**Exporting to the United Kingdom (UK) and European Union (EU) under a ‘no deal’ Brexit scenario**

Questions and answers for New Zealand primary sector exporters

5 March 2019

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**Animal and animal products**

**Is there any change in the sanitary requirements for New Zealand exports to the United Kingdom (UK)?**

There is no change anticipated in the sanitary requirements for live animals or animal products exported from New Zealand to the UK in the medium term as a result of the UK leaving the European Union (EU).

**What is the Veterinary Agreement and what does it mean for the export of animal and animal products to the UK?**

The [UK/NZ Veterinary Agreement](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A21997A0226%2802%29) is a bilateral agreement that replicates the EU/NZ Veterinary Agreement (also known as the ‘Sanitary Agreement Applicable to Trade in Live Animals and Animal Products’).

This agreement sets out sanitary measures, recognised by each country, to protect public and animal health in respect of trade in animal products and live animals. The agreement reduces costs for exporters and provides a robust basis for trade.

The NZ/UK Veterinary Agreement will enter into force once the UK is no longer bound by EU legislation, being 29 March in a ‘no deal’ scenario or after December 2020 if a transition period (Withdrawal Agreement) is agreed.

**Will the UK continue to accept EU model certificates and premise listings for animal and animal products?**

The UK government has advised that health certificates and premise listings currently used for imports into the EU will be accepted for 6 months after the UK leaves the EU. After that, a new UK health certificate will be required.

Further information is available in the technical notice: [‘Importing animals, animal products and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin after EU exit’](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-animals-animal-products-and-high-risk-food-and-feed-not-of-animal-origin-after-eu-exit)

**Is there any change for exports of live animals and animal products not listed in the NZ/UK Veterinary Agreement?**

Existing EU sanitary requirements for live animals and animal products are expected to apply for at least the medium term following the UK exiting the EU without a withdrawal agreement.

**What is the process for adding additional establishment listings?**

The UK have advised that until further notice, they will continue to use the EU lists of approved establishments. See the UK government’s technical notice: ‘[Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS): guidance’](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/import-of-products-animals-food-and-feed-system-ipaffs-guidance)

**In a ‘no deal’ Brexit scenario the EU will not allow the UK to access the EU import notification system, TRACES. How will this be managed?**

The UK is launching a new system to replace TRACES, known as the ‘Import of products, animals, food and feed system’ (IPAFFS).

Further information on using IPAFFS is available in the UK government’s technical notice: [‘Importing animals, animal products and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin after EU exit’](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-animals-animal-products-and-high-risk-food-and-feed-not-of-animal-origin-after-eu-exit)

**Plant and plant products**

**Is there any change in the phytosanitary requirements for New Zealand exports to the UK?**

There is no change anticipated in the phytosanitary requirements for plants or plant products exported from New Zealand to the UK in the medium term as a result of the UK leaving the European Union (EU).

For plants that move to the UK via the EU, note that the EU will no longer be obliged to carry out plant health checks on regulated third country goods going to the UK. This may impact logistics and supply chains.

Further information is available in the UK government’s technical guidance document: ‘[Importing and exporting plants and plant products if the UK leaves the EU without a deal’](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/importing-and-exporting-plants-and-plant-products-if-theres-no-withdrawal-deal?utm_source=e3c7843b-15fd-49ef-9d83-4bfcba24252d&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)

**Is there any change in the phytosanitary requirements for UK imports to New Zealand?**

There is no change in the phytosanitary requirements for products imported from the UK as a result of the UK leaving the EU.

**Organics**

**Will existing agreements with the EU for organic exports from New Zealand be recognised by the UK following a ‘no deal’ Brexit?**

The New Zealand Government is working on arrangements to preserve the conditions underpinning ongoing trade in organic products with the UK. These are expected to be in place before the UK leaves the EU.

**Seafood**

**Will existing agreements with the EU for seafood catch certificates (IUU cert) from New Zealand be recognised by the UK following a ‘no deal’ Brexit?**

The New Zealand Government is working on arrangements to preserve the conditions underpinning ongoing trade in seafood products with the UK. These are expected to in place before the UK leaves the EU.

**Wine**

**Is there any change in the requirements for New Zealand wine exports to the UK?**

There is no change anticipated in the regulatory requirements for wine exports from New Zealand to the UK in the near to medium term as a result of the UK leaving the European Union (EU).

**Processed food and other primary sector products**

**Is there any change in the requirements for New Zealand processed food or other primary sector product exports to the UK?**

There is no change anticipated in the regulatory requirements for processed food or other primary sector product exports from New Zealand to the UK in the near to medium term as a result of the UK leaving the European Union (EU).

**Product labelling and packaging**

**In a ‘no deal’ Brexit, will products entering the UK after 29 March labelled with an EU address be accepted?**

The UK Government has advised that you must include a UK address for the food business operator (FBO) on pre-packaged food or caseins sold in the UK. If the FBO is not in the UK, include the address of your importer bringing the food into the UK. The statement “*The UK government is aiming wherever possible to allow a transition period for labelling changes in relation to goods produced or imported and placed on the UK market after exit day*” in their technical notice: ‘[Food labelling changes after Brexit](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-labelling-changes-after-brexit)’ suggests a pragmatic approach will be taken.

It is expected however, that the EU27 will require wholly accurate labelling to ensure market access.

