



## ABP AND TSE POLICY TEAM

OVS Note/2018/06 - Amended

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

### CHANGES TO PERMITTED TREATMENTS FOR IMPORTS OF TREATED FEATHERS INTO THE UK

#### Purpose

1. To inform BIPs of changes to permitted treatments for the import of treated feathers into the UK.

#### Background

2. As stated in Annex XIV, Chapter II, Section 6(b) of [Regulation \(EU\) No 142/2011](#), treated feathers, parts of feathers and down can be imported provided the following requirements are met:
  - Are accompanied by a commercial document stating that the feathers and parts of feathers or down have been treated with a steam current or by another method that ensures that no unacceptable risks remain and are securely enclosed in packaging and dry; and
  - Unless the commercial document states that they have been factory washed and treated with hot steam at 100°C for at least 30 minutes, they are sent to a registered establishment or plant for such treatment.
4. To assist importers who do not treat their feathers with a steam current, there is now a list of additional treatment methods which will be acceptable. The additional treatment methods are:
  - Machine washing with a detergent or another method to remove organic material from the feathers followed by one or more of the following treatments:
    - i. A heat treatment of at least 48 degrees Celsius for a minimum of 2 weeks;
    - ii. Irradiation with at least 20 kGy;



- iii. Fifty-three ml of 40 % formaldehyde per cubic metre for at least 8 hours at 22- 24 °C;
  - iv. Fifty-three ml of 40% formaldehyde and 35 grams of potassium permanganate per cubic metre for 8 hours at 22 – 24 °C Soaked in 10% formalin for 4 – 4.5 hours;
  - v. Hydrochloric acid solution for 1 hour at 52 °C;
  - vi. Methyl-bromide: 24 to 32 g/m<sup>3</sup> for 24 hours;
  - vii. Hydrogen peroxide for 3 hours;
  - viii. Heat treatment of 74°C for at least 30 minutes.
5. A commercial document must accompany the consignment stating the treatment method used. Unless the commercial document states that the feathers have been factory washed and treated with hot steam at 100°C for at least 30 minutes or treated by another method described in point 4 above, the consignment must be sent directly to a registered establishment or plant for hot steam treatment or a treatment by another method as stated in point 4 above.
  6. The new treatment methods will therefore come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.
  7. To enable importers to comply with the new treatment methods a transitional period of 3 months will be in place until 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018 to allow time for any changes to be met.
  8. An amended import information note ABP IIN 22 will be made available shortly.

#### **Action for OVSS**

9. To be aware of the new treatment conditions as stated in point 4 above.
10. To be aware of the transitional period and that the requirement for new treatment conditions will come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.
11. To inform importers of the changes and transitional period.

#### **Contact point for enquiries**

Tel: 03000 200 301

Email: [imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk)

***ABP and TSE Policy Team***