



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 15/22

Updated guidance on exporting containers of unpackaged fresh fishery destined for immediate canning

Date issued: 06 April 2022

Purpose

1. To update OVAs and FCCOs with guidance on exporting fresh fishery products destined for immediate canning.

Background

2. Following recent technical discussions with the European Commission, Defra is providing updated guidance.

Update on export of fresh fishery products

3. For exports to the EU, EU Regulation 853/2004 requires that containers of unpackaged fresh fishery products stored under ice must ensure that melt water does not remain in contact with the products.
4. However, DEFRA have received confirmation from French officials that exports of fresh gutted or headed sardines and mackerel destined for immediate canning may be transported in tanks containing a mix of water and ice.
5. These products must enter the EU via a French Border Control Post, and the intention for canning at the approved establishment in France must be identified on the Export Health Certificate.
6. This exemption to the Regulation 853/2004 requirement is only applicable to sardines and mackerels for this specific industry.

Further Information

- [FAQs for certifiers on AHR](#)
- If you have any questions about the AHR and the new EHCs please contact:
exports@apha.gov.uk