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GENERAL INFORMATION

The following products are subject to prohibitions or restrictions on movement into Ireland from other Member States.

In addition to the listed prohibitions and restrictions as set out in this publication, there exist a growing number of product safety prohibitions / restrictions in respect of the placing on the market of goods under Regulation 765/2008. Revenue's Customs Service assists Market Surveillance Authorities in implementing this regulation at points of importation.

PRODUCT SAFETY

Information regarding Product Safety and consumer products can be accessed at:

http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/safety/prod_legis/index_en.htm

and

www.consumerconnect.ie/eng/Hot_Topics/Guides-to-Consumer-Law/Product-safety/general-regulations.html

Contact: National Consumer Agency help line on 1890 432 432 or (01) 402 5555

Trade in food products of animal origin

Under the single market trade in products of animal origin is permitted on the basis that harmonised controls have been applied to their production, processing and trade under the EU's Hygiene of Food Regulations (EC) No 178/2002.

Thus, for the purposes of trade, animal products must have been produced in an EU approved Food Business Operation (FBO) and bear an EU health mark. Traceability is an important element in food safety. Products moving in intra-community trade must be appropriately transported and accompanied by a commercial document containing information as to the establishment of origin together with its approval number and details of the food products being consigned as well as the FBO establishments of dispatch and destination. Food products of animal origin imported from non-EU countries that have undergone veterinary checks at an approved EU Border Inspection Post are required to move to the first destination FBO accompanied by the CVED (Common Veterinary Entry Document) issued and endorsed by the BIP. These conditions have been set down to protect animal health and public health.

Prohibitions and restrictions (Safeguard Measures)

These may be invoked where a risk for animal or public health in trade in animals and animal products arises. Under Community animal and public health regulations safeguard measures will be applied restricting trade and import at short notice to deal with an emerging risk and will continue until that risk has been removed. Where the risk scope is identified the measures can be modulated restricting or banning trade from the affected region only.

ANIMALS / ANIMAL PRODUCTS

The movement of the following goods/animals to Ireland from other EU Member States must be effected in accordance with the relevant EU legislation most of which is administered by :

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2,
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie

Registration

A trader bringing in animals and/or products of animal origin from other EU Member States must be registered with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine as provided for under the European Communities (Trade in Animals and Animal Products) Regulations, 1994 (SI 289 of 1994) and the European Communities (Registration of Importers of Animal Products) Regulations 2004 (SI 269 of 2004).

For further information on registration, contact:

Import Registration Section,
Food Safety Liaison Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Fax (01) 6072513 or Telephone (01) 6072896.

LIVE ANIMALS

(A) Domestic cats and dogs (pets) - Any domestic cat or dog brought from any country or territory other than Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man may not be landed in the State unless one of the following applies:

1. The animal is accompanied by a Pet Passport issued under **Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the animal health requirements applicable to the non commercial movement of pet animal** and evidencing compliance with the requirements of the Pet Passport system.
2. The landing is authorised by an import licence granted by The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1966 and the conditions inserted in the licence are duly complied with (Importation of dogs and cats Orders 1929-1970).

(B) Cattle, swine - Directive 64/432/EEC: These are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except under General Authorisation or under a licence issued by:

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie

- (C) Equidae** - Directive 90/426/EEC: These are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except under General Authorisations issued under the European Communities (Diseases of Animals Acts 1966 and 1979 Orders) (General Authorisations for Imports) Regulations, 1985 (SI 365 of 1985).
Equidae covers wild or domesticated animals of the equine (including zebras) or asinine species or the offspring of crossings of those species.

- (D) Live poultry and hatching eggs** Directive 90/539/EEC: These are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except under General Authorisation or under a licence issued by:

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie

- (E) Hobby Birds** - Directive 92/65/EEC: These are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except under General Authorisations issued under the European Communities (Diseases of Animals Acts 1966 and 1979 Orders) (General Authorisations for Imports) Regulations 1985 (SI 365 of 1985).
All enquiries should be made to:

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie

(F) Sheep and goats - Directive 91/68/EEC: These are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except under General Authorisation or under a licence issued by:

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie

(G) Certain specified animals brought from any country or place other than direct from Northern Ireland [Rabies (Importation, Landing and Movement of Animals) Orders, 1972 and 1976].

(H) Live fish, molluscs or crustaceans to be used for ornamental purposes must be imported only by registered importers (from 1 January 2010) and must comply with Directive 2006/88/EC and with the relevant model certificate outlined in Commission Regulation 1251/2008/EC. All enquiries should be made to :

Fish Health Unit,
Marine Institute,
Renville,
Oranmore,
Co Galway,
Telephone: 091-387200, Fax 091-387201.

The bringing in from other EU Member States or the landing of any animal of the sixteen Orders of Mammals specified in the relevant Statutory Instruments is prohibited save under and in accordance with a licence granted in that behalf by The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1966.

