



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2022/27

13 December 2022

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER CONTROL MEASURES ON BRINGING PORK AND PORK PRODUCTS INTO GREAT BRITAIN FROM THE EU, SWITZERLAND, NORWAY, ICELAND, LIECHENSTEIN, THE FAROE ISLANDS AND GREENLAND

Purpose

1. To advise you of controls, which came into force from 1 September 2022, restricting the movement of certain pork and pork products into Great Britain to help mitigate the threat of African swine fever (ASF).
2. To also advise on the legal basis for inland checks and enforcement action, where imported product has been placed for sale in GB.

Background

3. Certain pork and pork products which originate from or have been dispatched from the EU pose an unacceptable risk to animal health in Great Britain.
4. Therefore, when entering Great Britain from the EU, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Faroe Islands and Greenland, no person may bring pork or pork products unless they bear an oval health mark (for carcasses and primal cuts) or an oval identification mark.
5. There is an exception where the pork or pork products are intended only for personal consumption or use: in this case the combined weight of porcine products imported at any one time must not exceed 2 Kg (allowance is per person).
6. Subject to the exception, if the pork products mentioned above are Animal By-Products (ABPs), they must either:
 - be in commercial packaging which includes the name and address of the feed business operator responsible for its labelling under Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 (animal feed only); or
 - have a label describing the product (including the category of ABP it belongs to) and an ABP commercial document.
7. The following measures give effect to the prohibition:
 - [The African Swine Fever Import Controls \(England and Scotland\)](#); and

- [Declaration of special measures: Importation of Porcine products from third countries \(Wales\)](#).
8. These special measures apply from 1 September 2022 and will continue to apply until they are revoked or amended.
 9. For pork and pork products that have already been imported, the following powers are available to enforcement authorities:
 - [Regulation 35](#) of [The Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011](#) (or the relevant provisions in the TARP regulations as they apply in Scotland and Wales) and [Article 138](#) of [Regulation 2017/625](#), which allow action to be taken (such as, recall, withdrawal, removal or destruction) where products constitute a risk to animal or public health, or are non-compliant with the relevant rules applicable to their import (such as, the above measures, which require the EU identification mark to be oval in shape in accordance with [Article 5](#) of, and [Section 1 of Annex 2](#) to, [Regulation 853/2004](#)); or
 - Food safety regulations, where there is traceability, handling, and risk mitigation (cold chain maintenance) issues from a public health perspective. For instance, [Article 18](#) of Retained Regulation 178/2002 and [Article 3](#) of Regulation (EU) 931/2011 concern traceability requirements, [Chapter II](#) of Section I of Annex III of Regulation 853/2004 provide transport requirements, and Chapter IX of Annex II or Regulation (EC) 852/2004 require maintenance of the cold chain. These can be enforced via [The Food Safety and Hygiene \(England\) Regulations 2013](#) and equivalent legislation in Wales and Scotland. Relevant food safety powers may also be available in the [Food Safety Act 1990](#) or other general food legislation in the event that it is considered that the food is unsafe as a result of the non-compliance.
 10. For disposal purposes, ABPs subject to a compliance decision using the powers contained in [Regulation 35](#) of [The Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations 2011](#) and [Article 138](#) of [Regulation 2017/625](#) may be classified as Category 2 ABPs or potentially Category 1 ABPs if there are traceability concerns.

Action for OVSS

11. To note the above information.

Contact point for enquiries

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