



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

## IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2025/06

17 January 2025

### IMPORTS OF ANIMAL CASINGS – REVIEW OF RULES/IMPORT CONDITIONS

#### Purpose

1. To advise you that we have implemented new rules for imports of animal casings.

#### Background

2. We have reviewed our rules for the importation into GB of animal casings to bring them in line with The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) recommendations to mitigate the risk against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and other diseases such as Classical Swine Fever and African Swine Fever.
3. Our initial review is complete and urgent action needs to be taken to update our import conditions based on the FMD status of exporting countries to mitigate against these risks.
4. A summary of the revised import conditions can be found in the [Annex](#). The health certificate [GBHC370](#) for imports of animal casings has been amended accordingly.
5. We have introduced safeguard measures based on the FMD status of exporting countries, which comes into force on 17 January 2025. The measures include a list of the permitted countries and the revised import conditions:
  - [England](#)
  - [Scotland](#)
  - [Wales](#)

6. There will be a three-month implementation period to allow competent authorities in exporting countries to adapt to the new certification requirements. If after that time you receive consignments of animal casings from countries that are not in compliance with the new rules, please hold the consignment and contact APHA CIT for further advice.

**Action for OVSs**

7. To note the above information.

**Contact point for enquiries**

**Email:**        [imports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:imports@apha.gov.uk)

*Imports and EU Trade Team*

### Third country lists

The list of third countries from which imports of animal casings can be permitted has been amended to include only those countries or regions thereof that are recognised by WOAHP as foot and mouth disease free, plus a few additional countries. The complete list is set out in the safeguard [declarations](#).

### Import conditions

#### Ruminating animals (bovine, ovine, caprine animals) and swine

Animal casings can come from countries or regions that are free of foot and mouth disease and are eligible for imports of fresh meat of the relevant species;

or

they must be subjected to one of the following treatments:

- **Either:**

- salting with sodium chloride (NaCl), either dry or as saturated brine ( $A_w < 0.80$ ), for a continuous period of 30 days or longer at a temperature of 20°C or above;

or

- salting with phosphate supplemented salt 86.5% NaCl, 10.7%  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  and 2.8%  $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$  (weight/weight/weight), either dry or as saturated brine ( $A_w < 0.80$ ) for a continuous period of 30 days or longer at a temperature of 20°C or above;

In addition, they must be derived from animals that are “not from a premises under restriction for a notifiable disease”.

#### Other species:

Animal casings from species other bovine, ovine, caprine and porcine species can continue to come with the existing treatment:

have been cleaned, scraped and:

**EITHER** [salted with NaCl for 30 days;]

**AND/OR** [bleached;]

**AND/OR** [dried after scraping;]