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www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2405

{By Email}

08 June 2021

Dear

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about international trade, which we received on 04 May 2021. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

The following were passed to APHA to respond to from an original request sent to Defra who will be responding to the remaining.

"2. THE NUMBER OF PHYSICAL INSPECTIONS AT THE POINTS OF DESTINATION FOR HIGH RISK PLANTS SINCE 1 JANUARY 2021?"

High Risk Plants are defined in the "Plant Health (Phytosanitary Conditions) (Amendment) (EUExit) Regulations 2020 Annex6 Part B asamended. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/1527/schedule/6/made

These are high-risk plants, plant products and other objects from third countries which may not be introduced into Great Britain pending a risk assessment.

We also have a list of High Priority Plants which relates to Plants imported from the EU that are a high priority for inspection. <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/import-plants-and-plant-products-from-the-eu-to-great-britain-and-northern-ireland#importing-from-the-eu-to-gb</u>

APHA can confirm that 6438 consignments have been inspected at destination since 01 January 2021 for high risk plants.

"3. THE NUMBER OF PHYSICAL INSPECTIONS AT THE POINT OF DESTINATION FOR LIVE ANIMALS SINCE 1 JANUARY 2021?

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

17. HOW MANY EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFCATES WERE ISSUED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2020

18. HOW MANY EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFCATES WERE ISSUED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021.

19. HOW MANY EXPORT HEALTH CERTIFICATES WERE ISSUED FOR EU EXPORT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021?"

An update to your request was received on the 11 May 2021 as follows:

"So please could I amend to a request for the first four months i.e. including April."

The information you have requested is in the tables below:

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) issues Export Health Certificates (EHC) for animals and products of animal origin.

The number of EHC issued for EU and third country in the four months of 2020 and 2021 are as follows;

MONTH	2020	2021
January	8,740	46,768
February	6,338	35,140
March	6,157	37,943
April	5,420	29,471

The number of EHC issued in the first four months of 2021 for EU exports are as follows;

MONTH	2021
January	38,045
February	25,043
March	28,219
April	21,186

The number of post import checks allocated since 1 January 2021 for live animals are 282 which cover England, Scotland, and Wales.

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.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

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

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Annex

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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 <u>enquiries@apha.gov.uk</u> 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

If you need to contact the ICO during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's best to do so online. Please click here for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.