Animal health rules for non-EU countries: 2026 update

Published by AGRINFO on 05 Mar 2026; Revised 14 Aug 2026

Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2026/1052 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

What is changing and why?

Exports of animals and animal products to the European Union (EU) are subject to animal health requirements to prevent the spread of diseases. For non-EU countries, the key requirements are in Regulation 2020/692.

Regulation 2026/1052 makes the following changes to Regulation 2020/692, based on new scientific knowledge and the experience gained in applying it.

- Gelatine, collagen, and highly refined products are removed from the scope of animal health requirements (animal health rules will no longer apply to these products).
- Identification methods for ungulates (conventional or electronic ear tag), ratites (neck-tag or injectable transponder), and captive birds (closed-ring or injectable transponder) are updated to align with ISO standards.
- For horse diseases, the application of specific animal health requirements is extended to include cases where African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis, or infections with glanders, dourine, or surra have been reported during certain periods. Where these diseases have never been reported or have been absent for 24 months (36 months in the case of glanders), the new Regulation removes these requirements.
- For foot and mouth disease, the new Regulation sets stricter rules: 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.
- For shelf-stable composite products, the new Regulation clarifies 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). The risk-mitigating treatment must be applied in the country where the dairy ingredient is produced.
- The risk-mitigating treatments for dairy and egg products are updated (Tables 2 and 3).
- The information in vaccination programmes against highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is revised.
- The list of aquatic species susceptible to diseases for which EU Member States have national measures is updated (Table 4).

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

Actions

Producers of dairy and egg products should pay particular attention to the changes in risk-mitigating treatments.

Timeline

The Regulation applies from **12 August 2026**.

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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Tables & Figures

Table 1
Shelf-stable composite products containing dairy ingredients: requirements for risk-mitigating treatments[1]

Note: The need to apply risk-mitigating treatments to dairy ingredients in shelf-stable composite products depends on the status of the country where the composite product is manufactured, *and* the origin of the ingredient.		Status – composite product is manufactured in country listed to export:		
		Dairy products **without** risk-mitigating treatments[2]	Dairy products **with** risk-mitigating treatments[3]	Other animal products[4]
Origin of dairy ingredient:	EU or a country listed to export dairy products **without** risk-mitigating treatments[2]	No risk-mitigating treatment required	Risk-mitigating treatment A (relevant to the particular species producing the milk) or B (regardless of species) **required at origin**	Risk-mitigating treatment B (regardless of species) **required at origin**
	EU or a country listed to export dairy products **with** risk-mitigating treatments[3]	Risk-mitigating treatment A (relevant to the particular species producing the milk) or B (regardless of species) **required at origin**		

[1] Risk-mitigating treatments A and B are set out in Regulation 2020/692, Annex XXVII.
[2] Listed in Regulation 2021/404, Annex XVII.
[3] Listed in Regulation 2021/404, Annex XVIII.
[4] Listed under Regulation 2021/404 to export meat products (Annex XV), *or* egg products (Annex XIX); *or* under Regulation 2021/405, Annex IX to export fishery products.

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Source: Regulation 2020/692 Annex XXVII, as amended by Regulation 2026/1052

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Table 2
Changes to risk-mitigating treatments for milk and dairy products

Current treatment[1]	New treatment[2]
Sterilisation process[3] to achieve $F_0 \geq 3$	Heat treatment (sterilisation process) to achieve minimum $\boldsymbol{F_0 = 3}$
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 an alkaline phosphatase test applied immediately after the heat treatment	HTST pasteurisation treatment of milk with pH ≥ 7.0 at a minimum of **72°C** for a minimum of **15 s** applied twice
HTST treatment of milk with pH < 7.0	HTST pasteurisation treatment of milk with pH < 7.0 at a minimum of **72°C** for a minimum of **15 s**
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.
[2] As amended by Regulation 2026/1052.
[3] F_0 is a measure of the total lethal energy delivered during a moist-heat (steam) sterilisation process.

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Table 3 Changes to risk-mitigating treatments for egg products		
Product	Current treatment[1]	New treatment[2]
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 XXVII.
[2] As amended by Regulation 2026/1052.

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Table 4
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 new list no longer contains common names for species.

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