These Statutory Instruments apply to the following Orders of Mammals:

- *The Order Carnivora*, other than a domestic dog or a domestic cat, which Order includes the animals commonly called jackals, foxes, wolves, bears, raccoons, coatis, pandas, otters, weasels, martens, polecats, badgers, skunks, mink, ratels, genets, civets, linsangs, mongooses, hyenas, ocelots, pumas, cheetahs, lions, tigers and leopards
- *The Order Chiropter*, which Order includes the animals commonly called bats and flying foxes.

- *The Order Dermoptera*, which Order includes the animals commonly called flying lemurs.
- *The Order Edentata*, which Order includes the animals commonly called anteaters, sloths and armadillos.
- *The Order Hyracoidea*, which Order includes the animals commonly called hyraxes.
- *The Order Insectivora*, which Order includes the animals commonly called solenodons, tenrecs, otter shrews, golden moles, hedgehogs, elephant shrews, shrews, moles and desmans.
- *The Order Lagomorpha*, which Order includes the animals commonly called pilas, rabbits and hares.
- *The Order Marsupialia*, which Order includes the animals commonly called opossums, marsupial mice, dasqures, marsupial moles, marsupial anteaters, bandicoots, rat opossums, cuscuses, phalangers, koalas, wombats, wallabies and kangaroos.
- *The Order Primates*, which Order includes the animals commonly called tree-shrews, lemurs, indrises, sifakas, aye-eyes, lorises, bushbabies, tarsiers, titis, uakaris, sakis, howlers, capuchins, squirrel monkeys, marmosets, tamarins, macaques, mangabeys, baboons, langurs, gibbons and great apes.
- *The Order Rodentia*, which Order includes the animals commonly called gophers, squirrels, chipmunks, marmots, scaly-tailed squirrels, pocket mice, kangaroo rats, beavers, mountain beavers, springhaas, mice, rats, hamsters, lemmings, voles, gerbils, water rats, dormice, jumping mice, jerboas, porcupines, cavies, capybara, chinchillas, spiny rats and gundis.
- *The Order Artiodactyla*, which Order includes the animals commonly known as peccaries, hippopotamuses, camels, llamas, chevrotains, deer, giraffes, pronghorns, antelopes, duikers and gazelles.
- *The Order of Monotremata*, which Order includes the animals commonly known as echidnas and duck-billed platypuses.
- *The Order Perissodactyla*, which Order includes the animals commonly known as zebras, tapirs and rhinoceroses.
- *The Order Pholidota*, which Order includes the animals commonly known as pangolins.

- *The Order Proboscidea*, which Order is comprised of the animal commonly known as an elephant.
- *The Order Tubulidentata*, which Order is comprised of the animal commonly known as an aardvark.

BEES

Bees are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States, except in compliance with the terms and conditions of Council Directive 92/65/EEC (as amended), which is administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The bees must be accompanied by a health certificate issued by the competent authorities in the Member State of origin. Ireland is designated as a Fireblight Protected Zone under Plant Health Directive 2000/20/EC and additional special control measures apply to any import of bees between 15 March and 30 June.

ANIMAL PRODUCTS

The principal EU rules (and national measures) governing the animal and public health requirements for intra-community trade in animal products are as follows:

Food of Animal Origin

Council Regulations (EC) Nos 178/2002, 852/2004, 853/2004, 854/2004 and 882/2004 as well as Council Directive (EC) No 2004/41 (SI No 432 of 2009 entitled European (Food and Feed Hygiene) Regulations) and Council Directive (EC) No 2002/99 (SI Nos 820 and 893 of 2004) refer. Please note that food business operators must ensure that all stages of production, processing and distribution of food under their control must satisfy the relevant hygiene requirements laid down in these Regulations. This includes the obligation to be registered as a Food Business Operator.

Fish Products

Fish products included under the above hygiene rules come under the responsibility of the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) established under the Sea Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 . The SFPA is an official agency in respect of the enforcement of food safety law for the purposes of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland Act 1998.

All enquiries should be made to:

The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority

National Seafood Centre

Park Road

Clogheen

Clonakilty,

Co Cork.

Telephone (023) 88 59300

Email: sfpafoodsafety@sfpa.ie

WEB: www.sfpa.ie

Animal By-Products

Council Regulation (EU) No 1069/2009 and Commission Regulation (EC) no 142/2011, replacing Regulation (EC) No. 1774/2002 (SI 252 of 2008 entitled the European Communities (Animal By-products) Regulations) refer. Please note that certain types of animal by-product may only be traded from another Member State with prior agreement. For further information please contact Meat Hygiene and Animal By-Products Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Telephone 057-8694343.

