent authority may authorise the importation of the following Category 1 materials for certain uses **only**:

- Hides and skins derived from animals which have been submitted to an illegal treatment as defined in Article 1(2)(d) of [Directive 96/22](#);
- Ruminant intestines with or without content;
- Bones and bone products containing vertebral column and skull.

The Category 1 material mentioned above must:

- come from a country approved by the competent authority of destination (applications will be assessed on a case by case basis);
- be accompanied by a letter of authorisation issued by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA);
- be accompanied by the documentation required by the conditions of the authorisation.

### 4. Non-Permitted Category 1 material

**The materials mentioned above must not include category 1 material derived from any of the following:**

- Animals suspected of being infected by a TSE in accordance with [Retained EU Regulation 999/2001](#);
- Animals in which the presence of a TSE has been officially confirmed;
- Animals killed in the context of TSE eradication measures.

### 5. Non-Permitted uses

**The category 1 materials mentioned at 1 above must NOT be intended for the following uses:**

- Feeding;
- Application to land from which farmed animals are fed;

- The manufacture of:
  - a. Cosmetic products as defined in Article 1(1) of [Directive 76/768](#);
  - b. Active implantable medical devices as defined in Article 1(2)(c) of [Directive 90/385](#);
  - c. Medical devices as defined in Article 1(2)(a) of [Directive 93/42](#);
  - d. In vitro diagnostic medical devices as defined in Article 1(2)(b) of [Directive 98/79](#);
  - e. Veterinary medicinal products as defined in Article 1(2) of [Directive 2001/82](#);
  - f. Medicinal products as defined in Article 1(2) of [Directive 2001/83](#).

## 6. Authorisation document

Prior to importation an authorisation must be obtained from APHA. The authorisation sets out the conditions for importing these animal by-products in the United Kingdom and will normally be valid for a period of 6 months.

This document must be obtained by the importer **before** imports can take place. To apply for an authorisation please fill in an [application form](#).

## 7. Country of origin

Can only come from a country approved by the competent authority of destination (applications will be assessed on a case by case basis).

## 8. Documentation

Each consignment must be accompanied by documentation as required by the conditions laid down in the authorisation issued by APHA.

## 9. Labelling requirements

All packages must bear the following label which must be attached to the packaging, container or vehicle (as appropriate) which states:

“PROHIBITED IN FOOD, FEED, FERTILISERS, COSMETICS, MEDICINAL PRODUCTS AND MEDICAL DEVICES”.

## 10. Veterinary checks

Until the end of 2023, imports from the EU, and certain imports from Greenland, Faroe Islands and EFTA countries, do not need to enter Great Britain via a Border Control Points (BCP) and are not subject to veterinary checks at the border.

However BCP checks will be required on EU goods from the end of 2023.

You can find additional information on imports from EFTA countries and Greenland in section 11.

- Consignments from trading partners (other than the EU, and some imports from Greenland, Faroe Islands and EFTA countries) may only be imported through an approved Border Control Post (BCP).
- The person responsible for the consignment must give notice of the proposed entry of the consignment at least one working day before arrival (with a derogation to 4 hours before arrival if there are logistical constraints).
- The notification shall be made to the inspection staff at the BCP using the Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS). Further information regarding IPAFFS can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).
- Any other electronic means agreed with the BCP to inform about the intended arrival of a consignment in advance are not to be considered as an official pre-notification.

Following satisfactory checks at the BCP (for which a charge is levied), consignments may then circulate freely within Great Britain. If the consignment does not meet the import requirements, the consignment may be rejected and either re-exported or destroyed.

- [Further guidance on veterinary checks on animal products](#)
- [Border Control Posts](#)

The [Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011 \(TARP 2011\)](#) (applicable in England) and EU Exit amendments to TARP 2011 can be found [here](#).

## 11. EFTA countries and Greenland

The UK government recognises that Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein implement EU veterinary legislation in relation to the movement of animals and animal products.

