



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Import of Certain Materials for Purposes other than Feeding to Farmed Land Animals

Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/26

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

Note

The imports of the following materials are covered under separate IIN's which can be found on the website:

- Imports of Rodentia and Lagomorpha for feeding to pets (including reptiles and birds of prey) – [IIN ABP 27](#)
- Imports of fishing bait – [IIN ABP 28](#)
- Import of food for pet ornamental aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians from – [IIN ABP 43](#)

In accordance with Annex XIV, Chapter IV, Section 2 of [Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#), the competent authority **may** authorise the importation of certain materials for purposes other than feeding to farmed land animals (except for feeding to fur animals) provided there is no unacceptable risk for the transmission of diseases communicable to humans or animals.

Therefore the following animal by-products listed below are permitted to be imported for the following purposes:

For feeding to animals other than farmed land animals

- food for wild birds and wild animals;
- food for the manufacture of pet fish food only;
- food for farmed fur animals.

The following materials can be used for the feed products listed above:

- Animal by-products from aquatic animals and derived products from aquatic animals;
- Aquatic invertebrates and derived products from aquatic invertebrates;
- Terrestrial invertebrates, including any of their transformation forms, such as larvae, and derived products there from;
- Products generated by the animals referred to in points (a), (b) and (c) of Annex XIV, chapter IV, section 2 [Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#), such as fish eggs;
- and for feed to farmed fur animals only - Category 3 material comprising of animals and parts thereof of the zoological orders of Rodentia and Lagomorpha.

For technical use

This IIN includes the following products:

- products for the manufacture of supplements for feeding to animals;
- products for the manufacture of food for wild birds and wild animals;
- products for the manufacture of pet fish food.

The following materials can be used for the technical products listed above:

- Animal by-products from aquatic animals and derived products from aquatic animals;
- Aquatic invertebrates and derived products from aquatic invertebrates;

- Terrestrial invertebrates, including any of their transformation forms, such as larvae, and derived products there from;
- Products generated by the animals referred to in points (a), (b) and (c) above, such as fish eggs;
- Category 3 material comprising of animals and parts thereof of the zoological orders of Rodentia and Lagomorpha.

Food or technical products not mentioned above

If you wish to import any of the materials mentioned above for purposes not listed you may require an Authorisation. Please contact the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Centre for International Trade - Imports for further information (see Section 14).

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. Production standards

The materials must be either:

- frozen or;
- dried by a treatment sufficient to destroy pathogenic organisms, including salmonella;

and

- once frozen or dried all precautions must be taken to prevent any re-contamination after treatment and the animal by-products are securely packaged in new containers;

Materials being imported directly for retail sale for feeding to pet fish, wild birds, and wild animals other than land farm animals must be in new ready-to-sell packages bearing a label that the content can only be used for feeding pets/and wild birds and wild animals other than farmed land animals.

4. Country of origin

Imports are permitted from trading partners listed as a Member of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

- [World Organisation for Animal Health \(OIE\)](#)

5. Health certification/documentation

Each consignment must be accompanied by a commercial document completed and signed by the exporter/manufacturer stating:

- The name of the establishment of production;
- The name and address of the consignor and consignee;
- The name and address of premises of destination in GB (if different from the consignee);
- The name of the manufacturer, quantity shipped and identification marks;
- The country of origin;
- Type of animal by-product used;
- Purpose and use of animal by-product;
- That the animal by-products has either been frozen/dried by a treatment sufficient to destroy pathogenic organisms, including salmonella and is ambient stable (depending on its use).

The animal by-product must also be securely packaged or sealed in clean/new containers.

6. Labelling requirements

All packages must either:

- bear a label indicating “NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION” or,
- if they are dispatched in ready-to-sell packages the label must state “FOR FEEDING TO PET FISH/WILD BIRDS/ WILD ANIMALS OTHER THAN FARMED LAND ANIMALS ONLY”

7. Pre-notifications of imports

From 1 January 2022, imports from the EU to Great Britain (GB) must be pre-notified. Please use the Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS).

You must submit your notification in IPAFFS at least one working day before your consignment is due to arrive. You can submit your notification up to 30 days in advance.

Further information regarding IPAFFS is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

For pre-notifications from other trading partners see section below.

8. 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 9.

- 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](#).

9. 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.

10. Movement to premises of destination

Once checked at the BCP the animal by-products must be transported directly from the BCP to either:

- a pet food plant approved in accordance with Article 24 of [Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#);
- a holding or establishment keeping animals in accordance with Article 18 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009;
- an establishment or plant approved for handling of animal by-products after their collection, by way of operations such as sorting, cutting, chilling, freezing in accordance with Article 24 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009;
- an establishment or plant approved for storage in accordance with Article 24 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009; or:
- directly for retail sale where the animal by-products are dispatched in ready-to-sell packages bearing a label with a clear indication that the content is only destined for feeding to wild birds/wild animals.

11. 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](#)

12. 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://www.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.

Further information on changes in relation to EU legislation and UK law can be found on 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.

13. Northern Ireland

Movements from Northern Ireland

Trade movements from Northern Ireland into Great Britain are treated as national movements and as such, no animal health conditions are applicable in respect of those movements. You can find additional information on movements from NI to GB [here](#).

Movements to Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland continues to apply EU law and EU requirements as laid down by the Northern Ireland Protocol. Please seek advice from DAERA on the import requirements for direct imports to Northern Ireland.

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/introduction-importing-animals-and-animal-products>

14. 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

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.