



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Import of Minced Meat for Human Consumption

Import Information Note (IIN) MPMM/10

January 2024

Contents

1. General Information	1
2. Scope.....	2
3. Country of origin	2
4. Approved establishments.....	3
5. Health certification/documentation	3
6. Health and identification marks	3
7. Contact for further information	3

1. General Information

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

[General information for imports of products of animal origin \(POAO\) for human consumption \(defra.gov.uk\)](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 minced meat derived from domestic bovines, porcines, ovines and caprines, for human consumption.

Minced meat is defined in Annex I point 1.13 of [Regulation \(EC\) 853/2004](#) as boned meat which has been minced into fragments and contains less than 1% salt.

Minced meat originating from the EU must have been chilled to an internal temperature of not more than +4°C or frozen at an internal temperature of not more than -18°C at the production plant(s) of origin.

Minced meat originating from other trading partners must be deep-frozen to at least -18°C at the production plant(s) of origin.

3. Country of origin

Imports are permitted from trading partners listed for fresh meat of that species in a document published by the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Scottish and Welsh Ministers. See the documents for fresh meat of ungulates at the links below.

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

Trading partners must have BOV, OVI or POR listed in column 4 of the above documents in order to be able to export minced meat to Great Britain, where:

- BOV is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic bovine animals (including Bison and Bubalus species and their crossbreeds).
- OVI is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic ovine animals (*Ovis aries*) and domestic caprine animals (*Capra hircus*).
- POR is for fresh meat, including minced meat, of domestic porcine animals (*Sus scrofa*).

Certain countries may be required to provide supplementary guarantees, depending on the animal health situation in the territories of origin. Please also check the 5th and 6th columns of the above documents, where these supplementary guarantees are listed.

In addition, the country of origin must be listed for the appropriate species in a document published by the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Scottish and Welsh Ministers, in accordance with Decision (EU) 2011/163 on the approval of residue monitoring plans submitted by third countries. The relevant documents are accessible using the links above.

4. Approved establishments

Meat must be produced in an establishment approved to export to Great Britain.

Consolidated lists of approved plants are available on data.gov.uk.

The above link does not include approved establishments in the EU. Until those are included please use the list found via this [link](#).

5. Health certification/documentation

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

Bovine meat: [Bovine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bovine-meat-model-health-certificates)

Sheep/goat meat: [Ovine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ovine-meat-model-health-certificates)

Porcine meat: [Porcine meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/porcine-meat-model-health-certificates)

Transit: [Other meat: model health certificates - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/other-meat-model-health-certificates)

(*) Please note that this requirement will be introduced for animal products from EU and EFTA countries in the high and medium risk categories from 31st 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 \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/import-risk-categories-for-animals-and-animal-products-imported-from-the-eu-to-great-britain-from-31-january-2024)

6. Health and identification marks

Meat referred to above must bear an identification mark in accordance with the requirements of [Regulation \(EC\) 853/2004](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/853/oj). The mark must be applied before the product leaves the establishment.

7. 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.