



Trader Notice No. 08/2013

18 November 2013

RE: Export of Animal Feedingstuffs to non-European Union (EU) countries.

To : Manufacturers of Compound Feed,
Manufacturers of Mineral Mixtures,
Manufacturers of Nutritional Supplements,
Manufacturers of Feed Materials,
Manufacturers of Premixtures,
Manufacturers of Feed Additives,
Manufacturers of Pet Food,
Irish Grain and Feed Association.

A growing number of Irish Feed Business Operators (FBO's) export animal feedingstuffs including petfood to non-EU countries. In many cases, these FBO's are required by the importing country to supply certification to accompany their product(s). The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is the authority responsible in Ireland for the issuing of official certificates for feed exports.

In order to provide a timely and orderly facility for the issuing of certificates, the following procedures will be put in place:

1. In relation to each request for a DAFM certificate, FBOs must complete and submit the new Export Notification Form (ENF) to Animal Feed Control Group (AFCG). See Appendix 1. To download an electronic version of the ENF please go to www.agriculture.gov.ie/agri-foodindustry/feedingstuffs/feedexports/
2. FBO's should note that export certificates ***cannot be issued*** for products which have already left the country. Exporters should also note that products requiring Veterinary Certificates (see point 4 below) may require inspection by the official Veterinarian while the product is being manufactured, thus the manufacture of such products should not commence until the requirements of the importing country have been established.
3. FBO's should note that export certificates can only be provided for feedingstuffs where the FBO can demonstrate full compliance with:
 - a. EU Feed Hygiene and EU Feed Marketing Regulations (**all feeds**)
 - b. Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 as amended, lays down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE Regulation) (**all feeds**)
 - c. Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 lays down rules for the use of products of animal origin in animal feeds (Animal By-Product Regulations) (**feeds containing products of animal origin such as milk powders, whey, tallow, fish oil, fishmeal, dicalcium phosphate of animal origin etc.**). See Trader Notice 07/2013.

d. New Markets

4. In the case of 'new' markets or 'new' products (new in this context means that no company in Ireland has sent product to this country before or product has been sent to this country before but not this particular type), the ENF should be completed and submitted as soon as the FBO identifies a potential market in a non-EU country. It can take a significant period of time to establish the requirements of non-EU countries thus early notification is required. The Department would advise allowing *at least 3 months* for the requirements of new markets and new products to be established.
5. The type of certificate required may not be known at the time the market is first identified. This should not delay the submission of the ENF as it is very important that DAFM has notification of an intention to export to new markets as early as possible. Following submission of the ENF, exporters should endeavour to find out from their contact in the importing country what type of certificate is required and who is the central Competent Authority responsible for feed imports in the importing country. If possible the exporter should endeavour to clarify in writing from an official source the requirements of the importing country (both the name and the position of the official source should be provided). In the event that certificates issued by other countries are available, these should be submitted to DAFM as these are often very useful in establishing the requirements of importing countries. FBOs ***must not*** supply their 'new' market customers or authorities with examples of certificates that have been issued by DAFM to non-EU countries, without prior consultation with DAFM. Supply of DAFM certificates without consultation may lead to a situation where DAFM will not be in a position to supply the certificate required. The above additional information should be submitted to AFCG as soon as possible after the ENF has been transmitted.
6. DAFM will try to agree the format of the certificate with the Competent Authority responsible in the importing country. However, in situations where this is not possible. DAFM will provide the FBO with a certificate consistent with international trade rules. It will be the sole decision of the FBO to decide whether or not to send the product accompanied by this certificate. In such situations, DAFM will have no liability in the event the product is detained or returned. Nor will DAFM be in a position to issue a revised certificate once the product has left the country. In situations where there is not a formal agreement between Ireland and the importing country, FBOs are advised to send a draft of the proposed certificate to their contact in the importing country ***before manufacturing the product*** with a view to establishing whether the proposed certificate will meet the importing country's requirements or not. In the event the certificate does not meet the importing country's requirements, the FBO should immediately inform AFCG.

a. Existing Markets

7. In the case of 'existing' markets (existing in this context means that the particular product has been sent from Ireland to the non-EU country previously), ENF's should be submitted *at least 5 working days* in advance of the product leaving the country to ensure that the certificates can be issued in time.

8. Exporters must inform DAFM as to the type of export certification they require for their product via the ENF. The type of certificate required will depend on the requirements of the importing country. Some countries require a Health Certificate signed by a DAFM Feedingstuff Inspector while some countries may require a Veterinary Health Certificate which must be signed by a DAFM Veterinarian. Please note that Veterinary Health Certificates may require visits by the Veterinarian signing the certificate to the manufacturing plant while the product is being manufactured. Veterinary Certificates are typically required when the finished product contains products of animal origin such as milk powders, whey, tallow, fish oil, fishmeal, dicalcium phosphate of animal origin etc. However, some non-EU countries may require a Veterinary Health Certificate for products that do not contain products of animal origin.

**If you require any further information please direct enquiries to:
feedexports@agriculture.gov.ie**

Yours Sincerely,



Caroline Nevin
Animal Feed Control Group
Dept of Agriculture, Food & the Marine
Backweston Campus
Celbridge
Co Kildare