



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Exporting Sanitary and Phytosanitary Goods from EU into Great Britain

2021



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Introduction to approach

Overview: Import controls for GB are being introduced in a phased approach in order to give businesses impacted by COVID-19 time to adjust whilst maintaining effective biosecurity controls.

These stages include:

Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) controls, including the requirements for:

- Importer pre-notifications (GB importer action)
- Health certification (such as an Export Health Certificate or Phytosanitary Certificate)
- Documentary, identity and physical checks at the border or inland
- Entry via a point of entry with an appropriate Border Control Post (BCP) with relevant checking facilities

Processes and procedures for the export of:

- Live animals
- Animal products
- Fish and shellfish and their products
- Plants and plant products
- High-risk food and feed not of animal origin

Stage 1: January (POAO)

Export of Products of Animal Origin under safeguard measures

- **The GB importer must:** Pre-notify in advance of arrival using **IPAFFS** and provide the EU exporter with the unique notification number (UNN).
- **You must:** Add the **UNN onto the health certificate** and provide the GB importer with an electronic copy of the health certificate
- **The GB importer must:** Upload an electronic copy of the health certificate on to **IPAFFS**.
- **You must:** Ensure the original health certificate travels with the consignment.
- **Safeguard measures:** Action can be taken at **very short notice** to prohibit or restrict imports of certain products from certain countries following an outbreak of disease or a public health issue.

If measures are introduced because of a new or emerging disease, there may be additional steps you will need to follow to pre-notify - **outlined on [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)**

Stage 1: January (Live Animals)

Export of live animals

- **The GB importer must:** Pre-notify arrival using **IPAFFS** at least one day in advance and supply the EU exporter/Official Veterinarian (OV) with the Unique Notification Number (UNN)
- **You must:** Add the **UNN onto the health certificate** and provide the GB importer with an electronic copy of the health certificate
- **The GB importer must:** Upload an electronic copy of the health certificate on to **IPAFFS**
- **You must:** Ensure the original health certificate travels with the consignment
- **Physical checks:** Will be carried out at destination

Stage 1: January Highlights (Plants)

Export of high priority plants

- **Phytosanitary certificates** are required for imports of high-priority plants and plant products.
- **You must:** Ensure the phytosanitary certificate travels, where possible, with the consignment
- **Documentary, identity and physical checks** of high-priority plants and plant products are carried out at Places of Destination.
- The list of high-priority plants and plant products can be found on [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

Products of Animal Origin (POAO)

What are the new phases for delivery of SPS import controls on POAO?

From October 2021:

- POAO for human consumption must be accompanied by a GB health certificate and pre-notified using IPAFFS before arrival at the border.
- Certain composite products are exempt from SPS controls at the border under Article 6 of Regulation 2007/275.

The EU exporter must:

- Ensure that a copy of the health certificate accompanies the consignment.
- Provide a copy of the health certificate to the GB importer to upload a copy onto IPAFFS.

The requirements already in place for POAO under safeguard measures will continue.

From January 2022:

- POAO will require pre-notification using IPAFFS and must be accompanied by a GB health certificate unless an exempt composite product under Article 6 of Regulation 2007/275.
- POAO must arrive at an established point of entry with an appropriate Border Control Post (BCP).

Animal By-Products (ABP)

What are the new phases for delivery of SPS import controls on ABP?

From October 2021:

- ABP not for human consumption must be accompanied by a GB health certificate, official declaration or other official documentation depending on the commodity being imported.
- For certain ABP, pre-notification using IPAFFS before arrival at the border will be required.

The EU exporter must:

- Ensure that a copy of the health certificate accompanies the consignment.
- Provide a copy of the health certificate to the GB importer to upload a copy onto IPAFFS.

The requirements already in place for high-risk ABP under safeguard measures will continue.

From January 2022:

- ABP must be accompanied by a GB health certificate or other official documentation, depending on the ABP commodity being imported.
- Certain ABP will need to arrive at an established point of entry with an appropriate Border Control Post (BCP).
- For certain ABP products, pre-notification will be required.

Animal By-Products (ABP) (continued)

What are the new phases for delivery of SPS import controls on ABP?

From January 2022:

- Importers will need to check if the CN code for their product is listed in Regulation 2019/2007 in order to determine whether their commodity must be imported via a point of entry with an appropriate BCP.
- Goods will be subject to documentary, ID and physical checks on a risk basis.

Live Animals and Germinal Products

What are the new phases for delivery of SPS import controls on live animals and germinal products?

From October 2021:

- The requirements already in place for live animals and germinal products will continue.

From January 2022:

- Germinal products must continue to be accompanied by a GB health certificate and pre-notified in IPAFFS before arrival at the border.
- There are new requirements for germinal products to enter via an established point of entry with an appropriate Border Control Post (BCP).

From March 2022:

- Live animals must also enter via an established point of entry with an appropriate BCP for documentary, identity and physical checks.
- High-risk live animals imported from the EU to GB will continue to be checked at 100%.

