

31 December 2020

## Notice to Traders 43/20

## Imports of Olive Oil from Tunisia under Statutory Instrument No. 2020/1432

#### Introduction

This notice explains how the rules are applied to this quota and how to apply for a licence. It also advises you of the quota amount available in the January 2021 quota period for olive oil originating in Tunisia. Details of the quantity available are given in Annex 1 of this notice.

## **Proof of Trade**

You must provide the following documents to prove that you are eligible for an olive oil quota licence. If you do not have the proof of trade as detailed below, you are not eligible, and you cannot apply for a quota licence.

You must be established and registered for VAT in the UK. You must tell us your current VAT registration number. You can provide your VAT number on your quota licence application or send us a copy of your current VAT certificate. However, if your company is part of a group VAT registration number, we will need to see a copy of your current VAT certificate before the quota deadline.

If this is your first application in the quota year you must provide evidence to prove that you have imported at least 25 tonnes of olive oil during:

- The 12-month period ending two months before the first application can be submitted for the quota year (1 November 2019 to 31 October 2020); and
- The 12-month period immediately before that (1 November 2018 to 31 October 2019.

Your proofs must accompany your first application in January 2021.

If you use electronic licences, we will need to see a schedule giving details of:

- The licence number(s);
- The date(s) of import;
- The weight of each electronic attribution; and

• The import entry number for each electronic attribution

If you use paper licences, or have imported quantities of olive oil at full duty, you must supply the original import document (C88) form, or a copy certified as a 'true copy' of the original, endorsed by H M Revenue & Customs. We will only accept photocopies of the Customs stamp or scanned versions of these documents on condition that you supply the originals at your earliest opportunity.

You must fax a copy of the entry and any supporting documents (clearly marked as 'request for endorsement') to the H M Revenue & Customs (HMRC) National Clearance Hub (NCH) on 03000 588 462.

You can also e-mail the HMRC National Clearance Hub at nch@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk.

C88s which were not endorsed at the time of import must be sent for endorsement to:

H M Revenue & Customs National Clearance Hub 1st Floor West, Ralli Quays 3 Stanley Street Salford M60 9LA

Telephone number: 03000 588 454

Fax number: 03000 588 462

Please advise HMRC that the endorsements are required for GATT purposes.

You should only ask HMRC to endorse the number of copy entries necessary for the relevant regulation. If you send more copies than is necessary, it may delay the return of your endorsed copy entries.

HMRC agents or representatives cannot apply for import licences under these quota arrangements.

## Applications

Before you submit a licence application you must make sure that you are registered with the RPA. If your company is not registered, a company director or an individual legally responsible for the business must apply for a six-digit Trader Registration Number.

You will need to telephone our Rural Payments Helpline on 03000 200 301 and select options 2, 1, 2 and 3 and ask to be registered as a trader. (These options are correct at the time of publication, but they are liable to change without notice).

Our website address is <u>www.gov.uk/government/organisations/rural-payments-agency</u>. However, not all the information is available on the website. If you need

assistance with any of the forms detailed below, please contact the Import Licensing Team.

You must submit your licence applications using an AGRIM import licence application form. We advise you to use the latest version of the <u>application form</u>.

The person signing the import licence application must be authorised. To become an authorised signatory, please complete an <u>il3 form</u>. To avoid any delay in issuing licences, we recommend that the signatory is authorised before sending us your licence application.

You can submit your licence application by either post or email. If you intend to submit your application by e-mail, please ensure that your email address is approved by the RPA. Please complete an <u>il3 form</u> to register e-mail addresses for approval. We recommend that your email address is approved before you send your application to <u>trader@rpa.gov.uk</u> as this will also avoid unnecessary delays.

Your quota application must be received during the first 7 days of January 2021. It is your responsibility to ensure that your application, all additional documentation and the security are correct at the time of submission and they are received by the RPA before 17:00 on the 7 January 2021.

**Note:** We will reject any applications where the security and/or proof of trade is received after 17:00 (UK time) on Thursday 7 January 2021.