Therefore, animals and animal products from Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein must comply with the same requirements and controls applying to live animals and animal products from EU Member States. This also applies to Iceland for products of animal origin for human consumption, composite products and aquaculture.

Furthermore, in relation to imports from Faroe Islands this also applies to fishery products and aquaculture only. In relation to imports from Greenland this applies to fishery products and fish by-products only too.

## 12. Monitoring of the products to an approved premises

**Due to the high risk nature of the Category 1 material and based on the need to ensure the Category 1 material is not diverted at any stage in transit in the UK for prohibited use, the following conditions must be complied with.**

Following the veterinary checks provided for in [Retained EU Implementing Regulation 2019/1715](#), and in accordance with the conditions laid down in [Retained EU Delegated Regulation 2019/1666](#), the animal by-products must be transported directly from the BCP under Customs procedures to either an approved or registered establishment or plant approved in accordance with Article 24 of [Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#) for the manufacture of derived products other than food, feed, fertilizers, cosmetics, medicinal products or medical devices.

## 13. Disposal of unused or surplus materials

Unused or surplus materials shall be used or disposed of in accordance with Article 12 of [Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#).

## 14. Safeguard measures

Emergency safeguard action can be taken at very short notice to prohibit or restrict the importation of certain products from certain countries following an outbreak of disease or a public health issue. Information on the latest updates concerning disease outbreaks which may affect imports into the UK can be found on our Topical Issues page on the website.

Further information on the International and UK monitoring of animal diseases may be found on the animal disease monitoring website.

Importers can get the latest news about exotic notifiable disease outbreaks from the APHA subscription service.

- [Topical issues](#)
- [Animal diseases: international and UK monitoring](#)
- [Exotic notifiable disease outbreak subscription service](#)

## 15. Legislation.gov.uk

Consolidated legal texts, which integrate the basic instruments of retained EU legislation with their amendments and corrections in a single, non-official document, are available. Each consolidated text contains a list of all legal documents taken into account for its construction.

You can search for consolidated texts by inputting the 'document number' and 'year' and then clicking the option 'All UK Legislation (including originating from the EU)' on [legislation.gov.uk](https://legislation.gov.uk).

Once you press 'search', you can find the relevant legislation listed with the full title of the legislation. Once you have selected the legislation, you may see the following message at the top of the page:

"Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to XXX. Those changes will be listed when you open the content using the Table of Contents below. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations."

Please note that the consolidated text may not contain the latest amendment to the legislation, as it takes several weeks for this to be updated. EU Exit amendments to legislation may take several months too. We advise to read the legislation alongside the EU Exit amendments made in the below UK laws:

- [The Import of, and Trade in, Animals and Animal Products \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [The Official Controls \(Animals, Feed and Food, Plant Health etc.\) \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [The Official Controls \(Animals, Feed and Food, Plant Health etc.\) \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [The Aquatic Animal Health and Alien Species in Aquaculture, Animals, and Marketing of Seed, Plant and Propagating Material \(Legislative Functions and Miscellaneous Provisions\) \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [The Animals, Aquatic Animal Health, Invasive Alien Species, Plant Propagating Material and Seeds \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#)
- [The Trade in Animals and Animal Products \(Legislative Functions\) and Veterinary Surgeons \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#)

Texts provided in this section are intended for information only. Please note that these texts have no legal value. For legal purposes please refer to the texts published in [legislation.gov.uk](https://legislation.gov.uk).

Further information on changes in relation to EU legislation and UK law can be found on [legislation.gov.uk](https://legislation.gov.uk). Please continue to use legislation.gov.uk to find EU retained law applicable to Great Britain. Please avoid using the EU Commission website for information on imports into Great Britain.

## 16. Contact for further information

For further information regarding import requirements, contact the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Imports team:

Centre for International Trade - Carlisle  
Eden Bridge House  
Lowther Street  
Carlisle  
CA3 8DX

Email: [Imports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:Imports@apha.gov.uk)

Telephone: 03000 200 301



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The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government and Welsh Government.