



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

# Import of Fish Oil to be used as Feed Material or for Purposes outside the Feed Chain

## Import Information Note (IIN) ABP/9

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://www.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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)).

## 2. Scope

Import conditions for fish oil to be used as feed material or for purposes outside the feed chain.

Fish oil is defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 142/2011](#) as meaning oil derived from the processing of aquatic animals except sea mammals, including farmed aquatic invertebrates, and starfish of the species *Asterias rubens* which are harvested in a mollusc production area, or oil from the processing of fish for human consumption, which an operator has destined for purposes other than human consumption.

Fish oil that could be used as feed material or for purposes outside the feed chain must only be derived from Category 3 materials referred to in Article 10 (i) and (j) of [Regulation \(EC\) 1069/2009](#) and Category 3 material of aquatic animal origin referred to in Article 10 (e) and (f) of that Regulation.

## 3. Production standards

The fish oil must have been produced and stored in accordance with the requirements of Annex X, Chapter II, Section 3 of [Regulation \(EU\) 142/2011](#).

In particular the fish oil must have undergone a processing standard as laid down in Annex X, Chapter II, Section 3, point B.

The product must be packaged and transported in accordance with the requirements laid down in Annex X, Chapter II, Section 3, point C.

## 4. Country of origin

Imports are permitted from trading partners, listed in the approved country list for fish oil found in Annex XIV, Chapter I, Section 1, Table 1, row 3 of [Regulation \(EU\) 142/2011](#).

This states that fish oil must come from countries listed in Annex II to [Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2019/626](#).

## 5. Approved establishments

Products must be produced in an establishment approved to export to Great Britain. Importers should check prior to importation that the premises are listed on the correct list.

Consolidated lists of approved establishments/plants are available on:

- [data.gov.uk](https://data.gov.uk) for **non-EU countries**
- and [here](#) for **EU Countries**

If the establishment or plant is not listed, importers are urged to contact the company concerned, who should contact their competent authority immediately. If the plant is not included on the appropriate list when veterinary checks are carried out the consignment is likely to be held and could be rejected and re-exported or destroyed.

## 6. Health certification/documentation

Imports to Great Britain must be accompanied by the appropriate health certificate (\*), which can be found on GOV.UK.

The health certificates are based on the requirements included in Annex XV, Chapter 9 of [Regulation \(EU\) 142/2011](#).

[Fish oil: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

**(\* Please note that this requirement will be introduced for animal products from EU and EFTA countries in the high and medium risk categories from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Further information regarding risk categories can be found at the link below.**

[Import risk categories for animals and animal products imported from the EU to Great Britain, from 31 January 2024 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

## 7. Labelling requirements

The containers used must bear labels indicating “NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION”.

## 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](mailto:Imports@apha.gov.uk)

Telephone: 03000 200 301



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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.