

# Manual on the personal importation of live animals and products of animal origin

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## 1 Introduction

Due to the risk of introducing animal disease into the EU, strict controls are placed on the importation, either in personal luggage or by post, of products of animal origin for personal consumption and live animals. The relevant legislation is referenced at Section 5 of this manual.

In this manual, the term 'importation' means the movement of goods and live animals into Ireland from countries outside the EU.

## 2 Prohibition/Restriction

### 2.1 Products of animal origin

The importation of products of animal origin which form part of travellers' luggage is prohibited. Similarly, such products that are sent as small consignments to private persons or that are ordered remotely (for example by mail, by telephone or via the Internet) and delivered to the consumer, are also prohibited. However, limited derogations are applicable and details of these are set out at [Annex 1](#).

This prohibition does not apply to products imported from the following countries: Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland

### 2.2 Live animals

The importation of all live animals (including pets and birds), either in personal luggage or through postal hubs, is restricted and prior approval must be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine before entering the State.

However, this restriction does not apply to importations from Andorra, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland and Vatican.

Live animals may be imported only at Dublin Airport and Shannon Airport.

## 3 Action Required

### 3.1 Products of animal origin

Where customs identify prohibited products and a DAFM officer is available the following actions should be taken:

- Seize the products, place in a leak proof plastic bag and hand over to the local DAFM officer
- Record the seizure on C-NET and tick the box headed "Transferred to Agriculture"

Issue a Receipt of Seizure to the importer on request.

Where customs identify prohibited products and a DAFM officer is not available the following actions should be taken:

### 3.1.1 Mail Centres

- Seize the products
- Place the products in sealed leak proof plastic packaging, and label it:  
**Category 2 Material - Not For Animal Consumption**
- Record the details of the seizure on C-NET and tick the box headed “Transferred to Agriculture”
- Record the details of the seizure on the **Form C2** (sample at [Annex 2](#)) and fax to 01 6787360 for the attention of Ronan Halpin SVI.
- Place the seized products in the DAFM freezer for collection by the DAFM Veterinary Inspector. See [Annex 3](#) for contact details.
- A Commercial Document (sample at [Annex 3](#)) is required to move with the product from the point of seizure to the knackery under Commission Regulation (EU) 142/2011. Complete and sign the relevant parts as consignor and retain a copy.

Arrange for collection by DAFM of the product and commercial document

### 3.1.2 Other locations

- Seize the product
- Place the products in sealed leak proof plastic packaging, and label it:  
**Category 2 Material - Not For Animal Consumption**
- Issue a Receipt of Seizure to the importer on request.
- Record the details of the seizure on C-NET and tick the box headed “Transferred to Agriculture”
- Record the details of the seizure on the **Form C2** (sample at [Annex 2](#)) and as agreed locally, make available the completed C2 to the local DAFM office.

Place the seized product in the DAFM bin.

### 3.2 Live animals and Birds

Where Customs identify live animals or birds being imported, the following actions should be taken:

- Contact the Veterinary Inspector on duty at the airport or the nearest District Veterinary Office. While awaiting the arrival of the Veterinary Inspector place the animal in the location as specified under local arrangements with DAFM.
- On arrival of the Veterinary Inspector, hand over any accompanying documentation to DAFM.
- In addition and in the case of animals other than dogs, cats and birds contact National CITES Liaison Office to notify details.  
Email: [rcpr@revenue.ie](mailto:rcpr@revenue.ie)

## 4 List of Contacts

### **DAFM Headquarters**

Ronan Halpin SVI, NDCC, Veterinary International  
Ph: 065 6866329

### **Customs Prohibitions & Restrictions Unit**

Ph: 01 6744322  
[rcpr@revenue.ie](mailto:rcpr@revenue.ie)

## 5 Related Documents

[Customs Act 2015](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 206/2009](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 136/2004](#)

[Council Directive 97/78/EC](#)

[Council Directive 2002/99/EC](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) No 142/2011](#)

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) No. 576/2013](#)

[Commission Decision 2007/25/EC as amended by Commission Decision 2012/248/EU](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 289 of 1994](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 292 of 2000](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 7 of 2012](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 96 of 2007](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 305 of 2012](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 374 of 2012](#)

