Animal & Plant Health Agency

Import of Hay and Straw

Import Information Note (IIN) AF/1

December 2023

Contents

1. Important Information 1

2. Scope 1

3. Country of origin 1

4. Health certification/documentation 2

5. Pre-notifications of imports 2

6. Veterinary checks 2

7. Transits 3

8. TOM risk categories for animal products from the EU 3

9. EFTA countries and Greenland 4

10. Safeguard measures 4

11 Legislation.gov.uk 4

12. Contact for further information on import requirements 5

1. Important Information

Import Information Notes (IINs) are technical documents containing import requirements and are for use by importers and border officials.

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 IIN as well as the IIN specific to your commodity 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.

References to European Union legislation within this document are references to direct EU legislation which has been retained in Great Britain (retained EU law as defined in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018) and can be viewed on the UK legislation website (legislation.gov.uk).

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

References to imports into Great Britain any 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.

The Border **Target Operating Model** (TOM) is the new approach to importing into Great Britain that will be progressively introduced from the end of January 2024. Guidance on the TOM can be found here:

The Border Target Operating Model: August 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

2. Scope

Conditions for the importation of hay and straw.

3. Country of origin

Hay and straw can only be imported from:

- EU countries/territories subject to special transitional arrangements and regions thereof not affected by African Swine Fever. The list of regions of European Union Member States restricted due to African Swine Fever outbreaks can be found here.

- Non-EU countries listed in General Authorisation IMP/GEN2023/02

4. Health certification/documentation

No documentation is required.

5. Pre-notifications of imports

You must notify the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) of imports of products of animal origin to Great Britain (GB). 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.

6. Veterinary checks

Currently, imports from the EU and certain imports from Greenland and EFTA countries do not need to enter Great Britain via a Border Control Post (BCP) and are not subject to veterinary checks at the border.

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 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.

- 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.

7. Transits

Information regarding transits can be found on gov.uk:

Transiting animals and animal products through Great Britain - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

8. TOM risk categories for animal products from the EU

From 31 January 2024, to import animal products from the EU and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) states into Great Britain, you'll need to:

- find the Target Operating Model (TOM) risk category for the commodity you're importing.
- follow the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) rules for that import risk category.

The TOM categorises live animals, germinal products, products of animal origin (POAO) and animal by-products (ABPs) as high risk, medium risk or low risk. Each category has different requirements.

More information on how to find the TOM risk category and the requirements for each TOM risk category can be found at the link below.

Import risk categories for animals and animal products imported from the EU to Great Britain, from 31 January 2024 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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.

10. 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

11 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.

12. Contact for further information on import requirements

For further information regarding import requirements, contact the 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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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:

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www.gov.uk/apha

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.