



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# Import of Meat of Farmed Ratites and Wild Game Birds for Human Consumption

## Import Information Note (IIN) RM/01

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 meat for human consumption derived from:

- Ratites (ostrich, emu, rhea)
- Wild game birds

## 3. Country of origin

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

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

Trading partners must have RAT, WGM, or WGM-MI/MSM listed in column 4 of the above documents in order to be able to export meat of ratites and wild game birds to Great Britain, where:

- RAT is for meat of farmed ratites for human consumption
- WGM is for wild gamebird meat
- WGM-MI/MSM is for wild gamebird minced meat and mechanically separated meat

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

Meat must be produced in an establishment approved to export to Great Britain.

Consolidated lists of approved plants are available on [data.gov.uk](https://data.gov.uk).

The above link does not include approved establishments in the EU. Until those are included please use the list found via this [link](#).

## 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 (EC) 798/2008.

Ratite meat: [Ratite meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Wild game bird meat: [Other meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

**(\*) 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 \(www.gov.uk\)](http://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 \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

## 6. Health and identification marks

Meat 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](http://www.gov.uk). The mark must be applied before the product leaves the establishment. Establishments must comply with the specific rules on the hygiene of food of animal origin requirements of Regulation (EC) 853/2004 in the application of identification marks.

## 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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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.