



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

## IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2024/60

18 December 2024

### OUTBREAK OF PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS IN BULGARIA

#### Purpose

1. To inform you that, following a recent outbreak of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Bulgaria, imports of the following ovine and caprine commodities from Bulgaria are prohibited:
  - a. untreated wool and hair
  - b. fresh and chilled (untreated) hides and skins
  - c. raw milk and raw milk products (including colostrum)
  - d. live sheep and goats
  - e. ovine and caprine germplasm
  - f. personal imports of milk and milk products
  - g. personal imports of all meat and meat products, unless produced and packaged to EU commercial standards.

#### Background

2. Bulgaria notified the European Commission on 25 November 2024 of an outbreak of PPR at a sheep holding in Velingrad, in the South-central region of Pazardzhik.
3. The following ovine and caprine commodities are already restricted from Bulgaria due to an outbreak of sheep and goat pox (SPGP) (see OVS note [2024/38](#)):
  - a. live sheep and goats (GBHC 630 and 631), restricted via [country lists](#)
  - b. germplasm (GBHC 820, 821 and 822) restricted via [country lists](#)
  - c. fresh and chilled (untreated) hides and skins (GBHC540), restricted via TARP [safeguard declarations](#).
4. These commodities are also now restricted due to PPR, along with the following commodities:
  - d. raw milk and milk products, including raw colostrum, of ovine and caprine animals (GBHC 410 & 411), restricted via [country lists](#) on 12 December (see OVS note [2024/58](#))
  - e. untreated wool and hair of ovine and caprine animals (GBHC586), restricted via TARP [safeguard declarations](#).

5. OVS note [2024/56](#) was issued on 2 December 2024, notifying of the PPR outbreak and requesting that consignments of raw milk and raw milk products (GBHC 410 and 411) and untreated wool and hair (GBHC586) derived from ovine and caprine animals be held. OVS note [2024/58](#) was issued on 12 December 2024 notifying that the [Milk and Milk Products List](#) had been amended to suspend imports from Bulgaria of raw milk and raw milk products, including raw colostrum, from ovine and caprine animals.
6. These PPR-specific TARP safeguard measures are needed to ensure comprehensive controls exist in case of future recognition of SPGP-freedom in Bulgaria.
7. The TARP safeguard measures will apply from 18 December 2024 and will continue to apply until they are revoked or amended. Restrictions via the [country lists](#) will continue to apply until amended.
8. **Personal imports** from the EU of certain ovine and caprine commodities have also been restricted via TARP [safeguard declarations](#) (see OVS notes [2024/32](#), [2024/33](#), [2024/34](#)). These declarations have now been updated to suspend personal imports of all milk and milk products (including those commercially produced and packaged) from Bulgaria, as well as from Greece and Romania.
9. **Personal imports** from any EU or EFTA country, Greenland or the Faroe Islands of ovine and caprine milk and milk products, and meat and meat products (including animal by-products and derived products) continue to be suspended unless they have been produced and packaged to commercial standards:
  - For POAO, this means the products bear a health/identification mark **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country (i.e. not from Bulgaria, Greece or Romania)**.
  - For ABPs, this means the products:
    - are in commercial packaging that contains the name and address of the feed business operator responsible for its labelling under Regulation (EC) No 767/2009, with the packaging **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country (i.e. not from Bulgaria, Greece or Romania)**; or
    - have a label attached to the packaging, container or vehicle, describing the product and stating to which category of animal by-products it belongs, with the labelling **demonstrating origin in a PPR-free country (i.e. not from Bulgaria, Greece or Romania)**.

## Action for OVSs

10. To note the contents of this OVS note.

## Contact point for enquiries

**Email:** [bbtp-issue-triage@defra.gov.uk](mailto:bbtp-issue-triage@defra.gov.uk)  
[imports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:imports@apha.gov.uk)

*Imports and EU Trade Team*