



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Import of Genetic Material of Animals other than Domestic Cattle, Sheep, Goats and Horses

Import Information Note (IIN) BLLV/7

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 live animals and germplasm, which provides information on pre-notifications, veterinary checks, risk categories etc.

[General information for imports of live animals and germplasm \(defra.gov.uk\)](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 that apply to the import of genetic material (ova, semen and embryos) of animals other than cattle, sheep, goats and horses.

[Import Information Notes](#) are available for genetic material of domestic cattle, sheep, goats and horses.

Contact the APHA Imports Team for further information.

3. Health certification/documentation

There are no specific conditions for the import of semen, ova and embryos of non-domestic species. However, there are 2 IINs laying down the conditions for imports into Great Britain of:

- [Red deer semen from New Zealand](#)
- [Canine and feline semen](#)

If you wish to import genetic material from other animals, please contact the APHA Centre for international Trade - Imports for advice.

Please note that genetic material from animals covered by Schedule 1, Part II of The Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order 1974 (as amended) will require a licence under that Order.

4. Northern Ireland

Trade movements from Northern Ireland into Great Britain are treated as national movements and as such, no animal health conditions are applicable in respect of those movements. You can find additional information on movements from NI to GB [here](#).

5. 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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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.