



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 34/22

Sampling of Products of Animal Origin (POAO) at Border Control Posts in France

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Purpose

1. To inform OVAs and FCCOs that the French Authorities as of 1st September 2022 have begun to introduce sampling as part of official controls at Border Control Posts (BCPs) on Products of Animal Origin (POAO) exported from Great Britain to the EU
2. To explain the phased approach for the introduction of sampling at French BCPs

Background

1. The introduction does not represent a change to EU law, but the implementation of existing requirements as per Official Controls Regulation (OCR) ([Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625](#)).
2. This sampling is an additional element of the existing physical checks undertaken at French BCPs and means that a defined percentage of consignments will be subject to sampling as part of existing official control procedures.
3. The introduction of sampling will follow a phased approach, as detailed in the table below. Each phase will see additional commodity types brought into the scope of sampling. The percentage of consignments subject to sampling for commodities introduced in phases two and three is to be confirmed.

Phase 1: 01/09/2022 – 31/12 2022	Percentage of consignments subject to sampling in Phase 1	Phase 2 01/01/23 – 14/06/2023	Phase 3
Fish and corresponding products (except canned) from aquaculture, destined for human consumption.	5%	All other fishery products, destined for human consumption	All other POAO commodities including mixed products and composites
Bovine and equine meat and corresponding offal and products, destined for human consumption.	3%	All other meat, meat preparations and products, destined for human consumption	
Fresh chicken meat, destined for human consumption.	3%	Cheese, destined for human consumption	
Fresh turkey meat, destined for human consumption.	15%		
Poultry meat (other than fresh chicken and turkey) and corresponding products, destined for human consumption.	5%		

Defra has obtained confirmation of the following from the French authorities:

- **Cost:** There will be no additional cost to exporters for the sampling checks. This is in accordance with EU law which states that the cost of official controls at BCPs includes the costs for sampling.

- Delay or detention of consignments. The process of physical checks and sampling will be undertaken in accordance with EU legislation with no consignments detained under customs control whilst awaiting sampling results.
- Process. The process of physical checks and sampling will be undertaken in accordance with article 6 of [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1014](#) such that goods will be maintained at the appropriate temperature category - ambient, chilled or frozen - during the sampling process.

Further Information

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