Any unused quota will be carried forward to the next application period in February.

Your application must not exceed the quantity available in each sub-period for the country of origin of product in which you are applying.

You must not lodge more than one import quota licence application for the same order number in a sub-period, unless it is accompanied by an export licence or certificate.

**Note:** If you lodge more than one application for the same order number, all your applications will be rejected.

#### Security

You must lodge a security of £170 per tonne with your licence application. You can find further information on how to lodge your security by searching for <u>Licence</u> <u>securities for the import/export of agricultural products' on GOV.UK</u>

#### **Completing a licence application**

As part of the rice import tariff quota, licence applications must include at least the following entries:

- Box 8 of your application must state the country of origin of the product and you must select this as 'Yes'. Licences will carry an obligation to import from the country stated.
- Box 20 of your application must contain the correct import tariff quota order number.
- Box 24 must contain an entry. You can find details of the required entry in the relevant quota section at Annex 1 of this notice.

If you are not sure of the Combined Nomenclature (CN) code for your product (box 16) you should contact HMRC by sending an email containing as much information about the product as possible to <u>classification.enquiries@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk</u>. They will be able to provide you with the correct code and description.

#### **Issuing Licences**

As soon as the application period has closed, we will collate details of all valid quota applications we received and calculate the reduction coefficient applicable to each order number. Details of these reduction coefficients will be published on the gov.uk website

Your licence will have a 5% upward tolerance. However, the reduction in duty will only be valid for the quantities shown in sections 17 and 18 of your licence.

Import licences will be valid from 1 February until the end of the 2021 quota period (31 December 2021). Where an electronic licence is issued an email can be sent to inform you of its issue. To receive this email notification, you must have already completed the appropriate sections of the <u>il3 form</u>. All licences will be issued electronically as they are only valid for imports into the UK.

## Authority

You can find details of the arrangements in Statutory Instrument 2020 No 1432. You can obtain copies from Stationery Office bookshops and accredited agents, or order from the <u>Stationery Office</u> website.

You can also access Statutory Instruments electronically by visiting the UK's <u>Legislation website</u>. We are not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the Europa website. Whilst every care has been taken in producing this guidance, the Statutory Instrument as published is definitive.

#### Questions

If you have any questions about this notice, please contact the Import Licensing section as follows:

• Our telephone helpline number – 03300 416 500 (Option 2)

- E-mail contact <u>trader@rpa.gov.uk</u>
- Our postal address is:

Import licencing Team Rural Payments Agency Lancaster House Hampshire Court Newcastle Business Park Newcastle Upon Tyne NE4 7YH

## ANNEX 1

#### Annual Quota from January 2021

Olive oil under CN Code 1509 1000 imported at zero duty as follows:

Country of Origin	Order Number	JAN
Tunisia	05.4032	7,723,000 kg
Total		7,723,000 kg

Quota quantities not allocated in January will be carried over to subsequent months.

Licences are valid from the date of issue until the end of the quota period (31 December 2021).

For this quota (CN Code 1509 1000):

- You must lodge security of £170 per tonne.
- Box 20 of your application must contain:

'Order Number 05.4032'

• Box 24 (comments box) of your application must contain:

'Exemption from customs duty up to the quantity indicated in boxes 17 and 18 of this licence (Statutory Instrument 2020/1432).

## **ANNEX 2**

# Checklist for your reference prior to submission of a rice quota import licence application

Presenting a correct application will assist us in processing your quota import licence.

Before submitting your application, check that the following details are correct:

- Is the quota order number correct for the commodity code and country, which you have applied for?
- Check the rate of security used is correct, i.e. £170 per tonne.
- Does the security amount calculated cover the quantity applied for?
- Is it the correct description against the required commodity (CN) code?
- Has your proof of trade and a valid VAT certificate been supplied / submitted for the current quota year?
- Is the form signed and dated by an authorised individual?

If you are not sure of any details, then the following will provide further information:

- Annex 1 of this Notice to Traders.
- Import Licensing team contact details are given in this Notice to Traders