



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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

Our ref: FOI2023/10542
26 June 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Chicken Feet Information

Thank you for your request for information of 1st June about Chicken Feet Information. APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“The time horizon we are talking about is 2019 – 2022 (if there isn’t detailed data in this section, then earlier data is also attractive).

Firstly, who are the top three companies/farms that producing chicken feet? How many chicken feet could they produce in one year (2019 – 2022, etc.) and where they sold those chicken feet to?”

This information is not held be APHA.

“Secondly, if they didn’t sell chicken feet as product but disposed as waste, by what method they disposed those chicken feet?”

If the chicken feet in question have previously been classed as fit for human consumption, but they are no longer intended for human consumption use, they would be classified as a Category 3 animal by-product (Cat 3 ABP). Cat 3 ABPs must be disposed of in accordance with Article 14 of Retained EU Legislation 1069/2009.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2009/1069/article/14>

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2009/1069/contents>

However, if the chicken feet in question had never been classed as fit for human consumption they would be classified as a Cat 2 ABP and must be disposed of in accordance with Article 13 of Retained EU Legislation 1069/2009.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2009/1069/article/13>

A summary guidance for ABP disposal is also available on Gov.uk.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-by-product-categories-site-approval-hygiene-and-disposal>

“Thirdly, we got data from the Customs website that around 30 thousands of chicken edible offal and liver are exported from the UK. But there isn’t the detailed category of chicken feet. How many chicken feet are exported from the UK in each year? What is the top three countries that the UK exported to?”

This information is not held by APHA.

There is only one Export Health Certificate (EHC) that is specifically for the export of Chicken Feet, this is the 3382EHC. This is a link to the 3382EHC on the Form Finder service;

<https://www.gov.uk/export-health-certificates/export-poultry-feet-to-hong-kong-certificate-3382>.

The data provided in the table below is respect of the number of EHC’s issued by APHA.

Year	Number of 3382EHC issued
2019	254
2020	186
2021	25
2022	11
Total	476

The export of chicken feet may take place to countries other than Hong Kong as other EHC’s may allow the export of this commodity without it being specified in the commodity name on the EHC.

The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into external customer facing systems by third parties.

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOIA and the government’s Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.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

enquiries@apha.gov.uk

Annex

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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 within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Team 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 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

Please click [here](#) for further contact details.