

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

enquiries@apha.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/apha

Our Ref: ATIC2686



2 March 2022



PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about the export and import of equine/equidae skins, which APHA received on 20 February 2022. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

"We have the following questions regarding the export and import of equine/equidae skins:

2020 data:

- 1) What countries did the UK export equine skins to during 2020?
- 2) How many tonnes/kilos (or number of equine skins) were exported from the UK in 2020?
- 3) How many export licences for equine skins were granted in 2020?
- 4) Is there any indication on a license of what the exported skins will be used for i.e food product or fashion?
- 5) How many of these UK export licences for equine skins granted in 2020 relate to a) dried b) chilled c) frozen
- 6) How many export licences for equine skins were granted in 2020 in a) Devon b) Somerset c) Wiltshire d) Derbyshire e) West Yorkshire?
- 7) How many tonnes/kilos or number of equine skins were imported into the UK in 2020?

Historic data:

- 8) How many tonnes/kilos (or number) of equine skins was exported from the UK per year from 2010 to 2019?
- 9) How many tonnes/kilos (or number) of equine skins were imported into the UK per year from 2010 to 2019?
- 10) How many UK export licences for equine skins were granted per year between 2010-2019?

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.

- 11) How many of these UK export licences for equine skins granted per year between 2010-2020 related to a) dried b) chilled c) frozen?
- 12) How many export licences for equine skins were granted per year between 2010-2020 in a) Devon b) Somerset c) Wiltshire d) Derbyshire e) West Yorkshire?"

APHA can confirm that it is a nil return for all UK exports of Equine/Equidae skins during 2020 and for previous historic years.

APHA data shows there has been 1 import of Equidae Leather which was imported from China into the UK in 2019: 1 container with a Total Net Weight of 1,250KG and a Total Gross Weight 1,328KG.

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 (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.

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.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gov.uk

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 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.