

# Updates to model animal/official health certificates for exports to the EU

*Published by AGRINFO on 24 Aug 2023*

EU updates the model animal/official health certificates for consistent wording

Draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403 as regards model animal health certificates, model animal health/official certificates, model declarations and official declarations for the entry into the Union of consignments of certain categories of terrestrial animals and germinal products thereof

Draft Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235 as regards model animal health certificates, model official certificates, model animal health/official certificates and private attestation, for the entry into the Union or transit through the Union of consignments of certain categories of animals and goods, and official certification regarding such certificates

## Update

The EU is reviewing the consistency of the wording of official health certificates for live animals and animal products exported to the EU.

## Impacted products

live terrestrial animals, germinal products, animal products, composite products, live fish

## What is changing?

The EU aims to correct and ensure alignment of the wording between the different model animal health certificates, and with other recent Regulations.

These changes concern all official certificate models of Regulations [2021/403](#) and [2020/2235](#) for exports to the EU.

## Why?

Some inconsistencies have been noted in recently published legislation concerning model animal health/official certificates. The EU is correcting this to ensure alignment of the wording between the various model certificates, as well as between these certificates and other recently updated Regulations (such as Regulation 2022/2292 on [Public health requirements for exporting live animals](#), and the amendments to Regulation 2020/692 on [Animal health requirements for third countries exporting to the EU](#)).

## Timeline

After publication, use of the “old certificate” will be authorised until:

- 15 September 2024 for Regulation 2020/2235
- 15 October 2024 for Regulation 2021/403.

## What are the major implications for exporting countries?

Any error in filling in the certificate may result in the rejection of consignments at the EU border. It is essential to pay attention to the information provided in the certificates, and to adapt the certificates whenever the EU regulations are updated.

## Recommended Actions

Exporters of live animals and animal products to the EU should use the updated model official certificates as soon as possible after the Regulations are published, to ensure a smooth transition to the new model before the end of the transitional period and to avoid any rejections.

## Background

Consignments of animals and animal products from third countries to the EU must be accompanied by an official health certificate. This certificate contains all the relevant information on the consignment so that it can be exported to the EU.

Model certificates and attestations are laid down as follows:

- Live terrestrial animals and germinal products: Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403
- Animal products, composite products and live fish: Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235
- Aquaculture: Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2236.

For more detail see [EU official health certificates for exports to the EU – explained](#).

## Resources

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2021/403](#)

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) [2020/2235](#)

## Sources

[Draft](#) Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/403

[Draft](#) Regulation amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235

**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.*