



General News

Brexit Update – Current Border Arrangements Still Apply From 1 January 2022

On 14 September, the UK Government announced the introduction of controls on incoming goods to Great Britain that would apply from 1 January 2022. These controls relate mostly to customs, Sanitary and Phytosanitary controls and safety and security declarations. However, it was announced in a statement made by the UK on 15 December 2021 that **‘goods moving from the island of Ireland directly to Great Britain will continue to do so on the basis of the arrangements that apply currently**, until further notice; and will not, for now, be affected by the changes being introduced on 1 January for all other inbound goods. The UK has cited the ‘wider uncertainty and complexity, and the undesirability of bringing in new changes while the Northern Ireland Protocol arrangements themselves remain unsettled’ but the press is reporting the lack of preparation on the GB side as another reason behind the decision. DAFM has emphasised that these changes have been postponed and not cancelled but a future timetable is unclear as yet. DAFM has provided more detail on agri-food goods, based on information from the UK Government. It is available [here](#).

EU French Presidency - January to June 2022

The French take over the Presidency of the EU for the first half of 2022 and unveiled their priorities in December. On agriculture they will focus on climate issues with a particular focus on fighting deforestation. President Macron said they will work on stopping the import of goods that contribute to deforestation but that our “economic players can’t be the victims of efforts” to tackle climate change. He added that “the same rules applied to EU producers should be imposed on imports”. There will be renewed efforts on an EU-wide protein plan to increase EU protein self-sufficiency and the President pointed to the fact that France published a national protein plan at the end of 2020 aiming to increase the production of plant protein by 40% in the next three years. The French will also prioritise implementing the carbon adjustment mechanism (or the carbon “tax”) at EU borders to “preserve our competitiveness”. Ensuring member states deliver their draft CAP strategic plans is also on the agenda.

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WHAT'S ON

- Teagasc Jan events [read more](#)
- Jan 12 Diploma in Leadership for the Food & Agriculture sectors [read more](#)
- Jan 19 Insects in animal feed on line conference [read more](#)
- Signpost Series Webinars - Teagasc | Agriculture and Food Development Authority [read more](#)

DAFM TRADER NOTICES 2021

- [01/2021](#) [02/2021](#)
- [03/2021](#) [04/2021](#)
- [05/2021](#) [06/2021](#)
- [07/2021](#) [08/2021](#)
- [09/2021](#) [10/2021](#)

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FEFAC Statistical Yearbook on Feed & Food Published

Compound feed production in the EU in 2020 reached 150.2 mt., an increase of 1.3% compared to 2019, according to data provided by FEFAC members. The FEFAC statistical yearbook contains data for calendar year 2020 on feed (compound feed production, feed materials consumption, turnover, number of plants, share of feed in intermediate consumption, etc.) and food (meat production, consumption, etc.). It can be downloaded [here](#)



Sustainability

Ireland's Draft Nitrates Action Programme (NAP) published

[Ireland's draft nitrates action programme](#) was published online on 15 December after two consultation rounds earlier this year. The document outlines the measures to be taken by the industry to help improve water quality and achieve other environmental goals. New measures will be introduced (pages 21-30), many of which differ in the detail from those proposed in the 2nd consultation round in August. These measures cover a wide range of issues including slurry and soiled water storage and management, soil testing and low emission slurry spreading.

One of the controversial topics in the consultation was the proposal to allocate an excretion factor to dairy cows based on milk yield (details on page 25). This proposed banding system (below) remains unchanged from the consultation but it will now be introduced from 1 January 2023 and 'the Minister shall consider a review of excretion rate methodologies in line with the interim review in Q3 2023 of the Nitrates Action Programme'

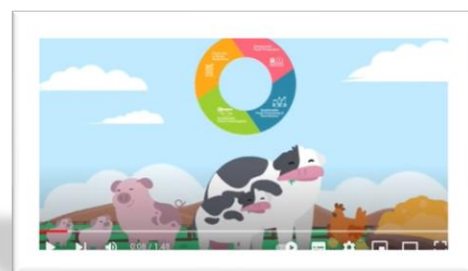
Band 1	Band 2	Band 3
<4,500kg – 80 kg N/ha	4,501 and 6,500kg, - 92 kg N/ha	>6,500kg – 106 kg N/ha

The programme also says however that 'The calculation of Organic N production on each individual holding using the new excretion rate bands shall be calculated on a rolling 3-year average. The first calculation period for farmers is 2020-2022, inclusive. From the start of 2023, this new methodology shall be employed to calculate annual N production on farms.'

The final measure introduced in the plan relates to crude protein in concentrate feeds. It says that '**From 1st January 2022, on holdings with grassland stocking rates of 130kg N per hectare from grazing livestock manure or above prior to export of livestock manure from the holding, a maximum crude protein content of 15% is permissible in concentrate feedstuff fed to grazing livestock on the holding between 15 April and 30 September**'. IGFA has been informed that further information and guidance on this will be available in the New Year.

