Adaptation of food hygiene rules for products of animal origin

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Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1141 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specific hygiene requirements for certain meat, fishery products, dairy products and eggs

What is changing and why?

In order to adapt food hygiene rules for products of animal origin according to practical experience and new scientific advice, the EU has modified Annexes II and III of Regulation 853/2004. The modifications cover:

- approval of mobile slaughterhouses, including when they complement approved permanent slaughterhouses
- extending rules about on farm slaughtering to include sheep and goats
- allowing the transport of farmed game, that is slaughtered on farm, to a game-handling establishment instead of a slaughterhouse
- new requirements for production of dry-aged meat
- maximum time of 96 hours during which the temperature of fish can be increased to facilitate slicing and cutting (with no storage and or transport at the temporary increased temperature)
- alternative test to demonstrate the effectiveness of heat treatments of milk from herds not officially free of brucellosis and tuberculosis, when the alkaline phosphatase test is not suitable
- flavouring of eggs is permitted, except where it hides any pre-existing abnormal odour.

Actions

The Regulation opens new opportunities for:

- demonstrating the effectiveness of heat treatments for milk
- flavouring eggs.

It lays down specific conditions for:

- dry-aged meat
- temperature adaptation for slicing and cutting fishery products.

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It clarifies that mobile slaughterhouses must be approved in every country where they operate, both within and outside the EU.

Authorities in non-EU countries that export dry-aged meat and fishery products (sliced or cut) must guarantee that animal products exported to the EU comply with the revised Regulation 853/2004 when signing the official certificate.

Timeline

Date of application: **9 May 2024**.

Date of application for dry-aged meat: **9 November 2024**.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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