Plants and Plant Products

What are the new phases for delivery of SPS import controls on plants?

From 1 January 2022:

- **Physical and identity checks of high-priority plants and plant products will move from Places of Destination to Border Control Posts.**
- **The requirement for pre-notification and phytosanitary certificates will be extended to all regulated plants and plant products (i.e. not just those which are ‘high priority’).**

From March 2022:

The UK’s Border Operating Model will be fully operationalised with physical and identity checks on all regulated plants and plant products being carried out at Border Control Posts.

Composite Products

Overview: Composite products are food containing both **processed** products of animal origin (POAO) and products of plant origin.

Composite products must follow the phased requirements of POAO and these goods must be pre-notified and accompanied by a GB health certificate from October 2021 unless otherwise exempt.

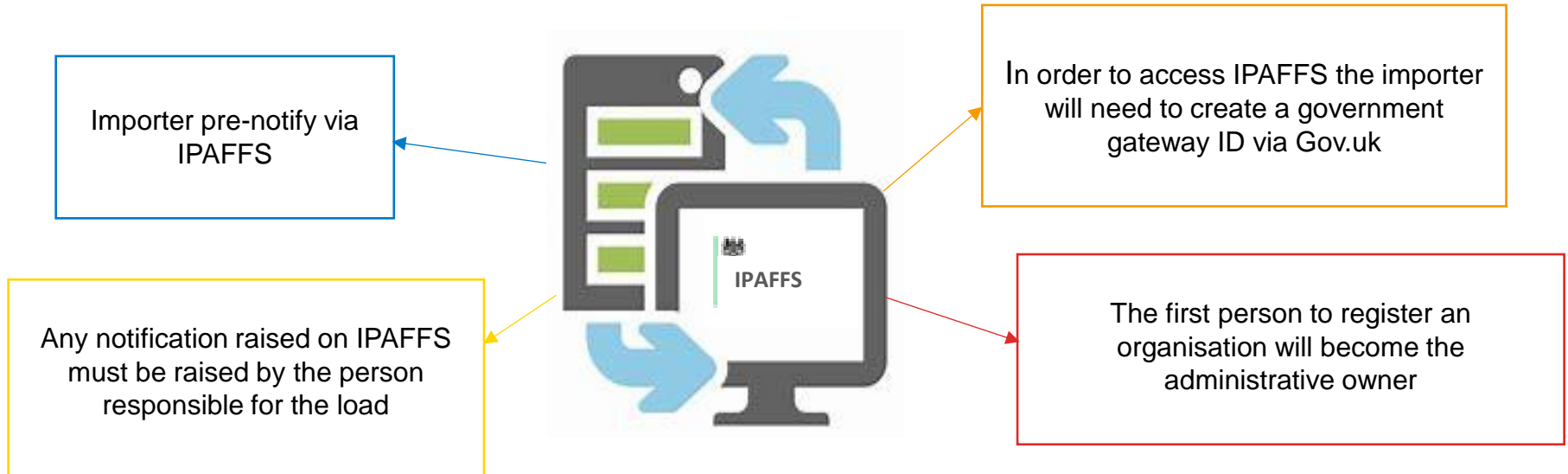
Some goods are exempt if they:

- contain **<50%** processed animal product;
- contain **no meat product**; and
- meet the requirements in **Article 6 of Decision 2007/275**.

Importer Pre-Notifications Process: IPAFFS

Overview: From October 2021, POAO for human consumption and some ABP arriving from the EU or EEA countries will need to be pre notified via The Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS)

IPAFFS: GB national system for notification of the arrival of SPS goods into Great Britain. Below is the process the importer must take:



Health Certificates



General Overview

From January 2021: POAO under safeguard measures must be accompanied by a health certificate.

From October 2021: POAO for human consumption and ABP not for human consumption must be accompanied by a health certificate.

Certification Steps

1. The **health certificate** is issued by the competent authority in the EU country.
2. The **EU exporter** is responsible for obtaining the health certificate.
3. The **EU exporter** must provide the importer with an electronic copy of the health certificate for it to be uploaded to IPAFFS.
4. The **EU exporter** must ensure a physical copy travels with the consignment.

Links to further information:

- Model health certificates are available [here](#)
- **If there is no GB health certificate for your commodity visit [Gov.uk](#) for an import licence**
- If there is no import licence, you should complete an [IV58 form](#) on gov.uk and email a completed version to imports@apha.gov.uk

Be prepared...

Actions to take 1st
October 2021

For POAO and ABP not for human consumption:

- Make sure you provide the importer with an electronic copy of the **health certificate**.
- Make certain the **health certificate travels with** the consignment.

Actions to take 1st
January 2022 (Plants)

- Make sure your consignment has a **phytosanitary certificate** and that it travels with the consignment where possible.
- Make sure the importer submits a pre-notification.

For all information and guidance please visit [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



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Please use this time to raise any questions in the chat function
for our panel to answer.

Defra Helpline: 03459 33 55 77 defra.helpline@defra.gov.uk