Commercial consignments from EU countries may be brought into Ireland provided that the products are sourced from an EU-approved or registered ABP establishment, are appropriately transported and labelled in accordance with these rules and are accompanied to their destination by a commercial document or, when required, a health certificate. The animal product must not be the subject of a EU safeguard measure banning exportation due to animal disease outbreak.

SAMPLES

The movement of samples of animal products for the purposes of research and development is only permitted under licence. Further information, including application forms may be obtained from:

Food Safety Liaison Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Fax (01) 6072513 or telephone (01) 6072896.

In the case of samples of fish products application should be made to:

The Sea Fisheries Protection Authority
National Seafood Centre
Park Road
Clogheen
Clonakilty,
Co Cork.
Telephone (023) 8859334, Fax (023) 88 59720
Email: sfpafoodsafety@sfpa.ie

It is a condition of a sample licence that the products cannot be placed on the market or used for human consumption and must be destroyed or returned to the country of origin following use.

PATHOGENS

The movement of pathogens and pathogenic agents is only permitted under a licence issued under SI 373 of 1997, the Importation of Pathogenic Agents Order, 1997. Further

information, including application forms may be obtained from:

Food Safety Liaison Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
Fax (01) 6072513 or telephone (01) 6072896.

ANIMAL REMEDIES (i.e. veterinary medicinal products)

An animal remedy may not be brought into the State unless the product concerned has been licensed for the Irish market either by the Irish Medicines Board or by the European Medicines Agency. Licenses issued by the latter are valid in all EU Member States. The licensing status of any particular product may be checked on the website of the relevant agency. Particular restrictions apply to substances covered by the EU hormone ban under EU Directive 96/22. The relevant legislation is: European Communities (Animal Remedies) (No 2) Regulations 2007 (SI 786/2007) and European Communities (Control of Animal Remedies and their Residues) Regulations 2009 (SI 183/2009).

REQUIREMENTS FOR PUREBRED BREEDING ANIMALS, THEIR SEMEN, OVA AND EMBRYOS

Cattle

Commission Decision 2005/379/EC lays down the requirements for pedigree certificates and particulars for purebred breeding animals of the bovine species, their semen, ova and embryos.

Pigs

Commission Decision 89/503/EEC lays down the requirements for certificates of purebred breeding pigs, their semen, ova and embryos.

Commission Decision 89/506/EEC lays down the requirement of hybrid breeding pigs, their semen, ova and embryos.

Sheep/goats

Commission Decision 90/258/EEC lays down the requirements for zootechnical certificates for purebred breeding sheep and goats, their semen, ova and embryos.

Horses

Commission Regulation 504/2008 details the identification document (passport) that must accompany equidae.

Commission Decision 96/79/EC lays down the requirements for zootechnical certificates of semen, ova and embryos from registered equidae.

SEMEN AND EMBRYOS

The following semen and embryos are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States:

Of animals - except in compliance with Council Directive 90/425/EEC which is administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Of pure-bred breeding animals of the bovine species - except in compliance with Council Directives 88/407/EEC (as amended), 89/556/EEC (as amended), 77/504/EEC (as amended) and 87/328/EEC (as amended) which are all administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Bovine semen and embryos brought in from other EU Member States must be consigned to collection and to storage centres approved by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Consignees of such products must give advance notification to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine stating the name and address of the establishment to which it is being consigned, the anticipated arrival date and in the case of consignments from non-EU countries, their point of entry. [European Communities (Bovine Breeding) Regulations, 2009 (SI 19 of 2009)].

Information in respect of other species can be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,, Cavan, telephone 049-4368200 or LoCall 1890 200 508.

VACCINES

Under the provisions of the Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Control on Animal and Poultry Vaccines) Order 2002 as amended, the following controls apply to the movement into Ireland of certain vaccines. These controls are in addition to the general controls on all animal remedies described in the preceding paragraph.

An import prohibition in respect of vaccines for the following diseases:

- African horse sickness
- African swine fever
- Bovine leucosis
- Contagious bovine pleuro-pneumonia
- Foot and mouth disease
- Infectious equine anaemia
- Maedi visna
- Rinderpest
- Sheep pox
- Swine vesicular disease

An import restriction under licence of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in respect of vaccines for the following diseases:

Bluetongue
Brucellosis in ruminating animals and swine
Equine encephalomyelitis
Equine viral arteritis
Mycoplasma gallisepticum
Fowl typhoid
Avian influenza
Infectious laryngo-tracheitis
Johnes disease
Mycoplasma gallisepticum
Porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome
Pullorum disease, otherwise known as bacillary white diarrhoea
(salmonella pullorum)
Rift valley fever
Salmonellosis (caused by or involving salmonella enteritidis or
salmonella typhimurium) in poultry
Swine fever
Swine influenza
Teschin fever
Transmissible gastro-enteritis
Tuberculosis in ruminating animals
Aujeszky's disease (for non marker vaccines only)
Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (for non marker vaccines only)

