



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Import of Animal By-Products from EU Countries

Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/31

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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/importing-or-moving-live-animals-animal-products-and-high-risk-food-and-feed-not-of-animal-origin>

2. What are animal by-products?

Animal by-products (ABPs) are defined in Article 3 of [Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#) as ‘entire animal bodies, parts of animals, products of animal origin or other products obtained from animals that are not intended for human consumption including oocytes, embryos and semen not for breeding’. Further information on the scope of the ABP legislation is available on [GOV.UK](#).

ABPs must be produced, transported, handled, processed, stored, placed on the market, distributed, used or disposed of in accordance with strict rules designed to prevent harm to people, animals and the environment.

Oocytes, embryos and semen for breeding are not covered by this Regulation. For further information on import conditions see the Import Information Notes on [genetic material](#).

3. What is a derived product?

A derived product is defined in Article 3 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 as products obtained from one of more treatments, transformations or steps of processing of animal by-products.

4. How are animal by-products regulated?

[Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009](#) and its Implementing [Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#) set out animal health rules for animal by-products. The Regulation categorises ABPs into three categories. This is based on their potential risk to animals, the public or the environment. The categories are:

- Category 1 material (High risk) as defined in Article 8 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009;
- Category 2 material (High risk) as defined in Article 9 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009; and
- Category 3 material (Low risk) as defined in Article 10 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009.

5. Trade in Category 3 animal by-products

Imports are permitted from all EU Member States. Category 3 materials can be imported from EU Member States provided that they are accompanied by a commercial document, but they must be produced, transported, handled, processed, stored, placed on the market, distributed, used or disposed of in accordance with the requirements laid down in Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 and Retained EU Regulation 142/2011. Further guidance including a model commercial document is available in [Annex VIII, Chapter III of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#).

6. Trade in Category 1 or 2 animal by-products and processed animal proteins (PAP) derived from Category 3 material.

Operators intending to import category 1 material, category 2 material and meat-and-bone meal or animal fat derived from category 1 and category 2 materials into Great Britain must apply for an import authorisation.

The standard format for the application that operators must submit for authorisation to dispatch category 1 and category 2 animal by-products referred to in Article 48 (1) is set out in Chapter 3, section 10 of Annex XVI of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011.

See Section 16 for contact details for further information.

Processed animal protein (PAP) derived from category 3 material

Operators intending to import Processed Animal Protein (PAP) derived from category 3 material from the EU to Great Britain must comply with the requirements of Article 48.3 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009. This requires PAP to be accompanied by a commercial document from the operator of premises of origin. Please see Section 11 below for further information.

7. Manure and organic fertilisers/soil improvers

There are additional conditions for trade in unprocessed manure, processed manure and derived products from processed manure for use in organic fertilisers and soil improvers (Category 2 material). Prior to importation, the operator must obtain an authorisation from the competent authority of GB as described in Section 6 above, before any movements of the following ABPs can take place:

- Unprocessed poultry manure;
- Unprocessed manure of equidae;
- Unprocessed manure of species other than avian or equine species; and
- Guano from bats, processed manure and derived products from processed manure.

Specific requirements for movements of these products are set out as follows:

- **Unprocessed poultry manure**

All movements of unprocessed poultry manure must comply with the conditions laid down in Annex XI, Chapter 1, Section 1, point 2 of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011 and must

be accompanied by model health attestation as laid down in Section 1, point 3 which must be added to the commercial documentation which accompanies the consignment.

- **Unprocessed manure of equidae**

All movements of unprocessed manure must comply with the conditions laid down in Annex XI, Chapter 1, Section 1, point 4 of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011.

- **Unprocessed manure of species other than avian or equine species**

Movements of unprocessed manure of species other than avian or equine species is prohibited unless it is intended for the purposes laid down in Annex XI, Chapter 1, Section 1, point 1 (a) or (b) of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011.

Movements of unprocessed manure must comply with the conditions laid down in Annex XI, Chapter 1, Section 1, point 1 of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011 and must be accompanied by model health attestation as laid down in Section 1, point 3 which must be added to the commercial documentation which accompanies the consignment.

- **Guano from bats, processed manure and derived products from processed manure**

All movements of guano, processed manure and derived products from processed manure must comply with the conditions laid down in Annex XI, Chapter 1, Section 2 of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011 and must be accompanied by commercial document as laid down in Annex VIII, Chapter III of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011.

