



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# Import of Fishing Bait for Commercial and Recreational Fishing Purposes

## Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/28

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 fishing bait for commercial and recreational fishing purposes.

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.

Fishing baits for commercial and recreational fishing purposes must only be derived from:

- 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 therefrom;
- Products generated by the animals referred to above.

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 animal by-products referred to above must be:

#### **In the case of raw animal by-products**

- deep frozen and free from Salmonella and other pathogenic organisms;
- securely packaged to ensure leakage is kept to a minimum.

#### **In the case of other animal by-products, including those in ready-to-sell packages for direct retail sale**

- dried by a treatment sufficient to destroy pathogenic organisms, including salmonella;
- ambient stable;
- securely packaged; and
- in the case of packages for direct retail sale, sealed in ready-to-sell packages.

### 4. Country of origin

The animal by-products must come from countries listed in Annex II of [Retained EU Decision 2006/766](#).

See [data.gov.uk](https://data.gov.uk) for specific listing and certification requirements for EU and EFTA countries.

## 5. Approved establishments

Imports of fishing baits from approved countries will be permitted to be imported into Great Britain without the premises being listed on the approved list of establishments.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Please be aware that these are the requirements for entry into Great Britain. The Competent Authorities of EU Member States may require the fishing baits to come from approved premises. If you wish to import to an EU Member State it is the importers responsibility to seek advice from the Competent Authority of that Member State to ascertain the import conditions that apply including if you plan to re-export from Great Britain, as per point 12 below.

## 6. Health certification/documentation

The fishing baits must be accompanied by a commercial document issued by the Exporter indicating:

- consignor and consignee name and addresses;
- premises of origin
- premises of destination;
- country of origin;
- species of aquatic animal;
- in the case of dried fishing baits, details of the drying treatment the animal by-product has undergone to ensure that pathogenic organisms, including salmonella have been destroyed;
- that the animal by-products are intended for commercial or recreational fishing baits only.

## 7. Labelling requirements

All packages must bear a label indicating either:

- In the case of fishing baits intended for commercial fishing use

“NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION – FOR USE AS COMMERCIAL FISHING BAITS ONLY”;

- In the case of fishing baits for recreational fishing use

“NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION – FOR USE AS RECREATIONAL FISHING BAITS ONLY”;

## 8. 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.

## 9. 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 10.

- 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](#).

## 10. 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.

## 11. Movement to premises of destination

Once checked at the BCP the fishing baits must be transported directly from the BCP either to:

- an establishment or plant approved for handling of animal by-products after their collection, by way of operations such as sorting, cutting, chilling, or freezing in accordance with Article 24 of [Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#); or
- an establishment or plant approved for storage in accordance with Article 24 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009; or
- an approved storage establishment or directly for retail sale where the animal by-products are dispatched in ready-to-sell packages bearing a label in accordance with 3 above; or
- a premises registered in accordance with Article 23 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 where the products are already in ready-to-sell packages.
  - In order to prevent unacceptable risks for the transmission of diseases communicable to humans or animals, the operator of a registered premises must ensure that:
    - the material is handled separately and stored away from food, animal feed and other animal by-products not authorised for this purpose, in order to prevent cross-contamination;

- other farmed animals do not have access to the bait;
  - where the material is to be used as fishing bait for farmed fish, the bait must not be of the same species as the fish, for which it is intended to be used;
  - unused fishing bait is to be disposed of according to the ABP Regulations.
- [Registration, transport, handling and storage of ABPs](#)

## 12. Export to EU Member States

If the fishing bait is to be supplied to an organisation in an EU Member State/re-exported, you should ensure that the importing country will permit entry prior to export and that you have the correct paperwork to accompany the product before the export takes place.

## 13. 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](#)

## 14. 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.



## 15. 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.