



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Access to Information Team  
Woodham Lane  
New Haw  
Addlestone  
Surrey  
KT15 3NB

[enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/apha](http://www.gov.uk/apha)

Our Ref: ATIC2508

[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

22 September 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

## **PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION**

Thank you for your request for information about sheep imports, which APHA received on 03 September 2021. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

A breakdown of what I would like is as follows:

- Live sheep within categories of breeding and slaughter from GB to EU and GB to NI
- Live sheep within the same categories from NI to GB and EU to GB
- Semen shipped from GB (or UK) - broken down by destination country
- Embryos shipped from GB (or UK) – broken down by destination country
- Semen and embryos imported into GB (or UK) - broken down by departing country

You clarified on 6 September 2021 that:

“A monthly breakdown for a period over the last 5 years for:

- Exports - Live sheep within categories of breeding and slaughter from GB to EU; GB to NI; and NI to EU.
- Imports - Live sheep within breeding and slaughter categories from NI to GB; EU to GB; and EU to NI.
- Exports – Sheep semen exported from UK - listed by destination country and by breed
- Exports - Sheep embryos exported from UK – listed by destination country and by breed
- Imports - Sheep semen imported into UK – listed by originating country and by breed
- Imports - Sheep embryos imported into UK - listed by originating country and by breed”

The information requested can be found in Appendix 1.

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) has access to UK statistical data from the EU Commission's Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) system, for commercial imports and exports. The information extracted from here is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. APHA cannot guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into TRACES by a third party.

UK data includes England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Guernsey, Jersey and The Channel Islands. Data available shows UK to UK only trade, but is not broken down to GB and NI level. Similarly, export and import data available shows UK to EU and visa versa, and is not broken down by GB and NI.

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 or postal address at the top of this letter.

**Postal requests during the COVID-19 outbreak**

APHA are currently experiencing delays in replying to post received. You should send queries to the relevant email address (details below) wherever possible. Please remember to include a return email address.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto: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.

Most documents produced by APHA will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information please see [The National Archives website](#).

Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

### 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](mailto: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

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.