Simplification of rules on release of checked plant products by border control posts

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Proposal for a Regulation amending Regulations 999/2001, 1829/2003, 1831/2003, 852/2004, 853/2004, 396/2005, 1099/2009, 1107/2009, 528/2012, 2017/625 as regards the simplification and strengthening of food and feed safety requirements

What is changing and why?

Currently, consignments of plants and plant products that are controlled by European Union (EU) border control posts cannot be released until the entire consignment has been checked. As a consignment may contain various plant products, each requiring different lengths of time, there is a risk of delays which could lead to damage or loss of perishable products.

The European Commission proposes to allow border control posts to split consignments of plant products before completing official controls, so that each part can be released as soon as controls have been finalised.

Actions

Competent authorities of countries that are members of the World Trade Organization can submit comments on the EU's proposal by emailing the EU SPS Enquiry Point until **30 March 2026**.

All interested stakeholders are invited to give feedback via Have your say platform until **14 May 2026** (but may be extended).

Timeline

This proposal has entered a process of discussion and adoption by the Council of the EU (Member States) and the European Parliament, a process that can take up to 2 years.

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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