



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our ref: FOI2025/23771
12 November 2025

Dear [REDACTED] ,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Non-human primates imported for research 1 September-5 November 2025

Thank you for your request for information of 6th November about Non-human primates imported for research 1 September-5 November 2025 . APHA have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below.

“Please could you provide me with the following information on non-human primates imported in to the UK for research purposes between 1st September 2025 and 5th November 2025.

- Primate species.
- Date of import.
- How many primates in each consignment.
- Country where they first cleared EU customs, and date if held.
- Country of departure before arriving in the UK.
- Country of birth or origin if held.

Also, please could you tell me how many facilities/establishments in the UK have imported non-human primates for research purposes in 2025 so far.”

Please see the information held by APHA below.

Species	Date of Landing into GB	No of Animals per Consignment	Country of Departure Before Arriving in UK	Country of Origin
Cyno Macaques	05/09/2025	120	France	Mauritius
Cyno Macaques	05/09/2025	5	France	Mauritius

Crab Eating Macaques	09/09/2025	42	France	France
Cyno Macaques	25/09/2025	77	Belgium	Vietnam
Crab Eating Macaques	07/10/2025	32	Spain	Spain
Crab Eating Macaques	04/11/2025	70	France	Mauritius
Cyno Macaques	04/11/2025	144	France	Mauritius

APHA can confirm that in 2025, less than five establishments have imported non-human primates for research.

The use of 'less than five' serves to protect the privacy of individuals or companies who may be identifiable due to the low number of occurrences. Disclosing exact figures in such cases could inadvertently reveal personal or confidential information, contrary to the principles outlined in the Freedom of Information Act, S43 Commercial Interest or S40 Personal Information.

The following information does not form part of the FOI response but may be useful to help with your request.

The use of animals in science is strictly regulated (under a specific Act) and that establishments using animals in science need licensing and are regularly inspected and assessed for compliance against standards. This licensing regime is overseen by the Home Office, <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/animals-in-science-regulation-unit>

All primates which are imported into the UK must be licensed by APHA. This includes the requirement for veterinary health certificates which confirm that the animals are clinically healthy and the origin premises are not affected by infectious diseases.

It is a responsibility of the vet in the country of origin to decide if the inspected animal is fit to travel. When animals are transported, their transportation must comply fully with legal requirements aimed at protecting their welfare.

Upon arrival, APHA Centre for International Trade should be notified of the consignment health status via a Report by Veterinary Surgeon or Medical Supervisor of the Arrival of Imported Animal(s) at an Approved Place of Detention (RM30) submitted by the Veterinary/medical supervisor.

The general import requirements for (Non-Human) Primates are stated in Import Information Note (IIN) BLLV/6.

However, Schedule 3, Case 7 of The Trade in Animals and Products Regulations 2011 provides a derogation for research animals as follows:

Relevant animals intended for scientific purposes such as research, educational activities or research related to product development activities are exempt from official controls at border control posts, other than controls carried out in accordance with Article 15(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014, provided that: they comply with all requisite animal health requirements. They have been authorised by the Secretary of State when the activities relating to the scientific purposes have been carried out, they and any products derived from them, with the exception of any portions used for the scientific purposes, must be disposed of or re-dispatched to the third country of origin.

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, 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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Complaints

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.