



**Step-by-Step Guide to
importing fishery products
and bivalve molluscs from
approved non-EU Countries
to the UK**

Reviewed: July 2015

FOR ALL QUERIES ABOUT THIS GUIDANCE — INCLUDING IF YOU REQUIRE THE INFORMATION IN AN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT SUCH AS AUDIO, LARGE PRINT OR BRAILLE — PLEASE USE THE NUMBER BELOW.

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Summary

Intended audience:	Importers
Which UK nations does this cover?	This guidance document is relevant to all countries within the UK.
Purpose:	The purpose of the guidance is to provide information to those importers wishing to import fishery products and bivalve molluscs from countries outside the EU.
Legal status:	This guidance is a combination of best practice and regulatory guidance.
Key words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish and shellfish • Food law, monitoring and controls • Imports
Review date	The guidance was last reviewed in September 2014, and will next be reviewed once regulations and information are amended.
Sunset date	Not applicable

REVISION HISTORY

This guidance follows the Government [Code of Practice on Guidance](#). If you believe this guidance breaches the Code for any reason, please let us know by emailing betterregulation@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk. If you have any comments on the guidance itself, please call us using the contact number on page 2 or complete our ongoing [Guidance survey](#): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/55QQDCG>

Revision No.	Revision date	Purpose of revision and paragraph number	Revised by
1	November 2012	Update of information – Information was outdated.	Imports & Official Controls Branch
2	May 2013	Update of information – Information was outdated.	Imports & Official Controls Branch
3	August 2013	Update of information – Information was outdated.	Imports & Official Controls Branch
4	October 2013	Update of information – Information was outdated.	Imports & Official Controls Branch
5	September 2014	Update of information – Information was outdated.	Operational Surveillance Policy
6	January 2015	Update of information – Information was outdated	Imports Branch
7	July 2015	Update of information – Information was outdated	Imports Exports Branch

Please note: This document has been updated several times previously. The November update was the first update in the new FSA Guidance template. Previous updates have not been mentioned.

CONTENTS

REVISION HISTORY	4
CONTENTS	5
INTRODUCTION	6
INTENDED AUDIENCE	6
PURPOSE OF GUIDANCE	6
LEGAL STATUS	6
CONTACTS	14

INTRODUCTION

1. This guide summarises advice on the lists of non-EU countries approved for imports of fishery products and bivalve molluscs to the UK. These are non-European Union (EU) countries that have been visited by the European Commission for hygiene checks and fishery products or bivalve molluscs are permitted to be imported from these countries as indicated to the EU under specific conditions.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

2. The guidance is aimed at importers who wish to import fishery products and bivalve molluscs from countries outside the EU into the EU.

PURPOSE OF GUIDANCE

3. The purpose of the guidance is to provide those importers who wish to import fishery products and bivalve molluscs from outside the EU with advice on the countries from which they can import these products into the UK.

LEGAL STATUS

4. These guidance notes have been produced as a signpost to certain legal requirements relating to the imports into the UK of fishery products and bivalve products from approved non-EU countries. They cannot cover every situation and you may need to consider the relevant legislation itself to see how it applies in your circumstances. If you do follow the guidance notes they will help you to comply with the law. Businesses with specific queries may wish to seek the advice of their local enforcement agency, which will usually be the trading standards/environmental health department of the local authority.

Using Tables 1 and 2

Two tables showing approved non-EU countries authorised to export to the UK are below. Table 1 applies to bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods and Table 2 applies to fishery products. All consignments of fishery products or bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods must come from authorised establishments and be accompanied by a health certificate. The health certificate for fishery products (including dead bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods) is set out in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1012/2012. The health certificate for live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods is set out in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1250/2008 (see links to Regulations in the tables). For USA and New Zealand different certification requirements apply, and Table 2 gives the link to the appropriate Commission Decision and health certificate.

Notes on further import restrictions are included.

A list of approved establishments and production areas can be found on the European Commission website at:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/non_eu_listsPerCountry_en.htm

What does your consignment contain?

If your consignment contains bivalve molluscs (these include oysters, mussels, clams, cockles and scallops), echinoderms (these include sea urchins and sea cucumbers), tunicates (these include sea squirts) or marine gastropods (these include whelks, winkles and abalone), then refer to Table 1.

If your consignment contains fishery products such as crustaceans (these include prawns, lobsters, crayfish, crabs and shrimps), all cephalopods (these include octopus, squid and cuttlefish), aquaculture products (these include farmed salmon, trout, prawns or shrimps), but not mammals such as whales, then refer to Table 2.

Important information

The import of bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods, in any form, to the UK will not be allowed from any country not on Table 1.

The import of fishery products to the UK will not be allowed from any country not on Table 2.

All consignments should be clearly and indelibly labelled showing the country of origin and the approved establishment number in accordance with Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004. Further details can be found in FIN/06/2007 at: http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/want_to_import/fisheryproducts/

Consignments of live crustaceans (lobster, crab, crayfish etc) imported to the UK for human consumption are subject to veterinary checks and health certification as laid down in Regulation (EU) 1012/2012. Consignments of live bivalve molluscs imported to the UK for human consumption are subject to veterinary checks and health certification as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1250/2008.