For national disease policy and management reasons, the list of the above diseases may be subject to change and you are advised to contact the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to importation of vaccines for such diseases.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Agriculture House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Telephone (01) 6072000, LoCall 1890 20 05 10
E-mail: info@agriculture.gov.ie

PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

Plants and plant products, organisms and cultures harmful to plants

Under Directive 2000/29/EC and the European Communities (Introduction of Organisms Harmful to Plants or Plant Products (Prohibition) Regulation, 1980 (SI 894 of 2004), as amended, certain plants being introduced into Ireland from other Member States of the EU are required to have valid plant passports attached. Details are available from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Seed Potatoes are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States except in compliance with Directive 2000/29/EEC as amended and Directive 2002/56/EC which are administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The legislation provides for prior notification of the introduction of seed potatoes from other Member States. Further information may be obtained by email from PotatoOnLine@agriculture.gov.ie.

Cereal Seeds of the second generation (C2 seed) are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States [European Communities (Cereal Seed) Regulations 1987 (SI 217 of 1987)].

For further information or advice contact:

Plant Trade Section,
Crop Production and Safety Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Admin Building,
Backweston Campus,
Celbridge,
Co. Kildare.
Tel 01-5058885 Fax: 01-6275994
E-mail: tom.forbes@agriculture.gov.ie

WOOD, BARK (including wood packaging material such as pallets, crates, boxes etc.)

Under Council Directive 2000/29/EC, as amended, regulations are also in place to prevent the movement of harmful forest pests and diseases into Ireland from other parts of the EU. The regulations can apply to wood, bark, chips, particles, wood waste and scrap.

It is important to note that regulations also apply to coniferous wood packaging material in the form of cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, dunnage, spacers, bearers, etc. **in use in the transport of goods/objects of all kinds.**

A valid Plant Passport is required for all material listed in Annex V of Council Directive 2000/29/EC, as amended. A Plant Passport is not required for wood packaging material that is in use in the transport of goods/objects.

The following is a general summary of material that is subject to special requirements under Council Directive 2000/29/EC:

Wood (normally including chips, particles wood waste and scrap):

- (A) Coniferous - originating in all EU Member States excluding wood which is bark free.
- (B) Castanea - originating in all EU Member States excluding wood which is bark free.

(C) Platanus - originating in all EU Member States.

Isolated bark:

(A) Conifers (Coniferales) - originating in all EU Member States.

(B) Castanea - originating in all EU Member States.

Wood Packaging Material (pallets, crates, boxes, etc.) made from coniferous wood

Under Council Directive 2000/29/EC wood packaging material which is made from coniferous wood and which is moved to Ireland from any other EU Member States is subject to control.

Wood packaging material made from coniferous wood in the form of cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, dunnage, spacers, bearers, etc. **in use in the transport of goods/objects of all kinds** is normally required to be completely stripped of bark.

Special requirements regarding the movement of wood packaging material from **Portugal** to Ireland:

Under Commission Decision 2009/420/EC, amended by Commission Decision 2009/462/EC, effective from 1 January 2010, wood packaging material leaving Portugal which, irrespective of its origin, is made from coniferous wood, shall be treated and marked in accordance with International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM No. 15), Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade.

For further information or advice on this section on wood, bark and wood packaging material please contact:

Forest Protection and FRM Section,
Forest Service,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
Tel: 01 6072651
Fax: 01 6072545
Email: forestprotection@agriculture.gov.ie
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie/forests-service

PESTICIDES

Plant protection products and biocides

Pesticides include both plant protection products (PPP) for agricultural use and biocidal products for non-agricultural use. In Ireland, pesticides are regulated by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine through the Pesticides Registration and Control Division. The marketing and use of PPP and biocides are covered throughout Europe principally by Regulation (EC) No. 1107/2009 and Directive 98/8/EC, respectively. Both

PPP and biocidal products must be authorised with the Pesticides Registration and Control Division before being placed on the market in Ireland for sale and use. Other European legislation also impacts on the placing on the market of PPP and biocides, such as the classification, labelling and packaging legislation (Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008, Directive 99/45/EC, Directive 67/548/EEC), REACH legislation with regard to safety data sheets and co-formulants (Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006), marketing and use legislation and general product safety (Directive 76/769/EEC, Directive 2001/95/EC). Further information can be obtained from:

Technical Secretariat
Pesticide Registration and Control Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Backweston Campus,
Celbridge,
Co. Kildare.
Website: www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie
E-mail: pcs@agriculture.gov.ie
Telephone: 01 6157552
Fax: 01 6157575

Additionally, pesticides listed in the EU Regulation (EC) No 850/2004 on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs Regulations) are prohibited from movement into the State from another EU Member State. The Environmental Protection Agency is the designated competent authority for the POPs Regulations in Ireland (S.I. 235 of 2010).

