



Trader Notice No. 04/2011

**To: Importers
Irish Grain and Feed Association**

30th March, 2011

**Commission Regulation (EC) No 669/2009 on increased level of official controls on imports
of certain feed and food of non-animal origin**

Background:

EU Commission Regulation 669/2009 sets out the specific rules governing the importation, into the EU, of certain food and feed products, classified as presenting additional risks to the food chain, and lists the particular food and feed products involved. These controls came into effect on 25th January 2010.

The list of products (Annex I to the Regulation) can be added to or deleted from on a quarterly basis by the European Commission. The most recent revision to Annex I is set out in Regulation (EC) No. 187/2011. The product on the list that is of relevance to animal feed is groundnuts for feed imported from Argentina, Brazil, Ghana, India and South Africa. Trace elements for feed imported from China and groundnuts from Vietnam have been removed from the Annex with effect from 01 March 2011.

Procedures:

As an importer of feed materials you are advised that if you propose to import any of the listed products from the countries of origin stated you must comply with the following procedures:

- (i). import the products via Dublin seaport, which is the designated point of entry (DPE) for the import of feed products listed in Annex I;
- (ii). submit a prior notification of the importation to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF), along the lines of the form currently being used by importers of feed materials, at least 5 days prior to the arrival of the consignment; (copy of this notification form is attached)
- (iii). complete a Common Entry Document form (CED) for each consignment being imported and submit it at least 1 day prior to the arrival of the consignment; (the form is attached to the above Regulation);
- (iv). refrain from splitting the consignments until all of the official controls have been carried out at the port of entry and the CED form has been endorsed by DAFF; and
- (v). arrange sufficient human resources and logistics to facilitate the unloading of the consignment in order for the official controls to be carried out. This will only be necessary if the consignment has been selected by DAFF for physical checks and sampling.

All consignments of the listed feed products will be detained by Custom officials at the designated port of entry until DAFF officials have carried out the required checks. A documentary check will be carried out on all consignments and an identity and physical check (including sampling and analysis) will be carried out on a certain percentage of the consignments at the frequency specified in Annex I. In the case of consignments selected for documentary check, only these consignments can be released into free circulation once DAFF confirms to the Revenue's Customs Service that the documentary checks are in order. However, consignments selected for physical checks cannot be released into free circulation until the analysis results indicate the sample is in compliance with the relevant maximum permitted levels.

Fee:

The Commission Regulation allows Member States to recoup any additional costs incurred in the carrying out of the controls.

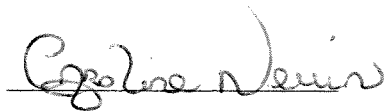
Failure to comply with the requirements set out above will be regarded as a breach of European Communities Food and Feed Hygiene Regulations 2009 (SI 432 of 2009).

Further information:

Any enquiries to John Canny (Agriculture Inspector) at 01/5058772 or john.canny@agriculture.gov.ie

Further information can be found on the Department's website at www.agriculture.gov.ie . Copies of Regulation (EC) No 669/2009 and Regulation (EC) No 187/2011 are enclosed for your information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Caroline Nevin', written over a horizontal line.

Caroline Nevin
Animal Feedingstuffs Section
Crop Policy, Production and Safety Division