8. Organic fertilisers and soil improvers

Organic fertilisers and soil improvers, other than manure, digestive tract content, compost, milk, milk based products, milk derived products, colostrum, colostrum products and digestion residues from the transformation of animal by-products or derived products into biogas must be produced in accordance with the conditions laid down in Annex XI, Chapter II, Section 1 and must be stored and transported in accordance with Chapter II, Section 2.

Traders should be aware that ABPs comprising processed animal protein for use as an organic fertiliser or soil improvers must not be placed on the UK market unless the product is first mixed with an authorised component to exclude its use in the animal feed chain in accordance with conditions set out in the following guidance. This requirement does not apply to ready-to-sell packages of 50kg or less in weight for use by final consumers for horticultural and gardening purposes only.

- [Use of organic fertilisers and soil improvers](#)

9. Disposal and use of animal by-products and derived products

Article 11 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 section 1 sets out the restrictions on uses of animal by-products and derived products.

The disposal and use of ABPs by category are set out in

- Article 12 – Category 1 material;
- Article 13 – Category 2 material; and
- Article 14 – category 3 material.

10. Processing plants, destination premises and transporters

Any operator, establishment or plant that generates, transports, handles, processes, stores, places on the market, distributes, uses or disposes of animal by-products or derived products must be registered or approved by the competent authority of the EU Member State of origin, in accordance with Article 23 or 24 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 as appropriate. This requirement does not apply to retailers holding ready-to-sell packages of organic fertilisers and soil improvers under 50 kg in weight for sale to the final consumer for garden/horticultural use.

It should also be noted that independent hauliers (including couriers) of animal by-products should also be registered. The registration process only needs to be done once for each haulier.

Further information including the registration form for operators in GB is available on the GOV.UK.

- [Registration procedures](#)

11. ABPs not covered by the Regulations

Article 2.2 of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 sets out a list of ABPs not covered by the Regulations. Operators should contact the competent authority in Great Britain for information on conditions for movement of those products.

12. Commercial Document

Article 48(3) of Retained EU Regulation 1069/2009 permits imports of Category 1 and Category 2 Animal By-Products (ABP) and Processed Animal Proteins (PAP) derived from Category 3 material accompanied by a commercial document from the operator of premises of origin. The model commercial document is available in [Annex VIII, Chapter III of Retained EU Regulation 142/2011](#).

Consignors are required to enter data into the following fields of the commercial document to create a notification of ABP trade:

- I.1 Consignor name and address
- I.5 Consignee name and address
- I.12 Place of origin name and address
- I.13 Place of destination name and address
- I.20 Number/Quantity
- I.21 Temperature of products
- I.22 Number of packages
- I.25 Products certified for Animal feeding stuffs, Pharmaceutical use, Technical Use or Other
- I.31 Identification details
- I.17 Transporter name and address
- I.16 Means of transport
- I.23 Identification of container/seal number
- I.15 Date and time of departure
- I.14 Place of loading name and address.

The following commodity codes must be used when creating a CD notification of trade:

- 0511 99 (Animal products not elsewhere specified or included; dead animals of Chapter 1 or 3, unfit for human consumption) for:
 - Category 1 ABP
 - Category 2 ABP

- Category 2 ABP in accordance with Article 18 of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009
- 2301 10 00 (Flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal; greaves) for:
 - Processed Animal Proteins (PAP) derived from mammalian or avian Category 3 ABP material
- 2301 20 00 (Flours, meals and pellets, of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates) for:
 - PAP fishmeal derived from Category 3 ABP material.

It is the responsibility of the consignor (not a broker) to enter the correct information into the Commercial Document. There is an onus of responsibility on the consignee in GB for ensuring that the destination address at CD field I.13 is the address to which the product is sent and not the office address of a broker purchasing the product for sale and direct movement from GB to a third party.

13. 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.

14. Checks on by-products from EU countries

Article 5 of [Retained EU Directive 89/662](#) applies. It is the responsibility of the competent authority in the EU Member State of dispatch to ensure that consignments meet the requirements for import to Great Britain (Article 4). However the competent authority of Great Britain may carry out random non-discriminatory checks to ensure that products are correctly marked and have the appropriate guarantees. The consignee should ensure on arrival that the products do meet the requirements of the legislation.

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.

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.

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

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.