



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 20/26

Export of POAO for human consumption to the European Union

Date issued: 09 July 2026

Purpose

To advise certifying Official Veterinarians in Great Britain of updated guidance on the certification of certain Products of Animal Origin for human consumption to the European Union.

Background

There have been recent non-compliances identified in the certification of products of animal origin for human consumption (POAO) intended for export to the European Union. Following this, further instructions and guidance have been included in the notes for guidance (NFG) for 8361EHC, 8364EHC, 8371EHC, 8383EHC, 8384EHC and 8385EHC to clarify checks that must be performed by the certifying OV's to mitigate the risk of exporting non-compliant products to the European Union.

The guidance includes:

1. The OV must ensure the product was produced at an appropriately approved food establishment, which indicates that it complies with the requirements of assimilated EU legislation.
2. The OV is advised to make regular contact with the local authority with enforcement responsibilities at establishments producing POAO products to verify compliance with relevant aspects of EU legislation and to be confident that the public health assurances can continue to be certified.
3. The OV must be familiar with the manufacturing process and premises producing the POAO. The OV must regularly visit the premises and see any relevant records, e.g. HACCP records. OV's are advised to record evidence of

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such visits. If the OV is not personally familiar with the manufacturing process and premises, they should obtain relevant and reliable supportive evidence, to enable certification.

4. The OV must confirm compliance and application of the ID mark on the packaging of the POAO.

Please note: Where applicable, this does not override the requirements for certification set out in Defra/APHA guidance on the Groupage Export Facilitation Scheme (ET193) and Remote Export Certification for low-risk products (ET245).

Action

Please review and action the guidance for [8361EHC](#), [8364EHC](#), [8371EHC](#), [8383EHC](#), [8384EHC](#) and [8385EHC](#) available on EHC online, as applicable.

Further Information

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