AQUACULTURE ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS

Aquaculture animals means live fish, crustaceans or molluscs coming from a farm including those from the wild intended for a farm and aquaculture products meaning products derived from aquaculture animals whether intended for farming such as eggs or gametes (reproductive cells) or for human consumption. All enquiries regarding the movement of these animals / products into Ireland should be made to:

The Fish Health Unit,
Marine Institute,
Renville,
Oranmore,
Co Galway
Telephone: 091-387200, Fax 091-387201.

FISH

Live fish, molluscs or crustacean to be used for ornamental purposes must be imported only by registered importers (from 1 January 2010) and must comply with Directive 2006/88/EC and with the relevant model certificate outlined in Commission Regulation 1251/2008/EC. All enquiries regarding intra-Community movements should be made to:

The Fish Health Unit,
Marine Institute,
Renville,
Oranmore,
Co Galway.
Telephone: 091-387200, Fax 091-387201.

CURRENCY NOTES, COIN - COUNTERFEIT AND IMITATION

False money, counterfeit sterling and imitation coin are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States (Revenue Act, 1889, Decimal Currency Act, 1969 and the Economic and Monetary Union Act, 1998). See Council Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of 28 June 2001 (updated by Council Regulation (EC) No 44/2009) laying down measures necessary for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting, Criminal Justice (Theft and Fraud Offences) Act, 2001 and Counterfeits of Legal Tender Notes and of Consolidated Bank Notes (Central Bank Act, 1942).

COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS

Infringing copies of works and illicit recordings of performances, articles specifically designed or adapted or used for making infringing copies of works or illicit recordings of performances and protection-defeating devices are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States (Copyright and Related Rights Act, 2000 as amended).

DRUGS

Certain specified controlled drugs including narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances are prohibited to be brought into the State from other Member States except under licence issued by the Minister for Health (Misuse of Drugs Acts, 1977 and 1984, Misuse of Drugs Regulations, 1988 (as amended) Further information may be obtained from the Department of Health, Hawkins House, Dublin 2. Telephone: (01) 635 4000, LoCall 1890 200 311, website: www.dohc.ie.

PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES (HEAD SHOPS)

The Criminal Justice (Psychoactive Substances) Act 2010 provides that the sale, supply, import and export for human consumption of psychoactive substances is a criminal offence. The term "*psychoactive substance*" is defined in section 1 of the Act as meaning a substance, product, preparation, plant, fungus or natural organism which has, when consumed by a person, the capacity to:

- (a) produce stimulation or depression of the central nervous system of the person, resulting in hallucinations or a significant disturbance in, or significant change to, motor function, thinking, behaviour, perception, awareness or mood, or
- (b) cause a state of dependence, including physical or psychological addiction.

Section 2 provides that specific products which are subject to licence, authorisation or

other control are excluded from the scope of the Act. These include medicinal products, animal remedies, intoxicating liquor, tobacco and food. Controlled drugs, which are subject to the Misuse of Drugs Acts, are also excluded. The Minister for Justice and Equality can by order exclude other products from the application of the Act.

Section 3 of the Act provides for the offences of selling, importing and exporting psychoactive substances for human consumption.

Subsection (2) provides that it is an offence to import or export a psychoactive substance knowing or being reckless as to whether it is being acquired or supplied for human consumption.

A person guilty of an offence under the Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine of up to €5,000 or imprisonment for up to 12 months or both. A person convicted on indictment is liable to an unlimited fine or to imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or both.

Further information may be obtained from:

Department of Health

Marita Kinsella Marita_Kinsella@health.gov.ie

Mary O'Reilly mary_o'reilly@health.gov.ie

DRUG PRECURSORS

Council Regulation 273/2004 lays down rules for the monitoring of intra-community trade in drug precursors. It requires that all imports – including transshipment and intermediary activities involving drug precursors be documented by operators, and that precursors be clearly identified as such. In addition, operators dealing with Category 1 precursors, or Category 2 precursors over a certain threshold, have to hold a licence or be registered. Commission Regulation 1277/2005, lays down detailed implementing rules for Regulation 273/2004, in order to establish the necessary procedures regarding licensing and further detailed rules concerning the monitoring of trade.

The scheduled substances concerned are -

- Category 1** Ephedrine, Ergometrine, Ergotamine, Lysergic acid, 1-Phenyl-2-propanone, Pseudoephedrine, Nacetylanthranilic acid, 3, 4-Methylenedioxyphenylpropan-2-one, Norephedrine, Isosafrole (cis- & trans), Piperonal and Safrole, their stereoisomeric forms and their salts.
- Category 2** Acetic anhydride, Anthranilic acid, Potassium Permanganate Phenylacetic acid and Piperidine and their salts.
- Category 3** Acetone, Ethyl ether, Methylethylketone (MEK), Toluene, Sulphuric acid and Hydrochloric acid and their salts with the exception of the salts of

hydrochloric acid and sulphuric acid.

