



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

IMPORTS AND EU POLICY TEAM

OVS NOTE 2021/05

25 June 2021

GRACE PERIOD FOR USE OF EU CERTIFICATES FOR IMPORTS FROM NON-EU COUNTRIES

Purpose

1. To advise you of the latest situation regarding the grace period for accepting the EU model certificates for imports of animals and animal products from non-EU countries.

Background

2. We advised you in [OVS note 2021/03](#) issued on 30 March that we were extending the grace period during which we will accept EU model health certificates.
3. The competent authorities in some third countries are still working on incorporating GB model certificates into their export systems. It has been agreed therefore to extend the grace period for a further three months. This means that we will accept EU model certificates for imports into GB of animals and animal products that are **signed and dated up to and including 30 September 2021**. This also applies to consignments that arrive in Great Britain after 30 September 2021.
4. We are encouraging competent authorities of third countries to ensure that they build GB model certificates into their export systems as soon as possible and we would ask you to tell importers to notify their suppliers in exporting countries to use the GB certificates.
5. For information the GB model export health certificates have been published on [Gov.UK](#).

6. If after 30 September you continue to receive consignments accompanied by the EU model certificate that is signed after that date, please seek further advice from APHA.
7. The information above only applies to animals and animal products imported from outside the European Union.

Action for OVSs

8. To note the contents of this OVS note.

Contact point for enquiries

Email: Imports@apha.gov.uk

Imports and EU Trade Team