

Manual on the commercial importation of live animals
and products of animal origin

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A more recent version of this manual is available.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Animals and products of animal origin, including hay and straw, being imported into the EU must undergo controls before entry into free circulation is permitted (see Paragraph 3 for relevant legislation). In Ireland, the competent authority for carrying out these controls is the DAF&M (Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine). Revenue's Customs Service assists in the implementation of these controls by referring relevant consignments to DAF&M prior to release for entry into free circulation.

For the purposes of this legislation, the term 'importation' means the movement of goods and live animals into Ireland from countries other than EU Members States, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino or Switzerland and in the case of fishery products, the Faroe Islands or Iceland.

2. PROHIBITION/RESTRICTION

Consignments of live animals and products of animal origin being brought into the EU must be imported at an approved BIP (Border Inspection Post). The following locations are designated as BIPs and only those products/animals listed can be imported through these stations:

- **Dublin Port** - packed products of animal origin only
- **Dublin Airport** – horses only
- **Shannon Airport** - packed products of animal origin, horses, cattle, sheep, pigs and goats

Official controls on relevant consignments must be carried out at the BIPs by DAF&M before entry into free circulation is allowed. A list of DAF&M (BIPs) contacts can be found in the [ANNEX](#) to this manual.

Where there is an attempt to import live animals or products of animal origin at an entry point other than an approved BIP, Customs should detain the consignment and inform DAF&M. DAF&M will advise the importer of the correct procedure to follow. Customs will be kept informed of the outcome by DAF&M.

3. ACTION REQUIRED

To assist in the identification of consignments requiring control by DAF&M profiles have been entered onto the AEP system in respect of live animals and animal products. Consignments of live animals and products of animal origin cannot be cleared for importation by Customs unless DAF&M 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 DAF&M office and refer the consignment so that BIP control can be carried out. Contact details are set out in the [ANNEX](#) to this manual
- DAF&M will notify Customs by means of a completed CVED (Common Veterinary Entry Document) form 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 CVED indicates that the consignment is compliant and Customs have completed their own checks
- In the event that a consignment is non-compliant a CVED will be sent to Customs indicating this. In addition, DAF&M will contact Customs to confirm that the consignment cannot be released for free circulation and to explain what will happen to 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 live animals or products of animal origin.

For further information on CRMS/RIF staff should contact:

Nuala O'Callaghan 01-6744317

Cathal Quinn 01-6744318

Email: Customsriskunitgroup@revenue.ie

5. CACD CONTACT DETAILS

Any general questions on this manual should be directed to:

Customs Prohibitions & Restrictions Unit
rcpr@revenue.ie

01-674 4329

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Customs Act 2015

[Customs Act 1956](#)

[Customs and Excise Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1988](#)

[Commission Decision 2012/31](#)
[Council Directive 91/496](#)
[Council Directive 97/78](#)

[Statutory Instrument No. 292 of 2000](#)
[Statutory Instrument No. 289 of 1994](#)
[Statutory Instrument No 548/2003](#)
[CVED](#)

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Annex

Location	Contact e-mail	Contact number	Hours of availability	
Dublin port	Bips.DubPort@agriculture.gov.ie	01 8556250	6.00 - 21.00	6 days*
Shannon airport	Bips.ShanAirport@agriculture.gov.ie	061 471546	6.00 - 00.00	7 days
Dublin airport	Bips.DubAirport@agriculture.gov.ie	087 4178986	8.00 - 21.00	7 days
Cork Airport and Tivoli Docks	Stations are not approved as BIPs and contact details are provided in the circumstances where an attempt is made to import these restricted goods. *Closed Sunday	0872206209 Jim Hegarty Portal Veterinary Supervisor 0876182182 Frank Coughlan Senior Ship Inspector 0879069930 Martina O'Regan Ship Inspector	Office hours only Jim Hegarty may be available at other times	

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