



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2024/56

03 December 2024

OUTBREAK OF PESTE DES PETITS RUMINANTS IN BULGARIA

Purpose

1. To inform you that, owing to a recent outbreak of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Bulgaria, consignments of the following commodities from Bulgaria should be held:
 - a. raw milk and raw milk products derived from ovine and caprine animals (GBHC 410 and 411)
 - b. untreated wool and hair of ovine and caprine animals (GBHC586).

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 commodities derived from ovine and caprine animals 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)
 - b. ovine and caprine germplasm (GBHC 820, 821 and 822)
 - c. fresh and chilled (untreated) hides and skins of sheep and goats (GBHC 540).
4. The UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance has evaluated the risk associated with PPR and determined that, in addition to the aforementioned commodities, restrictions are necessary for raw milk and raw milk products, including colostrum, derived from ovine and caprine animals (GBHC 410 and 411) and untreated wool and hair from sheep and goats (GBHC586).
5. The UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance is in the process of amending the [Milk and Milk Products](#) list to stipulate that imports of raw milk and raw milk products, including colostrum, from ovine and caprine animals are suspended.

6. The UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance is also coordinating the delivery of safeguard declarations that will suspend the import of:
 - a. untreated wool and hair of ovine and caprine animals
 - b. fresh and chilled (untreated) hides and skins of ovine and caprine animals.

Although there is already a safeguard measure in place restricting imports from Bulgaria of untreated hides and skins due to the aforementioned SPGP outbreak in Bulgaria, we need a PPR-specific safeguard to ensure comprehensive protection in case of future recognition of SPGP-freedom in Bulgaria.

7. In the meantime, in addition to the current restrictions (as outlined in point 3), any consignments from Bulgaria of the following products should be held, with the UK Office for SPS Trade Assurance contacted for advice at ukassurance@defra.gov.uk:
 - a. raw milk and raw milk products derived from ovine and caprine animals
 - b. untreated wool and hair from ovine and caprine animals.

Action for OVSs

8. To note the contents of this OVS note.

Contact point for enquiries

Email: imports@apha.gov.uk

ukassurance@defra.gov.uk

Imports and EU Trade Team