

Live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes

Since January 2021, **live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes** imported from the EU are subject to new import controls in line with rules for **live animals**. These include the requirement for health certification and import pre-notifications.

This Section covers all live aquatic animals that are imported for any purpose other than direct human consumption. This includes aquatic animals for the following purposes:

- aquaculture (including live shellfish for purification (depuration) prior to consumption)
- ornamental trade
- research
- restocking
- for further processing prior to human consumption

The Government has announced that new SPS controls for imports from the EU will not be introduced on 01 July 2022. Further announcements will be made in line with the announcement [here](#).

In addition to these requirements, **live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes** within the scope of **CITES-listed goods** need to meet separate import requirements as detailed in **Section 1.2.2**.

Requirements

In line with rules for live animals, imports of aquatic animals for aquaculture (including live shellfish for purification (depuration) prior to consumption) and ornamental purposes are subject to new sanitary and phytosanitary import controls following January 2021. This includes the requirement for:

- Import pre-notifications submitted by the importer in advance of arrival
- Consignments to be accompanied by a [health certificate](#)

Live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes may continue to enter at any point of entry and will now not need to enter via a point of entry with an appropriate BCP on 01 July 2022. Further announcements will be made in line with the announcement [here](#).

All importers in England and Wales must also be authorised by the Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI) at Cefas. If needed, importers should contact their respective FHI who can advise on the trade process.

Contact details for Fish Health Inspectorates are available online at:

- [Fish Health Inspectorate at Cefas](#) (England and Wales)
- [Fish Health Inspectorate at Marine Scotland](#) (Scotland)

Further details on the import process are also available [online](#).

Health certificates need to be secured by the exporter from the EU country of origin's competent authority. The relevant Fish Health Inspectorates can provide the relevant model certificates.

The GB importer must submit an import pre-notification via the Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System (IPAFFS) in advance of the goods' arrival. Traders must [register with IPAFFS](#) (see Systems below).

For live animals and germinal products, the GB importer needs to supply the EU exporter/Official Veterinarian (OV) with the unique notification number (UNN) that is produced when the importer notifies the UK's Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA) about the import. The certifying officer must add the UNN to the health certificate.

Additional requirements for endangered species

Imports of live animal species listed in the CITES, EUWTR or UKWTR annexes also need to meet CITES-related requirements as detailed for CITES goods in **Section 1.2.2**. These include the requirement for relevant EUWTR export permits from the country of departure and a UKWTR import permit issued by APHA.

Systems

Importers need to [register for IPAFFS](#).

Locations of checks

Following January 2021, Live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes from the EU continue to enter at any point of entry and will now not need to enter via a point of entry with an appropriate BCP on 01 July 2022. Further announcements will be made in line with the announcement [here](#).

1.2.3 Process Map: Live aquatic animals for aquaculture and ornamental purposes

