



INFORMATION NOTE – EXPORTS TO THE UK

EXPORT OF FORESTRY PLANTS, WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS FROM IRELAND INTO THE UK IN THE CASE OF A NO-DEAL BREXIT.

Context – Plant Health Legislation

Exports of commodities from Ireland into other parts of the EU – including into the UK are currently regulated under Council Directive 2000/29/EC, commonly called the Plant Health Directive. This describes phytosanitary (“plant health”) legislation and requirements for the movement of regulated commodities, in order to prevent the introduction and spread of organisms harmful to plant and forest health.

Context – Brexit

The UK has voted to leave the EU and it will become a Third Country (non-EU Member State) from the date of withdrawal. As of the date the United Kingdom exits the European Union the regulation of export of forestry plants, wood and wood products from Ireland to the UK under the above Directive will no longer apply and will then be regulated by UK phytosanitary legislation.

If you are an exporter of wood or wood products from Ireland to the UK you should familiarize yourself with post-Brexit UK phytosanitary (plant health) import requirements which will come into force on the date of withdrawal (see link below).

In the event of a No-Deal Brexit, this comes into effect **when the UK leaves the EU.**

What you should do now

A. Establish whether the commodity you are exporting to the UK is a regulated commodity

Generally, the phytosanitary entry requirements that apply to certain forestry plants, wood and wood products depend on the species, the country of origin and the form/nature of the wood or commodity.

Regulated export commodities and requirements are defined by the country of import (UK authorities in this case) and exporters are advised to clarify UK import requirements by commodity with the UK authorities directly or through their UK customer. Further information on UK requirements is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-and-exporting-plants-and-plant-products-if-theres-no-withdrawal-deal>

A. Register with DAFM for Plant Health

Prior to exporting regulated wood and wood products from Ireland, exporters are required to register with the Department. To receive a timber importers/exporters registration form, contact:

forestprotection@agriculture.gov.ie

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Forest Health Section

3 West Agriculture House

Kildare Street

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See “Plant Health Registration” link and Application Form.



What you need to do prior to export of regulated commodities to the UK

Obtain Official Certification of the regulated commodity in Ireland from DAFM prior to export to the UK

If the commodity for export is a regulated commodity under post-Brexit UK phytosanitary (plant health) import requirements the consignment will need to be officially certified by the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) which is DAFM in Ireland and which will involve an inspection and the provision of a Phytosanitary Certificate for UK Authorities.

A. Provide the following to DAFM.

- i. Exporters should establish the import requirements for the commodity they wish to move into the UK. (This is the exporter's responsibility).
- ii. Exporters should provide a statement from the UK authorities as to whether a phytosanitary certificate is required to accompany these consignments, and if so indicate any additional declaration that needs to be included on the phytosanitary certificate (see B(iii)below).

B. Apply for a Phytosanitary Certificate

If the commodity is regulated and a Phytosanitary Certificate is required the exporter should apply to DAFM for a Phytosanitary Certificate. A phytosanitary certificate application form may be requested from forestprotection.gov.ie

- i. The importer is required to complete and submit a phytosanitary certificate application form for each consignment.
- ii. The application form should be submitted **at least** two weeks prior to a date / time suitable for inspection, and detail the location and time an inspection can be facilitated.
- iii. The application should include any additional declaration as required by the NPPO of the importing country in the appropriate field on the application (see A.ii above).
- iv. A forestry inspector will inspect the consignment at an arranged time and place for conformity to the details submitted on the application form.
- v. If the inspection is passed, the phytosanitary certificate will be issued.

The country of import may require advance notification from the importer of the intention to import which may include provision of the Phytosanitary Certificate. Current indications are that three days notice of intention to import is required by UK authorities. UK Customs procedures may also apply.

Fees

Council Directive 2000/29/EC, Annex VIIIa sets out the schedule of fees for documentary, identity and plant health checks.

Queries

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