



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Access to Information Team
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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2055

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

23 June 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information regarding the live animal trade which we received on 2 June 2020. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“I would like to enquire whether it is possible to obtain information on amphibian, reptile and fish trading routes from 2014 to present? In particular, I am interested in the species, import and export country (and origin country if available), reported quantities being transported and the type of transport (live, eggs, specimens etc.) if possible?”

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) cannot provide any data regarding amphibians, reptiles and fish moving between the UK and the EU as these species do not require a health certificate to move between EU countries.

TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System) is a European Commission system employed by EU member states to facilitate and record animal/animal product movements into and throughout the EU. The data for imports from non-EU countries was extracted from TRACES, and covers the number of animals imported. The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. We can't guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into TRACES by a third party. TRACES only holds data as far back as 2015.

APHA issues Export Health Certificates (EHC) for animals and products of animal origin. The data for exports to non-EU countries covers the number of EHCs issued. APHA does not record the number of animals or the species travelling on each EHC. APHA only issues an EHC if required by the destination country. We have not issued any EHCs for reptiles and amphibians other than one off pet movements. APHA's data retention period for export certification is two years so APHA no longer hold any records for export consignments carried out prior to 2018.

Please see Appendix 1 for the information referred to above.

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below. During the current Coronavirus outbreak, our offices will be closed.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can also be used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email enquiries@apha.gov.uk and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Coronavirus

However, following the changes to Government advice, from Tuesday 24 March 2020 the ICO offices will be closed. They will therefore not be able to collect correspondence sent via post. Where possible, they ask that you [contact them online](#) or call on 0303 123 1113