

TRADER NOTICE No. 12 of 2020

23rd of December 2020

To: All registered Food Business Operators, Professional Operators and all importers of ware potatoes.

Subject: Import requirements for ware potatoes and plants from Great Britain (GB) from January 1st 2021.

Following a recent meeting of the EU Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed (SCoPAFF) the EU legislation governing the import of plants and plant products from Third Countries has been amended.

This amendment gives the United Kingdom a favourable listing as a “Third Country Other Than” within the annexes of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2072.

This amendment to EU legislation means the following:

- The removal of the prohibition on the import of ware potatoes from GB which would have taken effect from January 1st, 2021
- The removal of the prohibition on the import of some species of plants such as *Malus* (Apple) and *Fragaria* (Strawberry)
- Note the removal of this prohibition does NOT apply to seed potatoes
- Consignments of ware potatoes imported from GB from January 1st can now proceed, however they must be accompanied by a valid phytosanitary certificate issued by the National Plant Protection Organisation of the UK
- All imports of regulated plants, plant products (including ware potatoes) and used machinery from GB require phytosanitary certification and pre-notification to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) 24 hours in advance of arrival
- Full procedures for the import of regulated plants, plant products (including ware potatoes) and used machinery are available on DAFM's website at:
<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f9273-trading-in-plants-and-plant-products-with-the-uk/>

As previously stated the removal of the prohibition does NOT apply to seed potatoes.

The UK has applied to the EU for 'Third Country' equivalence for the export of certified seed potatoes to the EU, but engagement on this dossier is ongoing.

In the event that you have any queries in relation to this matter, please contact this office either by e-mailing plantandpests@agriculture.gov.ie or alternatively by telephone on (01)5058885.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Delany

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