





helpline@defra.gov.uk www.gov.uk/defra

22 May 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Stakeholder engagement on the second technical review of plant health regulated goods in Annex 11

I am writing to notify you of the proposed changes to Annex 11 in the retained <u>Implementing Regulation 2019/2072</u>. These changes should take effect by 26 November 2024.

Background

As outlined in the <u>Border Target Operating Model</u> (BTOM), we will ensure that biosecurity risks are appropriately targeted, by assessing risks from all origins and ensuring that regulated goods are subject to the most relevant and up to date category as regards their regulation (or deregulation). Defra and the Scottish and Welsh Governments have already re-categorised a large number of goods according to their risk, in accordance with the timetable detailed in the BTOM, via <u>The Official Controls (Miscellaneous Amendments)</u> <u>Regulations 2024 (legislation.gov.uk)</u>. A review of the remaining goods in Annex 11 is ongoing.

Plant health controls apply to any goods that are regulated to prevent the introduction or movement of harmful pests into, and within, Great Britain:

Part A of Annex 11 lists high- and medium-risk goods posing a known threat, that require a phytosanitary certificate and are subject to 100% checks on import (except where reduced checks are applied).

Part B of Annex 11 lists those medium-risk goods that require a phytosanitary certificate, as they pose a potential threat, but with insufficient evidence currently to categorise in Part A or Part C of Annex 11.



Part C of Annex 11 includes a list of low-risk plant products which are not subject to plant health controls, such as fruits of banana and pineapple.

Issue

Based on a review of goods in Annex 11, we propose to:

- Move goods assessed as lower phytosanitary risk when imported from certain countries (i.e. grapes) from Part A to Part B of Annex 11 so they have a lower level of checks, though still require a phytosanitary certificate,
- allocate goods assessed as negligible risk when imported from certain countries (such as apples and pears) from Part A to Part C of Annex 11; the list of plant products which are not subject to plant health controls,
- move goods assessed as higher phytosanitary risk when imported from certain countries (i.e. asparagus) from Part B to Part A of Annex 11 so they have a higher level of checks.

These proposals are part of an ongoing review of products included within Annex 11. Please note that medium risk fruit and vegetables from the EU are currently excluded from import controls, under transitional arrangements. A call for comments is open until 3 June on the proposed end date for these arrangements (see <u>here</u>).

Please see the Appendix for the full list of goods and the proposed changes.

Any comments should be sent to plantpestsrisks@defra.gov.uk by 14 August 2024.

Comments provided in response to this letter, including personal information, may be made available to the public on request, in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental information Regulations 2004 (EIRs)

If you do not wish your response, including your name, contact details and any other personal information, to be publicly available, please say so clearly in writing when you send your comments. Please note that if your computer automatically includes a confidentiality disclaimer, this will not count as a confidentiality request. Please explain why you need to keep details confidential. We will take your reasons into account if someone asks for the information under freedom of information legislation. However, we cannot guarantee that we will always be able to keep those details confidential.

Yours faithfully

Richard McIntosh Assistant Chief Plant Health Officer Defra T: +44 (0)208 026 2396 M: +44 (0)7767 357817 richard.mcintosh@defra.gov.uk