Food Recycling

[EFFPA](#) (European Former Foodstuffs Processing Association) published a [video](#) to explain former foodstuff processing. In this process, food losses emerging at food manufacturer and retail level are processed as feed ingredients for food-producing animals. Former foodstuffs include bread, pasta and confectionery. EFFPA members plan to allocate funds for a study that would make a sustainability comparison between the use of former foodstuffs in feed against its use in biogas. EFFPA has accepted the offer by GMP+ to take a seat in its International Expert Committee on Animal Feed.



Animal Health

Trend in Food-Borne Zoonosis in 2020

The number of human cases of illness caused by Salmonella decreased by almost 47% in 2020 compared to 2019. The most common sources of salmonellosis outbreaks were eggs and egg products. Salmonellosis however remains the second most reported zoonotic disease in the EU, affecting about 53,000 people. Campylobacteriosis remains the number one with 121,000 human cases but has also decreased as there were 200,000 cases reported for previous years. A similar trend was reported for all zoonosis. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) explain this is due to changes in health seeking behaviour, restrictions on travel and events, the closing of restaurants, quarantine, lockdown, and other Covid-19 related mitigation measures such as the use of masks, physical distancing and hand sanitisation. For more info see the latest [report on zoonotic diseases](#) by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the ECDC. EFSA data on the occurrence of Salmonella in feed shows a dramatic drop in 2020 with an incidence of 0.67 % of Salmonella-positive units in all feed for food-producing animals. This compares to 2.46% in 2019, 0.93% in 2018 and 1.32% in 2017. This is a -73%

decrease vs. 2019, which was a rather high incidence year and -28% vs. 2018. This evolution is also consistent with the -50% in the number of RASFF notifications for Salmonella in feed for farm animals.

Avian Influenza (Bird flu)

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5N1 continues to affect poultry flocks and wild birds here. There remains significant risk of further outbreaks and strict biosecurity is vital on all poultry and captive bird holdings. See Trader notice [05/2021](#)

National Summary of Avian Influenza (1st Jan 2021 to December 16 2021 reference National Disease Control Centre)

DATE H5N1 CONFIRMED	LOCATION	ENTERPRISE
20th November 2021	South Co. Monaghan	Commercial Turkey Fattening Enterprise
23rd November 2021	South Co. Monaghan	Commercial Broiler Breeder Flock
30th November 2021	North Co. Monaghan	Commercial caged layers
7th December 2021	North Co. Cavan	Commercial Turkey Fattening Enterprise
12th December 2021	North Co. Monaghan	Commercial fattening ducks

For more information see [Avian Influenza Update 10 December 2021](#)

Technical News

Medicated Feed

The New Veterinary Medicinal Regulation 2019/6 and Medicated Feed Regulation 2019/4 will come into effect on **28 January 2022**. The requirement for prescriptions for anti-parasitic medicines has however been deferred until **1 June 2022**. The mandatory requirement to use the National veterinary prescription system (NVPS) has also been deferred until 1 June 2022. Veterinary practitioners can continue to issue paper-based prescriptions until then but they have to be in the new format. The NVPS will be available for voluntary use by vets from the end of January onwards – to ensure that prescribers and dispensers are familiar with the system when its use becomes compulsory. DAFM also recommend they start to use it in January as the new script format is laid out in it. It is expected that the new SI which will replace Irish Regulation (SI No. 176/1994) - “animal remedies and medicated feedingstuff” will be published in January 2022. The registration for NVPS will open end of December/early Jan (for vets and medicated feed mills). Training/informational videos will be available from DAFM in the coming weeks but certainly by the first 2 weeks of January. Acceptable carryover to non-target feed has still not been agreed (waiting on EFSA to finalise studies). Until this is done it is up to member states to decide what is acceptable.

iNAP Animal Health Implementation Committee

IGFA attended the 15th meeting of iNAP Animal Health Implementation Committee in December. A presentation on National trends in the Sales of Antimicrobials was given by Gavin Ryan, HPRA (Health Products Regulatory Authority). Gavin outlined that sales of veterinary antibiotics increased in 2020 by approx. 15.6 tonnes when compared to the previous year.

Sales (tonnes sold) of veterinary antibiotics for the years 2013 - 2020

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
99.1	89.4	96.9	103.4	99.7	99.4	88.3	103.9

Factors that could have played a role in the increases observed include over-purchasing of antimicrobial medicines in advance of Brexit on 31 December 2020 in order to ensure adequate stock in the first quarter of 2021 and the increase in the national herd in recent years.

