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Letter category Imported Food

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Keywords: Lanolin, Vitamin D3

For feed and food law enforcement, and port health authorities in England

Vitamin D3 processed from lanolin.

Summary: The processing of Vitamin D3 derived from lanolin will break down all veterinary residues to their constituent parts. Therefore, an approved veterinary residue plan is not required.

Dear colleague,

This is further to letter OVS/2023/3.

The EU has amended Regulation 853/2004 to incorporate vitamin D as a highly refined product. This is due to the manufacturing process using multiple steps to turn lanolin into crystallised vitamin D3 as new chemical. At present, a similar amendment has not been made to our assimilated legislation and our position remains that vitamin D3, or products containing vitamin D3, are not subject to veterinary checks at the Border Control Post.

The manufacturing of vitamin D results in a highly processed compound that follows a well-established trade, and there has been no evidence of a public health risk to date. As with other similar highly processed compounds, our advice, in consultation with policy teams and veterinary advisers, is that during the processing all veterinary residues are completely broken down. Therefore, an approved veterinary residue plan is not required, and the food supplement can be imported into Great Britain from a country without one.

The position of vitamin D3 derived from lanolin will be regularly reviewed, and any changes will be communicated to the enforcement community.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Hall

Imports Strategy Branch