

APHA Briefing Note 49/22

Exporting fish in an ice and water mix to the EU

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Purpose

To Advise Certifiers of an upcoming change to EU legislation permitting the import into the EU of fish in a water and ice mix in 3 layered polyethylene tubs without the need for drainage.

Background

EU legislation currently prohibits the import into the EU of fish in a water and ice mix without appropriate drainage.

The EU have confirmed* that from 8 December 2022 traders will be able to export whole and gutted fresh fishery products to the EU in 3 layered polyethylene tubs in a water and ice mix without drainage. This only applies to products that comply with the requirements in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/2258

Exports of unpackaged prepared fresh fishery products under ice only (as opposed to ice and water) continue to require drainage, including where transported in 3 layer tubs.

Further Information

(*) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/2258 of 9 September 2022 amending and correcting Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific hygiene requirements for food of animal origin as regards fishery products, eggs and certain highly refined products, and amending Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/624 as regards certain bivalve molluscs.

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APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.