

Animal and Plant Health Agency

Animal Health Act 1981

The Importation of Animal Pathogens Order 1980 (“IAPO”)

GENERAL IMPORT LICENCE

The Secretary of State by this general import licence issued under Article 4 of IAPO, authorises subject to and in accordance with the conditions set out below, the landing in England of:

[animal pathogens or carriers of animal pathogens as defined in IAPO¹, excluding Specified Animal Pathogens² listed in the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 as amended.³]

Material

from

all European Union countries, Isle of Man, Guernsey or Jersey, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland

Countries of origin

at

all ports and airports in England, including international postal services

Ports of entry

for

research and diagnostic purposes only

Purpose

until further notice or unless revoked by the Secretary of State.

Dated: 11 July 2017

Rachel Wallace

Officer of the Animal and Plant Health Agency
for and on behalf of the Secretary of State

¹ “animal pathogen” means any collection or culture of organisms or any derivative either on its own or in recombinant form of such collection or culture of organisms which may cause disease in animals (i.e. cattle, sheep, goats and all other ruminating animals, horses and swine), domestic fowls, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowls, pigeons, pheasants, partridges and quail.

² See Note 10 for more information on the importation into England of Specified Animal Pathogens.

³ This licence does not extend to:

(i) any living creature that may be a carrier of an animal pathogen;
(ii) any specified animal pathogen or carrier for which a licence is required under Article 4 of the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 (as amended) (see Notes 4 and 10).

Conditions attached to this licence

1. It is the responsibility of the importer to ensure that the exporter provides a declaration confirming that the material does not contain or is not suspected to contain a Specified Animal Pathogen, as listed in the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 (as amended)⁴. Please read the guidance notes below and complete the declaration template:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/animal-pathogens-guidance-on-controls>
2. The material must be for research or diagnostic purposes only. Each consignment must be accompanied by:
 - a copy of this licence;
 - commercial/shipping documents providing the name and address of consignor and consignee, type of material and quantities;
 - a signed copy of the declaration required by condition 1.
3. The samples must be worked on and stored in facilities working to at least ACDP Containment Level 2 (see Note 2).
4. The packaging must be clearly labelled to indicate the general licence number under which the material is imported. The label should also state that the material is for importation into England for laboratory use for research or diagnostic purposes.
5. The material must remain in its original wrapping at all times until its arrival at the destination premises.
6. All packages must be taken directly from the point of entry into England to the destination premises.
7. The consignment, or its packaging, must not be allowed to come into contact with any ruminating animals, swine, poultry or horses, or humans not intended to handle this material (see Note 3).
8. None of the material to which this licence relates shall be used for human consumption under any circumstances.
9. On completion of the testing, material may be stored for reference purposes. Unused material and any residues of the material and the remainder of the packaging must be either incinerated at a premises that has been approved

⁴ See Note 10 for more information on the importation into England of Specified Animal Pathogens.

for the disposal of animal by-products (see Note 9), autoclaved, or re-exported (see Note 12).

10. If there is an outbreak of a notifiable/reportable disease in the exporting country/countries, the conditions of this licence may change. In this event you should contact the Imports Licensing Team at the address below for advice on importing pathogens from that country. For information on animal diseases please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/notifiable-diseases-in-animals>.
11. If the material is subsequently to be moved to another establishment, the importer must make the recipient aware of the requirement to destroy or re-export the residues of the material (see Notes 9 and 12).
12. If at any time you are unable to meet the conditions of the licence, or if any unlicensed specified animal pathogen is discovered in the imported material, work must be suspended immediately and the facts reported at once to the Animal Plant Health Agency Regional Field Services Office for your area which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency/about/access-and-opening> or telephone 03000 200 301.
13. The importer is responsible for ensuring that the person(s) sending the material to England is aware of the conditions of this licence and completes the declaration.
14. Any material and records relating to the material imported under this licence shall be made available if so required for inspection by the Officer of Animal and Plant Health Agency at any place nominated by him/her for such inspection. The importer or their agent shall afford all assistance necessary to such an officer to enable him/her to carry out the inspection in such a manner as they may determine.

NOTES

1. **CAUTION:** It is the importer's responsibility to ensure that any import covered by this licence complies with terms and conditions as set out.
2. ACDP Containment Level 2 must be used for work with biological agents in hazard group 2. Laboratory personnel must receive suitable and sufficient information, instruction and training in working safely with agents in hazard group 2. A high standard of supervision of the work should be maintained. Further information is available at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/biosafety/biologagents.pdf>.

3. **Safety:** Importers are responsible for ensuring that the health and safety requirements relating to the pathogens or carriers of animal pathogens are appropriately assessed and dealt with by ensuring suitable handling, packaging and labelling. See Condition 4. This licence does not obviate the importer from their responsibility to carry out a risk assessment and implement the appropriate controls.
4. You must contact the Defra Pathogens Licensing Team if you wish to have in your possession in England any animal pathogen or carrier for which a licence is required under the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 (see Note 10 for more details). If you already hold a specified animal pathogen or carrier for which a licence is required under Article 4 of the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 and for which you do not hold a licence under that Order, you must immediately notify Defra at pathogens@defra.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 020 7238 3153 or 6212.
5. This licence only applies to an animal pathogen or carrier imported into England from a European Union Member State, the Isle of Man, Guernsey, Jersey, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland. If you would like to import an animal pathogen into England from a country outside the EU, you should contact APHA at imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk. If you wish to import material into Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland you should contact the relevant Department for advice.
6. Nothing in this licence gives exemption from any prohibition or restriction imposed by any other legislation.
7. This licence is granted under animal health import legislation and gives no exemption from any prohibition, regulation or restriction imposed by any other Government Department or Agency or to Scottish Government, Welsh Government or Northern Ireland law.
8. Please note that while this licence is current at the time of its issue, conditions can be subject to frequent change and importers are advised to check the latest position with the Imports Licensing Team (see contact details below).
9. A list of approved incineration premises for animal by-products is available via our website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-the-animal-by-product-industry>
10. **Further information** on the importation of Specified Animal Pathogens into England is available from the GOV.UK website at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69521/pb13740-animal-pathogens.pdf.

Specific enquiries regarding imports **from** EU or EFTA countries should be e-mailed to pathogens@defra.gsi.gov.uk.

Specific enquiries regarding imports from countries **outside** the EU or EFTA should be e-mailed to imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk.

A copy of the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008 can be obtained from the following website:

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2008/944/pdfs/ukxi_20080944_en.pdf and the amendment at www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2009/pdf/ukxi_20093083_en.pdf.

11. This licence only deals with animal pathogens and carriers of animal pathogens. If you wish to import a non-IAPO or non-SAPO pathogen in a carrier (e.g. foetal calf serum) that is not known to contain or are not suspected to contain any animal pathogens referred to above you should seek advice from Animal and Plant Health Agency at address below:

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Imports Team
Centre for International Trade - Carlisle
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street
Carlisle CA3 8DX
Tel: 03000 200 301
Email: imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk.

12. If the material is to be re-exported, you should ensure that the importing country will permit entry and that you have the correct paperwork to accompany the consignment.

CAUTION

Any contravention or breach of any conditions attached to this licence will constitute an offence against the Animal Health Act 1981.

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Definitions

Terms used in this licence have the meaning given in IAPO, except for “Specified Animal Pathogen” which is defined in the Specified Animal Pathogens Order 2008.