



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# Import of Fresh Red Meat and Bones for Human Consumption

## Import Information Note (IIN) MPFG/4

September 2024

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## 1. General Information

**This Import Information Note (IIN) must be read in conjunction with the IIN for general information for imports of products of animal origin (POAO), which provides information on pre-notifications, veterinary checks, risk categories etc.**

**[General information for imports of products of animal origin \(POAO\) for human consumption \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://www.defra.gov.uk)**

References to European Union (EU) legislation within this document are references to direct EU Legislation which has been assimilated in Great Britain (assimilated direct legislation), as defined in the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 and can be viewed on the UK legislation website ([legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)).

## 2. Scope

Import conditions for fresh/refrigerated/frozen meat and bones, excluding minced meat for human consumption, derived from:

- domestic bovine animals (including *Bison* and *Bubalus* species and their crossbreeds);
- domestic ovine animals (*Ovis aries*) and domestic caprine animals (*Capra hircus*);
- domestic porcine animals (*Sus scrofa*);
- domestic solipeds (*Equus caballus*, *Equus asinus* and their cross-breeds).

'Meat' is defined in Regulation (EC) 853/2004 as edible parts of the above species including blood.

## 3. Country of origin

Imports are permitted from trading partners listed for fresh meat of that species in a document published by the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Scottish and Welsh Ministers. See the documents for fresh meat of ungulates at the links below.

- [Non-EU countries](#)
- [EU and EFTA countries](#)

Please note that bones can only be imported from countries that can export bone-in meat.

Trading partners must have BOV, EQU, OVI or POR listed in column 4 of the above documents in order to be able to export fresh red meat and bones to Great Britain, where:

- BOV is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic bovine animals (including *Bison* and *Bubalus* species and their crossbreeds).
- EQU is for fresh meat, excluding minced meat, of domestic solipeds (*Equus caballus*, *Equus asinus* and their crossbreeds).
- OVI is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic ovine animals (*Ovis aries*) and domestic caprine animals (*Capra hircus*).
- POR is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic porcine animals (*Sus scrofa*).

Certain countries may be required to provide supplementary guarantees, depending on the animal health situation in the territories of origin. Please also check the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> columns of the above documents, where these supplementary guarantees are listed.

**In addition**, the country of origin must be listed for the appropriate species in a document published by the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Scottish and Welsh Ministers, in accordance with Decision (EU) 2011/163 on the approval of residue monitoring plans submitted by third countries. The relevant documents are accessible using the links above.

## 4. Approved establishments

Products must be produced in an establishment approved to export to Great Britain. Importers should check prior to importation that the premises are listed on the correct list.

Consolidated lists of approved establishments/plants are available on:

- [data.gov.uk](https://data.gov.uk) for **non-EU countries**
- and [here](#) for **EU Countries**

If the establishment or plant is not listed, importers are urged to contact the company concerned, who should contact their competent authority immediately. If the plant is not included on the appropriate list when veterinary checks are carried out the consignment is likely to be held and could be rejected and re-exported or destroyed.

## 5. Health certification/documentation

Imports to Great Britain must be accompanied by the appropriate health certificate (\*), which can be found on GOV.UK.

The health certificates are based on the requirements included in Regulation (EU) 206/2010.

- ‘BOV’: Model of veterinary certificate for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic bovine animals (including *Bison* and *Bubalus* species and their crossbreeds):  
[Bovine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-meat-model-health-certificates)
- ‘OVI’: Model of veterinary certificate for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic ovine animals (*Ovis aries*) and domestic caprine animals (*Capra hircus*):  
[Ovine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ovine-meat-model-health-certificates)
- ‘POR’: Model of veterinary certificate for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic porcine animals (*Sus scrofa*).  
[Porcine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/porcine-meat-model-health-certificates)
- ‘EQU’: Model of veterinary certificate for fresh meat, excluding minced meat, of domestic solipeds (*Equus caballus*, *Equus asinus* and their cross-breeds):  
[Other meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/other-meat-model-health-certificates)

(\*) Please note that this requirement applies to products in the high and medium risk categories. Further information regarding risk categories can be found at the links below.

[Check import risk categories, inspection rates and related rules for animals and animal products imported from the EU to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Check import risk categories, inspection rates and related rules for animals and animal products imported from non-EU countries to Great Britain - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

## 6. Health and identification marks

Meat and bones referred to above must bear a health or identification mark as appropriate in accordance with the requirements of Article 48 of [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/627](#). The mark must be applied before the product leaves the establishment.

## 7. 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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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:

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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.