Note: Scheduled Substances mean the above substances including mixtures and natural products containing such substances.

Further information may be obtained from:

The Irish Medicines Board,
Kevin O Malley House,
Earlsfort Terrace,
Dublin 2.

(www.imb.ie)

Telephone: (01) 6764971

EXPLOSIVES, PYROTECHNICS, DEEMED SUBSTANCES

The movement into the State of the following goods from other Member States is prohibited except under licence (termed an importation licence by the Dept) issued by:

The Minister for Justice and Equality,
Department of Justice and Equality,
94 St. Stephens Green,
Dublin 2.

Telephone (01) 6028202, LoCall 1890 221 227

Website: www.justice.ie

- explosive substances (e.g. propellant powders, bulk explosives used for mining, quarrying and construction blasting),
- explosive articles (e.g. packaged explosives, detonating cord, jet perforating guns, detonators, shaped charges, etc.),
- pyrotechnic substances (e.g. flash powder, compositions used in flares and fireworks etc.),
- pyrotechnic articles (e.g. fireworks, flares, distress signals, etc.),
- Substances deemed to be explosives (such as high nitrogen Ammonium Nitrate, Sodium Chlorate, Nitro Benzene, Potassium Nitrate, Sodium Nitrate and any mixture or solution containing either Potassium Nitrate or Sodium Nitrate in combination with any other substance or substances, apart from pest fumigant.

Legislative References

- Import Licensing:
Explosives Act, 1875,
- Deemed Explosives:

Explosives (Ammonium Nitrate and Sodium Chlorate) Order, 1972 (SI 191 of 1972), Explosives (Nitro-Benzene) Order, 1972 (SI 233 of 1972), Explosive (Potassium Nitrate and Sodium Nitrate) Order, 1986 (SI No 273 of 1986)].

- Transfers of Explosives for Civil Uses:

European Communities (Placing on the Market and Supervision of Explosives for Civil Uses) Regulations, 1995 (SI 115 of 1995).

Additionally, pyrotechnics containing substances listed in the EU Regulation (EC) No 850/2004 on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs Regulations), most notably Hexachlorobenzene, are prohibited from movement into the State from another EU Member State. The Environmental Protection Agency is the designated competent authority for the POPs Regulations in Ireland (S.I. 235 of 2010).

Explosives: Requirements under SI 115 of 1995

SI 115 of 1995-European Communities (Placing on the Market and Supervision of Explosives for Civil Uses) Regulations, 1995 gives effect in national law to Council Directive 93/15/EEC of 5 April 1993 on the harmonisation of the provisions relating to the placing on the market and supervision of explosives for civil uses. Under the above legislation no explosives (other than the deemed explosives referred to above) may be transferred into the State without a recipient competent authority document issued by the Minister for Justice and Equality. All enquiries should be made to:

The Minister for Justice and Equality,
Department of Justice and Equality,
94 St. Stephens Green,
Dublin 2.
Tel. (01) 6028202, LoCall 1890 221 227
Website: www.justice.ie

FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION

The movement of firearms and ammunition is prohibited except

- (i) under licence issued by:

The Minister for Justice and Equality,
Department of Justice and Equality,
94 St. Stephens Green,
Dublin 2.

Tel. (01) 6028202, LoCall 1890 221 227
Website: www.justice.ie

or

- (ii) by the holder of a current firearm certificate in respect of the firearm (Firearms Acts 1925 to 2009).

For the purpose of this prohibition the term “**firearm**” means:

- a lethal firearm or other lethal weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged,
- an air gun (including an air rifle and air pistol) with a muzzle energy greater than one joule or any other weapon incorporating a barrel from which any projectile can be discharged with such a muzzle energy,
- a crossbow,
- any type of stun gun or other weapon for causing any shock or other disablement to a person by means of electricity or any other kind of energy emission,
- a prohibited weapon meaning and including any weapon of whatever description designed for the discharge of any noxious liquid, noxious gas or other noxious thing, and also any ammunition (whether for any such weapon or any other weapon) which contains or is designed or adapted to contain any noxious liquid, noxious gas or other noxious thing,
- a device capable of discharging blank ammunition and to be used as a starting gun or blank firing gun,
- any article which would be a firearm under any of the foregoing paragraphs but for the fact that, owing to the lack of a necessary component part or parts, or to any other defect or condition, it is incapable of discharging a shot, bullet or other missile or projectile or of causing a shock or other disablement, as the case may be,
- except where the context otherwise requires, any component part of any article referred to in any of the foregoing paragraphs and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the following articles shall be deemed to be such component parts:
 - telescope sights with a light beam or telescope sights with an electronic light amplification device or an infra-red device, designed to be fitted to a firearm,
 - A silencer designed to be fitted to a firearm and any object manufactured for use as a component in connection with the operation of a firearm, and without which it could not function as originally designed, and
 - and any object manufactured for use as a component in connection with the operation of a firearm, and without which it could not function as originally designed.