**DEROGATIONS FROM THIS PROHIBITION**

	<b>Faroe Islands &amp; Iceland</b>	<b>Croatia &amp; Greenland</b>	<b>Other Countries</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- bread, cakes, biscuits, chocolate and confectionery (including sweets) not mixed or filled with meat product</li> <li>- food supplements packaged for the final consumer containing small amounts of animal products</li> <li>- meat extracts and meat concentrates</li> <li>- olives stuffed with fish</li> <li>- pasta and noodles not mixed or filled with meat product</li> <li>- soup stocks and flavourings packaged for the final consumer</li> <li>- any other food product not containing any fresh or processed meat or dairy and with less than 50% of processed egg or fishery products</li> <li>- bread, cakes, biscuits, chocolate and confectionery (including sweets) not mixed or filled with meat product</li> </ul>	Derogated	Derogated	Derogated
powdered infant milk, infant food, and special foods required for medical reasons*	10kg	10kg	2kg
pet feed required for medical reasons*	10kg	10kg	2kg
fishery products (including fresh eviscerated fish)	Derogated	20 kg or one fish whichever weight is highest	
other animal products such as honey, live oysters, live mussels and snails for example	10kg	10kg	2kg
caviar of sturgeon species	a maximum of 125 grams per person in containers individually marked by means of a non-reusable CITES label		
rainsticks of cacti	up to three per person may be imported		
dead worked specimens of crocodile, excluding meat and hunting trophies	up to four per person may be imported		
shells of queen conch	up to three per person may be imported		
dead seahorses	up to four dead specimens per person may be imported		
shells of giant clams	up to three specimens per person (not exceeding 3kg in total), a specimen may be one intact shell or two matching halves		

\* The product does not require refrigeration before consumption, it is a packaged proprietary brand product, and the packaging is unbroken unless in current use

**ANNEX 2**

**Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Non-compliant product confiscated on arrival in Ireland**

**C2**

Officer Name	Date	Customs detected Y/N	Country from which product/passenger arrived	EC country *Y/N	Commercial Freight Y/N	Hub Airport	Product <small>Best approximation of type e.g. Salami = pork meat product</small>	Wt. Kgs. <small>(to 1 decimal)</small>
	_/_/___						Milk & milk products	
For postal sorting office confiscation name and address of consignee. For * EC seizure state reason.			----- ----- -----				Eggs & egg products.	
							Fish, honey, snails, frogs legs etc	
							Poultry meat & its products	
							Pork meat & its products	
							Other meat & its products	
	_/_/___						Bush meat	
For postal sorting office confiscation name and address of consignee. For * EC seizure state reason.			----- ----- -----				Milk & milk products	
							Eggs & egg products.	
							Fish, honey, snails, frogs legs etc	
							Poultry meat & its products	
							Pork meat & its products	
	_/_/___						Bush meat	
For postal sorting office confiscation name and address of consignee. For * EC seizure state reason.			----- ----- -----				Milk & milk products	
							Eggs & egg products.	
							Fish, honey, snails, frogs legs etc	
							Poultry meat & its products	
							Pork meat & its products	
							Other meat & its products	
							Bush meat	

When completed please Fax this form to 016787360 for the attention of Ronan Halpin . In the case of queries in relation to the procedure contact: Ronan Halpin

Entered on database on: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annex 3**

**Sample Commercial Document**

**COMMERCIAL DOCUMENT**  
*Commercial Document for the transportation within Ireland of animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009*

Serial Number  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 20

<b>Consignor</b> (name and address in full of the officer of the Revenue Commissioners) ..... ..... .....	<b>Consignee</b> (name and address in full of the Knackery to which the goods are consigned)of destination ..... ..... .....
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<b>Carrier, means of transport</b> Carrier (name and address in full of the Authorised officer of the Department of Agriculture ,Food & Marine) ..... ..... Registration number of vehicle:.....	<b>Quantity/Identification of consignment</b> Weight of ABP's (kgs) <b>or</b> number of ABP's (e.g. 3 heads)..... Date of despatch:..... Container Number (if applicable):..... Number of seals (if applicable):.....
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Description of the animal by-products or derived products
The category of animal by-products or derived products,
<b>Category 2 Material – ‘Not For Animal Consumption’</b>
The description of animal by-products or derived products e.g. rendered fats, processed animal protein, etc:
<b>Illegally imported products of animal origin seized from personal baggage or consignments.</b>

**Declaration by the Consignor.** I, the consignor, declare that the information provided by me in sections 1 to 5 is correct and that the consignment is being transported in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature) (date)

**Officer of the Revenue Commissioners (consignor)**

**Declaration by the Carrier.** I, the carrier, declare that I have collected the material described above and that it is being transported to the consignee, at section 2 above, in accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature) (date)

**Authorised Officer of DAFM , DVO (carrier)**

**Declaration by the Consignee.** I confirm that I have received the materials described at 4 and 5 above.

\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
 (signature) (date)