**Following a ‘no deal’ Brexit will products already labelled with an EU27 address and placed on the UK market allowed to be sold?**

There will be a transition period to December 2020 for labelling changes for goods produced or imported and placed on the UK market after exit day.

See the UK Government’s technical notice: ‘[Food labelling changes after Brexit](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/food-labelling-changes-after-brexit)’ for more information.

**In the event of a ‘no deal’ Brexit will products entering the EU27 after 29 March and labelled only with a UK address be accepted?**

Products sent to an EU importer after 29 March 2019 in a ‘no deal’ Brexit scenario must have a EU27 address. As the UK will no longer be a part of the EU following a ‘no deal’ Brexit, a UK address will not be accepted.

**Tariffs**

**What tariffs will be applied by the UK when the UK leaves the EU?**

Under a ‘no-deal’ scenario, or at the end of the transition period as set out in the Withdrawal Agreement, the UK will establish its own UK Trade Tariff, detailing the import duty rates and rules that will be applicable to goods.

In nearly all cases the maximum tariff that the UK can apply is the current European Union common tariff. However, the UK has indicated that it will apply lower tariffs for some essential goods to avoid shortages. These lower tariffs are expected to be applied to imports from all countries.

The UK Government has said it will publish its applied tariffs in the coming weeks. MPI website will include a link to the relevant UK website once tariffs are published.

**What tariffs will be applied by the EU when the UK leaves the EU?**

The EU is expected to continue applying tariffs at current levels under a ‘no deal’ scenario.

However, these tariffs will also apply to UK trade which currently does not pay any tariffs. This is the level of tariff currently faced by New Zealand exporters.

The UK has indicated that it may apply lower tariffs for some essential goods to avoid shortages. These lower tariffs are expected to be applied to imports from all countries.

**Tariff rate quotas**

**I am unsure how existing EU quotas for meat and dairy products will operate when the UK leaves the EU. What does this mean for me?**

New Zealand’s main dairy and meat exports in the EU market are under tariff rate quotas.

Access to country specific tariff quotas in the EU (including the UK) is managed by the New Zealand Meat Board (for high-quality beef and sheep meat) and MPI (for butter, cheddar cheese, and cheese for processing).

The UK and EU notified WTO members of their proposal to split the EU’s current WTO bound tariff rate quotas following Brexit. New Zealand and other countries that trade into quotas have made it clear this approach is unacceptable as it would reduce exporters’ current access by removing their flexibility to respond to changes in market demand between the UK and EU27 markets.

The New Zealand Government is working to protect our current market access under the EU’s WTO tariff rate quotas. We are engaging with decision-makers in the UK and EU to stress the importance of arriving at an outcome that leaves New Zealand no worse off.

**Will existing quota export documentation be accepted by the UK?**

The UK has indicated it will continue to accept existing EU quota documentation for a period of time after 29 March 2019.

We expect that further information on UK quota administration will be released in the next few weeks. MPI’s website will be updated to include additional information from the UK.

Any questions on New Zealand’s documentation requirements for country specific quotas should be directed to:

Meat:  [info@nzmeatboard.org](mailto:info@nzmeatboard.org)

Dairy: [dairy.quota@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:dairy.quota@mpi.govt.nz)

Note that for a number of the quotas, importers must also have a valid import licence issued by an EU member state. The UK Government is providing information to importers on how import licences will be affected under a Brexit ‘no deal’ scenario.

**Pet travel**

**How will the UK leaving the EU in a no deal scenario impact travel with pet cats or dogs?**

The requirements for pet cats and dogs travelling to either the UK or the EU from New Zealand will remain the same.

However, moving cats and dogs between the UK and EU will require further testing for rabies and a three month stand down period before they can travel. Contact the UK Pet Travel Scheme Helpline (UK number: 0370 241 1710) for further guidance or see the technical notice: [Pet travel to Europe after Brexit.](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pet-travel-to-europe-after-brexit)

**Customs documentation and procedures with the UK**

Find out what Brexit means for New Zealand-UK Customs on the [New Zealand Customs Service website.](https://www.customs.govt.nz/brexit)

The New Zealand Customs Service has published [questions and answers to help businesses prepare for Brexit](https://www.customs.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/misc/brexit-qa.pdf).

If you wish to contact the New Zealand Customs Service in relation to Brexit, including if you are a New Zealand business and concerned about the impact on Brexit on your exports to the UK or the EU:

Phone 0508 BREXIT or 0508 273 948 (toll free) or email [brexit@customs.govt.nz](mailto:brexit@customs.govt.nz)

**General advice for exporters**

**Where can I get more information to help prepare for Brexit?**

The New Zealand Trade and Enterprise website has more useful information about Brexit for New Zealand businesses that export to the UK:

* [Preparing your business for Brexit](https://www.nzte.govt.nz/export-assistance/regional-resources/europe/brexit/trade)
* [Business operations and Brexit](https://www.nzte.govt.nz/export-assistance/regional-resources/europe/brexit/business-operations)
* [Export logistics and Brexit](https://www.nzte.govt.nz/export-assistance/regional-resources/europe/brexit/export-logistics)

**What information is the UK Government providing food and beverage importers?**

The UK Government has technical information to help importers prepare for a possible ‘no deal’ Brexit.

* [The food and drink sector and preparing for EU Exit](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-food-and-drink-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit?utm_source=408c4b04-0bcf-4321-b132-343e6b121a53&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate)