

To Whom It May Concern

Date: 12 February 2014

RESEARCH AND DIAGNOSTIC SAMPLES, TRADE SAMPLES AND DISPLAY ITEMS FROM OTHER EU MEMBER STATES, SWITZERLAND, NORWAY AND LIECHTENSTEIN

Consignments of research and diagnostic samples, trade samples or display items as defined in the Animal By-product (ABP) legislation (see Annex) and not intended for human consumption, coming into England from another Member State of the European Union do not need an import licence or authorisation. However, the products must be produced, processed, transported, handled, labelled, stored, used and disposed of in accordance with the relevant requirements of:

- Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009¹ of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (as amended) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/RECH_consolidated.do ; and
- Regulation (EU) No 142/2011² implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under that Directive (as amended) http://eur-lex.europa.eu/RECH_consolidated.do

Any operator, establishment or plant that generates, transports, handles, processes, stores, places on the market, distributes, uses or disposes of animal by-products including research and diagnostic samples, trade samples or display items must be registered or approved by Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA) under Animal By-Products Enforcement Regulations (ABPE) before commencing operations. This requirement is provided for in Articles 23 or 24 as appropriate of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009. Further information including the registration form is available on the [AHVLA website](#).

Further information is available in the relevant Importer Information Notes available on the Defra website: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/imports-non-eu/iins/animal-by-products/iin-abp-31/>

There are restrictions and prohibitions on the carriage of certain products and substances by post, guidance for which is available from the following sites:

Department of Transport: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/freight/dgt1/>

Post Office: <http://www.postoffice.co.uk/letters-parcels/mailing-guide/restricted-and-prohibited-goods>

¹ OJ No L 300, 14.11.2009, p. 1.

² OJ No L 54, 26.2.2011, p. 1.

Royal Mail websites

- Restricted goods: <http://www.royalmail.com/despatch-inward-mail-services/hints-and-tips/restricted-goods>
- Prohibited goods: <http://www.royalmail.com/business/help-and-support/tell-me-about-prohibited-goods>

Please note this letter only covers the products referred to above. If you wish to import live animals or animal pathogens, you will need to contact;

Live animals: imports@ahvla.gsi.gov.uk / Tel 01228 403 600

Animal pathogens: pathogens@defra.gsi.gov.uk / Tel 020 7238 6212

I would suggest you include a copy of this letter with any consignments of this material you bring in from EU countries in case you experience any problems on entry.

Yours Faithfully



Nicola Hirst
Centre for International Trade - Carlisle, Manager

Annex

The following definitions are in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011:

- **'research and diagnostic samples'** means animal by-products and derived products intended for the following purposes: examination in the context of diagnostic activities or analysis for the promotion of progress in science and technology, in the context of educational or research activities;
- **'trade samples'** means animal by-products or derived products intended for particular studies or analyses with a view to carrying out a production process or developing feedingstuffs or other derived products, including testing of machinery, for use in an establishment or plant which is:
 - producing feedingstuffs, or products for uses other than food and feed; or
 - processing animal by-products or derived products;
- **'display item'** means animal by-products or derived products intended for exhibitions or artistic activities;