Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Animal By Products Team

OVS NOTE 2025/01 **06 January 2025**

GENERAL IMPORT AUTHORISATIONS AND LICENCES FOR ABP

Purpose

1. To inform you of the removal of the expiry date from two general import licences for ABP carriers/stabilisers.
2. To clarify the use of import authorisations and licences for ABP carriers/stabilisers.
3. To inform you of the publication of IMP-GEN-2024-13

Background

4. As noted in OVS NOTE 2024/14 the following general import licences were amended to communicate to importers that they would only be valid for use until 31 October 2024, after which date they would be revoked, and importers would be required to use replacement authorisations.
    - General licence to import certain products in 3% or less animal by-product carrier or stabiliser (IMP/GEN/14/02)
    - General licence to import certain products for in vitro use with 10% or less animal by-product carrier or stabilizer (IMP/GEN/2015/06)

5. The expiry date was subsequently extended to 31 January 2024. Due to certain operational issues, the expiry date will be removed from these licences. Their use is currently under review by the DEFRA ABP policy team but will remain available for use by importers until such time as they are revoked by the Secretary of State.

6. The following general import authorisations, which were issued in April 2024, will also remain available for use but in most cases, importers do not have to use these instead of IMP/GEN/14/02 and IMP/GEN/2015/06:

    - Research & Diagnostic Samples
        - Treated milk and milk-based products and treated blood products, for use as a stabiliser or carrier (not exceeding 3% concentration) (IMP/GEN/2024/09)
        - Treated milk and milk-based products and treated blood products, for use as a stabiliser or carrier (not exceeding 10%) (IMP/GEN/2024/03)
    - Commercial Imports

- Treated milk and milk-based products and treated blood products, for use as a stabiliser or carrier (not exceeding 3% concentration) (IMP/GEN/2024/02)
- Treated milk and milk-based products and treated blood products, for use as a stabiliser or carrier (not exceeding 10%) (IMP/GEN/2024/04)

7. The exception is for products covered by IMP/GEN/2024/02 and IMP/GEN/2024/04 **that are imported as low risk commodities under the BTOM**. Import Information Note ABP/47 contains guidance for the import of these products. Import requirements set out in these authorisations must be met for products categorised as low risk.

8. In line with information provided in OVS Note 2024/50, the wording in condition 2 of these import authorisations will also be updated to clarify that under the BTOM, the checks should be done in accordance with the rates published on gov.uk. For low risk goods, this means that there should be no routine checks of these products.

9. As noted in OVS note 2024/59, from 1 February 2025, consignments of research and diagnostic samples from EU and EFTA member states to Great Britain must be accompanied by a general import authorisation. This form is now available on gov.uk here.

10. This general authorisation can be used for any product that meets the definition of 'research and diagnostic sample' in Section 2 of this Import Information Note and can comply with the conditions for import set out in the authorisation.

Actions for OVSs

11. To note the content of this OVS note.

Contact point for enquiries

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