



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Import of Processed Finished Feed for Pet Ornamental Aquatic Vertebrates and Invertebrates, Reptiles and Amphibians Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/43

January 2024

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1. General Information

This Import Information Note (IIN) must be read in conjunction with the IIN for general information for imports of animal by-products (ABP), which provides information on pre-notifications, veterinary checks, risk categories etc.

[General information for imports of animal by-products \(ABP\) \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)

References to European Union (EU) legislation within this document are references to direct EU Legislation which has been assimilated in Great Britain (assimilated direct

legislation), as defined in the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 and can be viewed on the UK legislation website (legislation.gov.uk).

2. Scope

This IIN covers the importation of processed finished feed (which has been processed and is in its final packaging), intended for ornamental aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians which are kept as pets only and which are not intended for food or feed use.

Processed means that the product has undergone a processing method including heat treatments. Freezing is not deemed a processing method.

Finished means that the imported product requires no further treatments or processing once it has been imported into GB and is ready to sell in its imported packaging.

Annex XIV, Chapter IV, Section 2 of [Regulation \(EU\) 142/2011](#) allows the competent authority to authorise imports of certain material “for purposes other than feeding to farmed land animals” provided there is “no unacceptable risk for the transmission of diseases communicable to humans or animals”.

Feed intended for ornamental aquatic vertebrates (e.g. cold water and tropical fish) and invertebrates (e.g. coral/ starfish), reptiles and amphibians kept as pets, and that are not intended for use as food or feed can be imported into GB with an authorisation if the product contains mixtures of the following animal by-products:

- (a) animal by-products from aquatic animals and derived products from aquatic animals;
- (b) aquatic invertebrates and derived products from aquatic invertebrates;
- (c) terrestrial invertebrates, including any of their transformation forms, such as larvae, and derived products therefrom;
- (d) products generated by the animals referred to in points (a), (b) and (c), such as fish eggs.

3. Authorisation

Importers may import these products as processed pet food (if the products meet the requirements as set out in [Import Information Note ABP/3B](#)).

Alternatively, importers wishing to import such feed products under an authorisation should apply for a specific authorisation using an [application form IV58](#) to the contact address in Section 8 below. In this case, a health certificate is not required.

Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis - applying for an authorisation does not guarantee that one will be issued.

Importers must ensure that the following information is submitted with the application form:

- A complete list of all ingredients in the product;
- The percentage of each animal by-product in the product;
- The country of origin of each animal by-product used;
- The processing methods for each animal by-product including temperatures and timings.

Please note that this requirement will not come into force for animal products imported from EU and EFTA countries until the end of 2024. Until an authorisation is required, these products can be imported with a commercial document.

4. Production standards

All of the animal by-products must have undergone a treatment to ensure that there is no risk of the transmission of disease to humans or animals. The treatment methods, including those that are not traditional processing methods, will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

5. Country of origin

Imports are permitted from trading partners listed in a document published by the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Scottish and Welsh Ministers for:

- [Non-EU countries](#)
- [EU and EFTA countries](#)

Animal by-products from terrestrial invertebrates including any of their transformation forms, such as larvae, and derived products therefrom, must come from countries listed in the document for fresh meat of ungulates, and Taiwan, Japan, Ecuador or Sri Lanka.

Animal by-products from aquatic animals, aquatic invertebrates and derived products from those products, must come from countries listed in Annex II to [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/626](#).

6. Health certification/documentation

Imports of feed products must be accompanied by a commercial document issued by the Exporter indicating:

- The name of the establishment of production;
- The name and address of the consignor and consignee;
- The name and address of premises of destination in GB (if different from the consignee);
- The name of the manufacturer, quantity shipped and identification marks;
- The country of origin;
- Type of animal by-product used;

7. Labelling requirements

All packages must have labelling which clearly indicates that the content is destined for feeding to PET ORNAMENTAL AQUATIC VERTEBRATES, PET INVERTEBRATES, PET REPTILES OR PET AMPHIBIANS.

8. Contact for further information

For further information regarding import requirements, contact the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Imports team:

Centre for International Trade - Carlisle
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street
Carlisle
CA3 8DX

Email: Imports@apha.gov.uk

Telephone: 03000 200 301



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Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at:

Animal and Plant Health Agency
Centre for International Trade - Carlisle
Eden Bridge House
Lowther Street
Carlisle
CA3 8DX

Email: Imports@apha.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/apha

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government and Welsh Government.