Further information about veterinary checks and notification of Border Inspection Posts can be found at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/beforeimporting/pointofentry>

Table 1: Approved non-EU countries authorised to export bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods to the UK

Country	Further restrictions
Australia	
Canada	
Chile	
Greenland	No aquaculture*
Jamaica	Only marine gastropods
Japan	Only frozen/processed
Morocco	
New Zealand**	
Peru	No imports of certain bivalves Only frozen/processed
South Korea	Only frozen/processed
Thailand	Only frozen/processed
Tunisia	
Turkey	Live and chilled bivalve molluscs not permitted. Frozen/processed bivalve molluscs subject to sampling at BIPs to determine level of marine biotoxins. Frozen bivalve molluscs subject to sampling at BIPs for E. coli.
Uruguay	
Vietnam	Only frozen/processed

The model health certificate for dead bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods can be found at the Annex to [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 1012/2012](#).

The model health certificate for live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods can be found at the Annex to [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 1250/2008](#).

An additional model health attestation for processed bivalve molluscs of the species *Acanthocardia Tuberculatum* is in the Annexes to Regulation (EC) No 1664/2006.

* No aquaculture: This means that the country does not have a residue plan in place and cannot export aquaculture products to the EU.

** Imports from New Zealand can be accompanied by certificates as laid down in [Commission Decision 2006/855/EC](#)

Table 2: Approved non-EU countries authorised to export fishery products to the UK (except bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods)

Country	Further restrictions
Albania	Restrictions apply to certain species of fish. See Commission Decision 2007 642 EC for further information.
Algeria	No aquaculture*
Angola	No aquaculture*
Antigua & Barbuda	Only live lobsters No aquaculture*
Argentina	
Armenia	Only live wild crayfish, or heat processed or frozen non-farmed crayfish. No aquaculture*
Australia	
Azerbaijan	Only caviar No aquaculture*
Bahamas	No aquaculture*
Bangladesh	Restrictions in place for crustaceans. See FIN 012 2011 for further information.
Belarus	
Belize	
Benin	No aquaculture*
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Saba	No aquaculture*
Bosnia & Herzegovina	
Brazil	Restrictions apply to certain species of fish. See FIN 08 2007 for further information.
Brunei	Only aquaculture products
Canada	
Cape Verde	No aquaculture*
Curaçao	No aquaculture*
Chile	
China	Restrictions apply to aquaculture products. See FIN 12 2008 for further information.
Colombia	
Congo	Only fishery products caught, gutted (where appropriate), frozen and packed in their final packaging at sea No aquaculture*
Costa Rica	

Country	Further restrictions
Cuba	
Ecuador	
Egypt	No aquaculture*
El Salvador	No aquaculture*
Eritrea	No aquaculture*. See FIN 11 2008 for further information.
Falkland Islands	No aquaculture*
Fiji	No aquaculture*
Gabon	Restrictions apply. See FIN 14 2008 for further information. No aquaculture*
Gambia	
Ghana	No aquaculture*
Greenland	No aquaculture*
Grenada	No aquaculture*
Guatemala	
Guinea	Imports suspended. See FIN Guinea and FIN Guinea2 for further information
Guyana	No aquaculture*
Honduras	
Hong Kong	No aquaculture*
India	Restrictions apply to crustaceans of aquaculture origin. See FIN 005 2010 and FIN 009 2012 for further information
Indonesia	
Iran	
Israel	See FIN 01 2009 for further information.
Ivory Coast	No aquaculture*
Jamaica	No aquaculture*
Japan	Safeguard controls in place for food, including fishery products, from Japan. See FIN 007/2012 for further information.
Kazakhstan	No aquaculture*
Kenya	No aquaculture*
Madagascar	
Malaysia	
Maldives	No aquaculture*
Mauritania	No aquaculture*

Country	Further restrictions
Mauritius	
Mayotte	
Mexico	
Moldova	Only caviar. See Decision 2014/472/EU for further information.
Morocco	
Montenegro	
Mozambique	See FIN 10 2008 for further information.
Myanmar	Only wild caught frozen fishery products (freshwater or seawater fish, shrimps and prawns). See Decision 2002/249/EC No aquaculture*
Namibia	No aquaculture*
New Caledonia	
New Zealand **	
Nicaragua	
Nigeria	No aquaculture*
Oman	No aquaculture*
Pakistan	No aquaculture* No approved establishments
Panama	
Papua New Guinea	No aquaculture*
Peru	No imports of certain bivalves. See FIN 14 2009 for further information.
Philippines	
Polynesia (French)	No aquaculture*
Russia	No aquaculture*
Saudi Arabia	
Senegal	No aquaculture*
Serbia (not including Kosovo)	Only whole fresh fish from wild seawater catches.
Seychelles	No aquaculture*
Singapore	
Sint Maarten	No aquaculture*
Solomon Islands	No aquaculture*
South Africa	No aquaculture*
South Korea	
Sri Lanka	

Country	Further restrictions
St Helena	Does not include Tristan Da Cunha and Ascension. See separate entry for Tristan Da Cunha No aquaculture*
St Pierre & Miquelon	No aquaculture*
Suriname	
Switzerland	
Taiwan	
Tanzania	
Thailand	
Togo	
Tristan Da Cunha	Only fresh or frozen lobsters No aquaculture*
Tunisia	
Turkey	
UAE	
Uganda	
Ukraine	
Uruguay	
USA***	
Venezuela	
Vietnam	
Yemen	No aquaculture*
Zimbabwe	

The model health certificates for fish and fishery products can be found at the Annex to [Commission Regulation \(EC\) No 1012/2012](#)

* No aquaculture: This means that the country does not have a residue plan in place and cannot export aquaculture products to the EU.

** Imports from New Zealand can be accompanied by certificates as laid down in [Commission Decision 2006/855/EC](#)

*** Imports from the United States can be accompanied by certificates as laid down in [Commission Decision 2006/199/EC](#)

CONTACTS

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