

Floors 6, Clive House
70 Petty France
London
SW1H 9EX

14 November 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

Amendment to assimilated Regulation 2019/1793 from 18 December 2024

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) and Food Standards Scotland (FSS) have undertaken a science and evidence-based review of the imported food and feed commodities contained within the Annexes to assimilated Regulation 2019/1793 (Regulation 2019/1793) and write to inform you of the outcome of this work.

Background

Regulation 2019/1793 deals with temporary increases of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into Great Britain (GB) of food and feed from certain countries. The Regulation deals with imported high-risk food and feed not of animal origin, ensuring that such commodities when imported into GB undergo risk-based checks.

The FSA, which has responsibility for imported food safety in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, in conjunction with FSS who have similar responsibilities in Scotland have established a four-country working group to review imported food legislation. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the legislation remains focussed on those imported food and feed commodities which pose the greatest risk to consumers. This working group determines whether existing controls are effective, should be reduced or applied to new commodities that present a risk to health.

Detailed risk assessments for commodities and countries have been considered by a team of experts from the FSA and FSS. The expert group has concluded that the existing Annex I and II lists will be amended to reflect the changes to risk to consumers' health. Certain commodities that no longer pose a risk to public health will be removed from the lists while others will increase or decrease in their checking frequency.

Amendments to the legislation apply in England, Scotland, and Wales.

Amendments

We can now inform you that we are amending the rules governing imports of certain commodities.

A letter was sent to you on 11 March 2024 noting proposed amendments that went to a public consultation that affected your country specifically. These amendments have also been proposed as part of a World Trade Notification [G/SPS/N/GBR/63](#) that was published on 24 June 2024. The commodities listed in the Annexes are subject to an increased level of official controls. Annex I sets out the identity and physical checks, including sampling and laboratory analysis, frequency for the various commodities. In addition, Annex II commodities must be accompanied by an official

certificate as well as results of pre-export sampling and analysis. Food and feed listed in Annex IIa is suspended from entry into Great Britain.

Next Steps

Statutory Instruments have been laid before the relevant parliaments in England, Scotland and Wales. The amendments will take effect from 18 December 2024.

Commitment

We are committed to ensuring that food imported into the UK is safe for consumers and would welcome the opportunity to engage with yourselves in the future to share ideas and good practice.

Yours sincerely,

David Lowe

David Lowe

Head of Imports and Exports Strategy, FSA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Mckeown', written in a cursive style.

Sam Mckeown

Head of Food and Feed Safety Policy, FSS