Animal Health Law evaluation: Call for evidence

Published by AGRINFO on 20 Mar 2024

EU launches call for evidence for Animal Health Law evaluation

Animal Health Law (evaluation) – Call for evidence

Update

The European Commission is evaluating the effectiveness of the Animal Health Law (Regulation 2016/429) and all its delegated and implementing acts, including Regulation 2020/692 addressing animal health requirements for non-EU countries. The aim is to publish an evaluation report by April 2026.

Impacted products

Live food-producing animals, food of animal origin

What is changing?

The European Commission has launched a call for evidence for its evaluation of the Animal Health Law and associated rules including Regulation 2020/692 on Animal health requirements for third countries exporting to the EU.

The evaluation will focus on the relevance, adequacy, and sustainability of the Animal Health Law and the rules based on it.

The Law's impact on trade with countries outside the EU, internal coherence, and coherence with other EU policies and programmes (such as One Health, food safety, and animal welfare) will also be taken into consideration.

The evaluation will look at opportunities for further streamlining reporting obligations and reducing the administrative burden for citizens, operators, and competent authorities.

This call for evidence will be complemented by targeted consultations, interviews, surveys, and workshops. Its results will be summarised and published.

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

Timeline

The call for evidence closed on 3 April 2024.

What are the major implications for exporting countries?

The call for evidence is open to all stakeholders, including those in non-EU countries. It is a timely opportunity to give feedback to the Commission and provide evidence that could help to improve the Regulations.

Recommended Actions

This call for evidence via the EU's Have your say webpage closed on 3 April 2024. It is the start of a wider consultation among EU stakeholders, and your input can still be relevant after that date – please email agrinfo@colead.link if you wish to contribute after 3 April.

Background

The Animal Health Law (Regulation 2016/429) applies since 21 April 2021. Its key objective is to prevent and control animal diseases that are transmissible to animals or humans, by putting into practice the principles set out in the EU's Animal Health Strategy 2007–2013: "Prevention is better than cure" (European Commission 2007) and the "One Health" principle. It ensures better disease preparedness; prevention and control of listed animal diseases; and a risk-based approach to deciding on the animal health requirements for movements of animals and animal products within the EU, and the entry of animals and animal products into the EU.

Article 282 of the Animal Health Law states that the Commission must evaluate the law and its delegated acts, and submit the results of the evaluation in a report to the European Parliament and the Council no later than 22 April 2026.

Resources

European Commission (2007) A new Animal Health Strategy for the European Union (2007–2013) where "Prevention is better than cure". Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

European Commission (2013) Executive Summary of the Impact Assessment accompanying the Document Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Animal

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*

Health.

European Commission: Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the technical and economic feasibility of introducing mandatory electronic identification of bovine animals throughout the Union.

European Commission: Audit Reports – filter for “animal health” to see results of animal health audits since the adoption of the Animal Health Law.

Sources

Animal Health Law (evaluation) – Call for evidence

Visit the AGRINFO website to view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

Disclaimer: *Under no circumstances shall COLEAD be liable for any loss, damage, liability or expense incurred or suffered that is claimed to have resulted from the use of information available on this website or any link to external sites. The use of the website is at the user’s sole risk and responsibility. This information platform was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents do not, however, reflect the views of the European Union.*

Copyright © **COLEAD 2026,** *AGRINFO is funded by the European Union and implemented by COLEAD.*