- The majority of this increase can be attributed to an increase in the reported sales of penicillins and tetracyclines.
- Sales of sulphonamides in combination with trimethoprim decreased.
- The proportion of pharmaceutical forms (i.e. presentations of product) supplied to the market remained similar to previous years. Orally administered animal remedies accounted for 68.1% of all antibiotic sales, with the majority intended for use in feed and water.

Pharmaceutical form breakdown of veterinary antibiotics sold in 2020 in Ireland	
Intramammary Dry Cow	2.70%
Intramammary Milking	0.50%
Other	0.05%
Injectables	28.60%
Tablet	0.90%
Premix	35.60%
Oral Remedy	31.40%

Use of the NVPS should provide more accurate information in the future as it will relate to usage rather than sales and will provide more details on where usage has increased or decreased on a farm-by-farm basis.

Where does Ireland rank in terms of Europe?

The data was measured in mg/ Population Correction Unit (PCU) and takes into account the animal population as well as the estimated weight of each particular animal at the time of treatment with antibiotics. Cyprus is the highest at 393.9 mg/PCU and second highest is Poland at 187.9. Norway and Iceland are lowest at 2.3 and 3.8 respectively. Ireland is at 47 mg/PCU.

For more info see [Sales of veterinary antibiotics in Ireland during 2020](#) and [European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption](#)

Pesticides - Over 400 Submissions to Glyphosate Consultation

The parallel consultations on glyphosate held by EFSA and ECHA (EU chemical safety agency) closed on 22 November 2021. During the two-month consultation, all interested parties had access to the scientific evaluations prepared by the national competent authorities of Hungary, France, the Netherlands and Sweden. 416 submissions were received through the two consultations from within and outside the EU. The majority of the submissions from third countries came from Argentina (144), while 125 submissions were received from France. These submissions are publicly available and can be found on the [EFSA](#) and [ECHA](#) websites. The next step is for Committee for Risk Assessment (RAC) within ECHA to develop its opinion on the classification of glyphosate under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation. This is expected in May/June 2022. This opinion is passed to EFSA who take the opinion into account when doing its Risk assessment. It is expected the EFSA opinion may appear second half of 2022. The public can be reassured that the scientific risk assessment is thorough, independent and transparent. It is still not clear how member states will vote at SCoPAFF level.

Outcome of the SCoPAFF meeting on 13-14 December 2021

EU Catalogue of feed materials: A lot of the meeting was focused on finalising discussions on the proposal for an update of the EU Catalogue of feed materials. It is expected the publication of the new catalogue will take place around May 2022.

Ethylene Oxide After several exchanges between the EU Commission, FEFANA, FEFAC and national authorities, the SCoPAFF members asked the EU Commission to establish specific limits for choline chloride and compound feed containing choline chloride. It is acknowledged that for choline chloride, a maximum level for ETOsum is set at 40 ppm (Note: when the measurement of uncertainty of 50% is applied, analysis up to 80 ppm should be considered compliant). In the case of non-compliant additive/feed material, compound/complete feed exceeding a level of 0.02 mg/kg ETOsum these products **would not** have to be withdrawn from the market on the condition that the fraction of ETOsum above 0.02 mg/kg can be attributed to the use of choline chloride (maximum level of 40 mg/kg). In the event of a positive found during routine official controls, the max limit on compound feed should be calculated taking into account the respective limits and inclusion rate in compound feed of each ingredient. It is expected that the amended version of the minutes of the meeting on October 4th will be published within the next few days and will also be included in the minutes of the SCoPAFF. IGFA will make these updates minutes available to members.

OTHER TECHNICAL NEWS

FEED ADDITIVES

On December 6 2021 Edition 07/2021 of the EU feed additives register was published. In June 2021 sorbitol, manitol, sodium citrates, potassium citrates and calcium hydroxide were deleted from annex II of the EU Feed additives register as there were no applications for reauthorisation. The transitional period is long i.e. until 30 May 2028 (see article 2 [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/758](#)) in order to allow interested parties to submit a new application for authorisation of these additives. Great Britain has developed its own feed additives register completely based on the EU register up to the end of 2020. There have been no changes to the UK register in 2021.

UNDESIRABLE SUBSTANCES – MYCOTOXINS

SCoPAFF discussed the enforcement of guidance values for mycotoxins by Member States. As no clear consensus was reached, the Commission is questioning the effectiveness of setting max. limits on compound feed only. The Commission continues to seek views on how to deliver better enforcement and burden sharing along the chain for mycotoxin.

DIETETIC FEED

The Updated dietetic feed regulation was published on 4 March 2020. It applied from 25 December 2020 with transitional measures for Feed intended for particular nutritional purposes which has been labelled before 25 March 2022 in accordance with the rules applicable before 25 March 2020 may continue to be placed on the market and used until the existing stocks are exhausted see regulation [here](#)