Animal health rules for non-EU countries: 2026 update

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Draft Commission Delegated Regulation as regards rules for entry into the Union, and the movement and handling after entry of consignments of certain animals, germinal products and products of animal origin

Draft Annex

What is changing and why?

Based on new scientific knowledge and the experience gained in applying Regulation 2020/692, the European Commission proposes the following changes.

- Removal of gelatine, collagen, and highly refined products from the scope of animal health requirements (animal health rules will no longer apply to these products).
- Update of the identification methods for ungulates (conventional or electronic ear tag), ratites (neck-tag or injectable transponder), and captive birds (closed-ring or injectable transponder) to align with ISO standards.
- Extending the application of specific animal health requirements in relation to horse diseases to include cases where African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, or infection with glanders, dourine or surra have been reported during certain periods; and removing these requirements where these diseases have never been reported or have been absent for 24 months (36 months in the case of glanders).
- Setting stricter rules regarding foot and mouth disease: raw meat used for the production of meat products to be exported to the EU must not come from any country or territory in which cattle are vaccinated against this disease.
- Allowing the production of dairy and egg products from products that have been submitted to risk mitigation treatments.
- For shelf-stable composite products, clarifying the rules authorising countries to produce both the dairy ingredients for these products, and the composite products themselves. The requirements depend on the risk mitigating treatment applied to the dairy ingredient (Table 1).
- Updating the risk mitigating treatments for dairy and egg products (Tables 2 and 3).
- Reviewing the information in vaccination programmes against highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).
- Updating the list of aquatic species susceptible to diseases for which EU Member States have national measures (Table 4).

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- Adding eastern oyster (Crassostrea virginica) as a vector for infection with the protozoan parasite Mikrocytos mackini (no vectors were previously identified).

Actions

The World Trade Organization consultation on this proposal closed on 18 April 2026.

Timeline

The date of application is yet to be determined.

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.

Tables & Figures

Table 1
Proposal on shelf-stable composite products: listing requirements depend on the risk mitigating treatment applied to the dairy ingredients

Risk mitigating treatment used on imported dairy product[1]	Requirements	
	Countries producing **dairy ingredients** used in shelf-stable composite products must be listed to export dairy products that:	Countries manufacturing **shelf-stable composite products** must be listed to export dairy products that:
None	Without risk mitigating treatment	With risk mitigating treatment
Mitigating treatment **A or B** (relevant to the particular species producing the milk)	With or without risk mitigating treatment	With risk mitigating treatment
Mitigating treatment **B** (for all species producing the milk)	With or without risk mitigating treatment	With or without risk mitigating treatment

[1] Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXVII.

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Table 2 Proposed changes to risk mitigating treatments for milk and dairy products	
Current treatment	Proposed treatment[1]
Sterilisation process to achieve $F_0 \geq 3$	Heat treatment (sterilisation process) to achieve minimum $F_0 = 3$
Ultra-high temperature (UHT) treatment at not less than 135°C in combination with suitable holding time	UHT treatment at minimum **132°C** for a minimum of **1 s**
High temperature short time (HTST) pasteurisation treatment at 72°C for 15 s applied twice to milk with a pH ≥ 7.0 achieving, where applicable, a negative reaction to a alkaline phosphatase test, applied immediately after the heat treatment	HTST pasteurisation treatment at a minimum of 72°C for a minimum of 15 s applied twice to milk with a pH ≥ 7.0
HTST treatment of milk with pH < 7.0	HTST pasteurisation treatment at a **minimum of 72°C for a minimum of 15 s** of milk with pH < 7.0
HTST treatment combined with another physical treatment, either: (a) lowering the pH below 6 for 1 h; or (b) additional heating to ≥ 72°C, combined with desiccation	HTST pasteurisation treatment at a **minimum of 72°C** combined with a physical treatment to achieve pH < 6 for a minimum of 1 h HTST pasteurisation treatment at a minimum of 72°C combined with desiccation
[1] In Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXVII.	
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Table 3 Proposed changes to risk mitigation treatments for egg products		
Product	Current treatment	Proposed treatment[1]
Inactivation of highly pathogenic avian influenza		
Plain or pure egg yolk	–	60°C for 288 s
Dried egg white	54.4°C for 50.4 h	54.4°C for **513 h**
Inactivation of infection with Newcastle Disease Virus		
Plain or pure egg yolk	–	61.1°C for 3 min 30 s **or** 60 °C for 6 min 12 s
Fortified egg	–	62.2°C for 3 min 30 s **or** 61.1°C for 6 min 12 s
Sugared/salted egg	–	63.3°C for 3 min 30 s **or** 62.2°C for 6 min 12 s
[1] In Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXVIII. AGRINFO www.agrinfo.eu		

Source: Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXVIII.

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Table 4
Proposed changes to list of species[1] susceptible to diseases for which EU Member States have national measures

Disease	Deletions	Additions	Other changes (e.g. reclassification)
Spring viraemia of carp (SVC)	Crucian carp (*Carassius carassius*), silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), tench (*Tinca tinca*), orfe (*Leuciscus idus*)	*Abramis brama*, *Cyprinus rubrofuscus*, *Danio rerio*, *Notemingonus crysoleucas*, *Percocypris pingi*, *Pimephales promelas*, *Rutilus kutum*, *Rutilus rutilus*	
Bacterial kidney disease (BKD)			From "Family: Salmonidae" to: *Anoplopoma fimbria*, *Lota lota*, *Notropis cornutus*, *Onchorhynchus clarkii*, *Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*, *Oncorhynchus keta*, *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, *Oncorhynchus nerka*, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, *Pimephales promelas*, *Plecoglossus altivelis*, *Salvelinus alpinus*, *Salvelinus fontinalis*, *Salvelinus namaycush*, *Salmo salar*, *Salmo trutta*, *Thymallus thymallus*
Infectious pancreatic necrosis (IPN)		*Anarhichas minor*, *Anguilla anguilla*, *Anguilla japonica*, *Brevoortia tyrannus*, *Channa striata*, *Ctenolabrus rupestris*, *Danio rerio*, *Dicentrarchus labrax*, *Esox lucius*, *Gadus morhua*, *Hippoglossus hippoglossus*, *Limanda limanda*, *Morone saxatilis*, *Merluccius merluccius*, *Microstomus kitt*, *Pleuronectes platessa*, *Scophthalmus maximus*, *Salvelinus alpinus*, *Salvelinus namaycush*	From "*Oncorhynchus* spp." to: *Oncorhynchus clarkii*, *Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*, *Oncorhynchus keta*, *Oncorhynchus kisutch*, *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, *Oncorhynchus rhodurus*, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*
Infection with salmonid alphavirus (SAV)	Brown trout (*Salmo trutta*)	*Limanda limanda*, *Salvelinus alpinus*	
Infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris* (GS)			Any species that have been in contact with a susceptible species are also regarded as susceptible
Microvariant µvar of Ostreid herpes virus 1 (OsHV-1 µVar)	Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*)		

[1] The proposed list no longer contains common names for species.

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Source: Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXIX.

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