



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2025/04

16 January 2025

PERSONAL IMPORTS OF PRODUCTS FROM FMD-SUSCEPTIBLE ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN THIRD COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Purpose

1. To inform you of the tightened restrictions, from 15 January 2025, of personal imports of products from FMD-susceptible animals from the EU single market area into GB, to mitigate the risk of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD).

Background

2. Germany notified WOAHA of an outbreak of FMD on 10 January 2025: [WAHIS](#). The outbreak was detected following the deaths of 3 animals in a herd of 14 buffalo in Märkisch-Oderland, Brandenburg. As a result of this outbreak Germany has lost its FMD-free status.
3. The UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance amended its third country listings on 13 January 2025 to suspend the following commodities from FMD-susceptible animals from the whole territory of Germany (see OVS note [2025/02](#)):
 - a. Live ungulates
 - b. Ruminant and porcine germplasm
 - c. Fresh meat of ungulates
 - d. Meat products that have not been subject to at least heat treatment D1
 - e. Raw and pasteurised milk and raw and pasteurised milk products (including colostrum).

The UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance is also coordinating safeguard declarations to suspend the import of animal by-products from FMD-susceptible animals and hay and straw that have not been subject to an effective treatment to mitigate FMD. A separate OVS note will be issued when these restrictions are implemented.

4. FMD-susceptible animals under the [Foot and Mouth Disease \(England\) Order 2006](#) means 'a cow, bull, sheep, goat, deer, camel, llama, alpaca, guanaco, vicuna, any other ruminant, any swine (that is, a member of the suborder Suina of the order Artiodactyla), elephant or rodent (other than a pet rodent)'.
5. For your information, to mitigate the threat of FMD, England, Scotland and Wales have published safeguard declarations under the [Trade in Animals and Related Products Regulations](#) to restrict personal imports of commodities from FMD-susceptible animals from the EU single market area to GB. Imports of the following commodities into GB are suspended:
 - a. products from FMD-susceptible animals originating from Germany where the product is intended for personal consumption or use
 - b. products from susceptible animals originating from a territory subject to special transitional import arrangements other than Germany where the product is intended for personal consumption or use.
6. Restrictions on the products in Point 5 do not apply if the product is:
 - a. a good listed in Part 1 of Annex I to Regulation 2019/2122, and:
 - i. the product complies with the relevant conditions set out in Part 1 of Annex I to Regulation 2019/2122; and
 - ii. the combined weight of products imported at any given time does not exceed 2 kg; or
 - b. bread, cakes, biscuits, waffles or wafers, rusks, toasted bread or a similar toasted product containing less than 20 % of processed dairy and egg products and treated as provided for in point (a)(i) of Article 6(1) of Commission Decision 2007/275/EC;
 - c. chocolate or confectionary (including sweets) containing less than 50 % of processed dairy and egg products and treated as provided for in point (a)(i) of Article 6(1) of Commission Decision 2007/275/EC;
 - d. food supplements packaged for the final consumer containing small amounts (in total less than 20 %) of processed animal products (including glucosamine, chondroitin or chitosan, or both chondroitin and chitosan) other than meat products; or
 - e. pasta or noodles not mixed or filled with meat product containing less than 50 % of processed dairy and egg products and treated as provided for in point (a)(i) of Article 6(1) of Commission Decision 2007/275/EC.
7. Restrictions on the products mentioned in Point 5(b) do not apply if the combined weight of products imported at any given time does not exceed 2 kg; and
 - a. where the product is a product of animal origin intended for human consumption, it bears a health mark or an identification mark; or
 - b. where the product is an animal by-product or a derived product, it:

- i. is packaged in accordance with Article 23(1) of Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the placing on the market and use of feed², as it has effect in EU law, and includes on the package the name and address of the feed business operator responsible for its labelling under Article 12(2) of that Regulation; or
 - ii. has a label attached to the packaging, container or vehicle, describing the product and stating to which category of animal by-products it belongs.

- 8. The following safeguard declarations give effect to these prohibitions:
 - a. [Declaration of special measures: foot and mouth disease import restrictions \(England\)](#)
 - b. [Declaration of special measures: foot and mouth disease import restrictions \(Scotland\)](#)
 - c. [Declaration of special measures: foot and mouth disease import restrictions \(Wales\)](#)

- 9. The special measures will apply from 15 January 2025 and will continue to apply until they are revoked or amended.

Action for OVSs

- 10. To note the contents of this OVS note.

Contact point for enquiries

Email: bbtp-issue-triage@defra.gov.uk
imports@apha.gov.uk

Imports and EU Trade Team