Requirements under SI 362 of 1993 as amended by SI 493 of 2010

SI No 362 of 1993 European Communities (Acquisition and possession of weapons and ammunition) Regulations, 1993 gives effect to Council Directive 91/477/EC on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons. This was amended by SI 493 of 2010 European Communities (Acquisition and Possession of Weapons and Ammunition) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 which gives effect to Council Directive 2008/51/EC.

Under the SI no firearms or ammunition may be moved into the State from another EU State without an authorisation (Article 11) from the Minister for Justice and Equality.

Persons not normally resident in the State who wish to bring firearms from another EU State for holidays/sporting purposes do not require an Article 11 authorisation but do require a Non Resident Firearms Certificate issued by the Garda Superintendent of the District where the individual first intends to shoot and a European Firearms Pass endorsed by the Superintendent of the Gardai. These documents must be produced whenever so required by any officer of Customs and Excise.

OFFENSIVE WEAPONS

The importation of Offensive Weapons listed in SI 66 1991 and SI 338 2009 is totally prohibited [Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act, 1990 (No 12 of 1990) the Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act, 1990 (Offensive Weapons) Order, 1991 (SI 66 of 1991) and Firearms and Offensive Weapons Act 1990, Offensive Weapons (Amendment) Order, 2009 (SI 338 of 2009)]. This list now includes samurai swords as per SI.No.338 of 2009, with only certain types of samurai allowed to be imported.

For the purposes of this prohibition the term “**offensive weapons**” means:

- **a flick knife**, that is to say -
a knife which opens when hand pressure is applied to a button, spring, lever or other device in or attached to the handle, or a knife which has a blade which is released from the handle or sheath by the force of gravity or the application of centrifugal force and when released is locked in an open position by means of a button, spring, lever or other device;
- **a knuckleduster**, that is to say -
a band of metal or other hard material worn on one or more fingers, and designed to cause injury, or any weapon incorporating a knuckleduster;
- **a swordstick or dagger cane**, that is, a hollow walking-stick or cane containing a blade which may be used as a sword or dagger;
- **a sword umbrella**, that is an umbrella containing a blade which may be used as a sword;
- **any weapon from which one or more sharp spikes protrude** which is worn attached to the foot, ankle, arm, hand or wrist (sometimes known when intended to be attached to the foot, as a foot claw and, when intended to be attached to the hand, as a hand claw);
- the weapon sometimes known as a **belt buckle knife**, being a buckle which incorporates or conceals a knife;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **push dagger**, being a knife the handle of which fits within a clenched fist and the blade of which protrudes from between two fingers;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **hollow kubotan**, being a cylindrical container containing a number of sharp spikes;

- the weapon sometimes known as a **shuriken, shaken or death star**, being a hard non-flexible plate having three or more sharp radiating points, and designed to be thrown;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **balisong or butterfly knife**, being a blade enclosed by its handle, which is designed to split down the middle, without the operation of a spring or other mechanical means, to reveal the blade;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **telescopic truncheon or telescopic billy**, being a truncheon which extends automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in or attached to its handle;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **blowpipe or blow gun**, being a hollow tube out of which hard pellets or darts are shot by the use of human breath;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **kusari gama**, being a length of rope, cord wire or chain fastened at one end to a sickle;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **kyoketsu shoge**, being a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at one end to a hooked knife;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **manrikigusari or kusari** being a length or rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at each end to a hard weight or hand grip;
- the weapon sometimes known as a **sap glove**, being a glove into which metal or some other hard material has been inserted or to which metal or such material has been attached;
- the broad knife known as a **machete or matchet**.
- The sword sometimes known as samurai or katana, other than such a sword made before 1954, or made at any other time according to traditional methods of making swords by hand.

MOLASSES, TREACLE, GOLDEN SYRUP, MALT, YEAST, HOPS, TREACLE MEAL AND MOLASSINE MEAL

Movement of the above-mentioned products is, in certain prescribed areas, subject to control by Garda Siochana.

BOOKS AND PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

Books and periodical publications which have been made the subject of Prohibition Orders under the Censorship of Publication Acts, 1929 to 1967, as amended by the Health (Family Planning) Act, 1979 and the Regulation of Information (Services Outside the State for Termination of Pregnancies) Act, 1995, are prohibited to enter Ireland from EU Member States except under permit issued by the Minister for Justice and Equality. Furthermore, any book, although not the subject of the above mentioned Prohibition Orders, may be referred to the Censorship of Publication Board for a decision as to their suitability in this regard. Queries to:

The Minister for Justice and Equality,
 Department of Justice and Equality,
 94 St. Stephens Green,
 Dublin 2.

