

Importation of plants and plant products

Document last reviewed May 2019

Enquiries concerning this Instruction:

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1. Introduction

Consignments of plants and plant products must undergo controls before their entry into free circulation is permitted and [Council Directive \(EU\) 2000/29](#) provides for the control of such products being imported into the EU. In Ireland, the competent authority for carrying out these controls is DAFM (Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine). Revenue's Customs Service assists in the implementation of these controls by referring relevant consignments to DAFM for control.

For the purposes of this manual, the term 'importation' means the movement of plants and plant products into Ireland from countries other than EU Members States.

2. Prohibition / Restriction

Consignments of plants and plant products must be imported at an approved BIP (Border Inspection Post). In Ireland, the following locations are designated and approved as BIPs for the purposes of plants and plant products:

- Dublin Port
- Dublin Airport

Official controls on relevant consignments must be carried out at the BIPs by DAFM before entry into free circulation is allowed. A list of DAFM contacts can be found in the Annex to this manual.

Where there is an attempt to import plants or plant products at an entry point other than an approved BIP, Customs should detain the consignment and inform DAFM who will advise the importer of the correct procedure to follow. Customs will be kept informed of the outcome by DAFM.

3. Action Required

To assist in the identification of consignments requiring control by DAFM profiles have been entered onto the AEP system. These consignments cannot be cleared for importation by Customs unless DAFM indicates that it is in order to do so.

When a profile is activated, staff should take account of the instruction associated with the profile. The following procedures will apply:

- Contact the local DAFM office and refer the consignment so that BIP control can be carried out. Contact details are set out in the Annex to this manual
- DAFM will notify Customs by means of a Clearance Certificate when all controls have been completed. This notification will issue either by fax or e-mail
- the consignment should be released by Customs for entry into free circulation where the Clearance Certificate indicates that the consignment is compliant and Customs has completed their own checks
- in the event that a consignment is non-compliant, an email or fax will be sent to Customs indicating this. Furthermore, DAFM will contact Customs to confirm that the consignment cannot be released for free circulation and to explain the next steps regarding the consignment e.g. re-export/destruction. Customs should note these control results in the findings section of AEP.

4. Risk Information Form

The RIF (Risk Information Form), which is part of CRMS (Customs Risk Management System) should be used by staff to inform Customs authorities of other Member States of any significant irregularities which have come to light in respect of the importation of plants and plant products. For further information on CRMS / RIF staff should contact:

Customs Risk Management Unit

Email: customsriskunitgroup@revenue.ie

5. Contact Details - Customs

Any general questions on this manual should be directed to:

Customs Prohibitions & Restrictions Unit

Ph: 01 6744342

rcpr@revenue.ie

6. Related Documents

[Council Directive 2000/29](#)

[Customs Act, 2015](#)

ANNEX

LOCATION	CONTACT NAME	CONTACT DETAILS	EMAIL ADDRESS
Dublin Port	Michael O Donovan	087-6477201	michaelf.odonovan@agriculture.gov.ie
	Liam Foley	086-8552785	liam.foley@agriculture.gov.ie
	Con Collis	087-6763891	cona.collis@agriculture.gov.ie
	Laurence Cosgrove	086-8558571	laurence.cosgrove@agriculture.gov.ie
	Liam Brennan	086-6054939	liam.brennan@agriculture.gov.ie
Dublin Airport	Hugh Scanlon	086-8274048	hugh.scanlon@agriculture.gov.ie
	Con Collis	087-6763891	cona.collis@agriculture.gov.ie
	Liam Brennan	086-6054939	liam.brennan@agriculture.gov.ie