



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2024/32

21 August 2024

Restrictions on personal imports of certain sheep and goat commodities from the EU, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Faroe Islands and Greenland due to outbreaks of peste des petits ruminants (PPR)

Purpose

1. To inform you of the suspension, from 21 August 2024, of personal imports of certain sheep and goat commodities from the EU single market area into England, to mitigate the threat of peste des petits ruminants (PPR).

Background

2. In July 2024, several OVS notes ([2024/25](#), [2024/26](#), [2024/27](#), [2024/28](#) and [2024/29](#)) were issued to notify of outbreaks of PPR in Greece and Romania and the temporary suspension of commercial imports of affected sheep and goat commodities, including:
 - Live sheep and goats
 - Ovine and caprine germplasm
 - Raw milk and milk products derived from ovine and caprine animals
 - Fresh and chilled (untreated) hides and skins of sheep and goats
 - Untreated wool and hair from ovine and caprine animals.
3. To mitigate the risk of PPR, new restrictions are now being implemented on personal imports of certain sheep and goat commodities from the EU single market area.
4. The personal import from any EU or EFTA country, Greenland or the Faroe Islands of all milk and milk products (including animal by-products and derived products) from sheep and goats is suspended.
5. Restrictions on the products mentioned in Point 4 do not apply if the products have been produced and packaged to commercial standards:

- For POAO, this means the products bear a health/identification mark **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country** (i.e. not from Greece or Romania)
 - For ABPs, this means the products:
 - are in commercial packaging that contains the name and address of the feed business operator responsible for its labelling under Regulation (EC) No 767/2009, with the packaging **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country** (i.e. not from Greece or Romania); or
 - have a label attached to the packaging, container or vehicle, describing the product and stating to which category of animal by-products it belongs, with the labelling **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country** (i.e. not from Greece or Romania).
6. In addition, the personal import from any EU or EFTA country, Greenland or the Faroe Islands of all meat and meat products (including animal by-products and derived products) from sheep and goats is suspended.
7. Restrictions on the products mentioned in Point 6 do not apply if the products have been produced and packaged to commercial standards:
- For POAO, this means the products bear a health/identification mark
 - For ABPs, this means the products:
 - are in commercial packaging that contains the name and address of the feed business operator responsible for its labelling under Regulation (EC) No 767/2009; or
 - have a label attached to the packaging, container or vehicle, describing the product and stating to which category of animal by-products it belongs.
8. The following safeguard declaration gives effect to these prohibitions:
- [Declaration of special measures: Importation of caprine and ovine products from certain third countries \(England\)](#)
9. The special measures will apply from 21 August and will continue to apply until they are revoked or amended.
10. Separate safeguard declarations will be published covering Scotland and Wales later this week, meaning the measures will apply on a GB-wide basis. A separate OVS note will be issued to notify of publication of these safeguard measures.

Action for OVSs

11. To note the above information.

12. Border Force has been asked to detain non-compliant personal imports of sheep and goat products and may look to PHAs for support with seizure and destruction, in the same way as for pork and pork products in breach of the ASF safeguard measures.

Contact point for enquiries

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Imports and EU Trade Team