Tel. (01) 6028202, LoCall 1890 221 227

Website: www.justice.ie

Intra Community Movement

Indecent or obscene books and periodical publications are prohibited to be brought in from other Member States of the EU under Section 42 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 and, accordingly, they are liable to seizure under Section 202 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 irrespective of whether they are the subject of a Prohibition Order under Section 9 of the Censorship of Publications Act, 1946.

Additionally, books and periodicals prohibited to be imported from third countries under the Censorship of Publications Acts are also prohibited to be brought in from other Member States of the EU.

VIDEO RECORDINGS (MAGNETIC TAPE/DVD/CD-ROM)

The Video Recordings Act, 1989, makes provision for the control and regulation of the supply and importation or bringing in of video recordings. The Act empowers the Official Censor to prohibit the importation of certain video recordings.

The Act also empowers the Minister for Justice and Law Reform to issue a permit authorising a specified person to import or bring into the State a specified number of video recordings containing a specified video work in respect of which a prohibition order is in force.

The Act, defines **video recording** as any disc or magnetic tape containing information by the use of which the whole or a part of a video work may be produced. **Video work** is defined as any series of visual images (whether with or without sound)

- (a) produced, whether electronically or by other means, by the use of information contained on any disc or magnetic tape, and
- (b) shown as a moving picture.

Thus, the provisions applicable to video recordings set out hereunder also apply to CD-ROMs and DVDs (Digital Versatile Disks).

Intra Community Movement

Video recordings brought in from other Member States of the EU are subject to the same prohibitions as videos imported from non-EU countries and, accordingly, they are liable to seizure under Section 202 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876.

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

The bringing in of Child Pornography into the State from other EU Member States is prohibited under The Child Trafficking and Pornography Act, 1998.

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND NUCLEAR DEVICES

Items being transported from within the European Union require the completion of the Standard shipping declaration document pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1493/93 for shipment of sealed sources between Member States of the European Community. This shall be completed by the consignee and stamped by the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII) in advance of the shipment(s).

For more information on radioactive sources, refer to the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland website: www.rpii.ie or telephone RPII on 01 269 7766.

STAMPS

The bringing in from other EU Member States of fictitious stamps and any die, plate, instrument or materials for making any such stamps is prohibited [Revenue Act, 1898,S.1 (1), Post Office Act, 1908,S.65].

TOBACCO

Unmanufactured tobacco may not be brought in from another EU Member State, without prior permission of the Revenue Commissioners, unless by a licensed manufacturer of tobacco products. Queries should be directed to:

Office of the Revenue Commissioners,
Indirect Taxes Division,
Excise Branch,
Stamping Building,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2.

Telephone: 01 - 6748051

TOBACCO PRODUCTS - ORAL/SMOKELESS

Oral/smokeless tobacco products, being products or substances made wholly or partly from tobacco, which are intended for use, unlit, by being placed in the mouth and kept there for a period, or by being placed in the mouth and sucked or chewed are prohibited to be brought in from other EU Member States [Tobacco (Health and Children, Promotion and Protection) Act, 1988].

CITES

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between Governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government is designated as the CITES Management Authority in Ireland. The duties and functions of the Management Authority are carried out by:

Cites Management Authority - Ireland
National Parks and Wildlife Service,
The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government,
7 Ely Place,
Dublin 2.
Telephone: (01) 888 3235 or (01) 888 3074
Email: cites@environ.ie
Website: www.npws.ie

WASTE (TRANSFRONTIER SHIPMENT)

Shipments of waste are subject to a range of regulatory controls.

Links to the EU and Irish regulations that apply, i.e.

- [Waste Management \(Shipments of Waste\) Regulations 2007 \(S.I. No. 419 of 2007\)](#)
- [Regulation \(EC\) No. 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste](#)

All waste shipments are subject to the general requirements of the provisions of Regulation (EC) 1013/2006 on shipments of waste.

Where the waste is being moved within the EU, the procedures are different from those that apply if it is being moved out of or into the EU or to and from OECD countries.

Where controls apply to movements of waste, the written permission of Dublin City Council is needed before moving the waste. Queries can be directed to:

National TFS Office,
Eblana House,
Dublin City Council,
68-71 Marrowbone Lane,
Dublin 8.
Telephone (01) 2224235
Email: nationaltfs@dublincity.ie

Any queries in respect of Customs related matters regarding the movement of prohibited or restricted goods can be directed to:

Risk, Prohibitions and Restrictions Unit,
Customs Division,
Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary.
Telephone: 067 63441 / 63312 / 63330 / 63155
Email: RevenueCustomsProhibitionsRestrictions@revenue.ie