



APHA Briefing Note 48/25

Update from European Commission on how to certify GB's BSE Negligible Risk status

Date issued: 11 December 2025

Purpose

To inform OVs that the European Commission has clarified their position on the certification of the change to GB BSE Negligible Risk (NR) status for eligible goods destined to the EU. The Commission has confirmed that GB origin meat can be certified as BSE NR status regardless of the slaughter or production date.

Background

As noted in [Briefing Note 44/25](#), England, Wales and Scotland are recognised by the EU as having BSE NR status as published in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/2208, effective from 24 November 2025. [Briefing Note 46/25](#) described issues arising at EU BCPs following the implementation of the change in GB's BSE risk status. The Commission has now confirmed that:

“Negligible BSE risk status acquired by the regions of England, Scotland and Wales applies to the entire bovine population concerned in these regions from the date where such regions were listed in Commission Decision 2007/453/EC.

This means in particular that meat derived from bovine animals born, continuously reared and slaughtered in these regions can be certified as originating from a BSE negligible risk country, provided that it meets at the time of export the specific conditions laid down for that status in Chapter C, Section B of Annex IX to Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 (2) (including SRM rules), and can be imported in the EU or moved to Northern Ireland, regardless of the slaughter or production date.”

Defra expects EU BCPs to implement this interpretation of the regulations as soon as they are notified by their respective competent authorities. We cannot guarantee when this

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

change will take place. Following recent costly delays and rejections, Defra's advice is to continue to check with the BCP of entry on their approach.

In the meantime, Defra has contacted Service d'Inspection Vétérinaire et Phytosanitaire to seek assurances that consignments in transit, certified according to previous instructions from EU BCPs, will not be rejected.

Action

To avoid further disruption at EU borders, OVs should continue to check with the BCP of entry for instructions on how to certify these attestations.

As soon as Defra receives confirmation that all EU BCPs are accepting the same interpretation, we will issue a further Briefing Note.

Further Information

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