INFORMATION NOTE FOR GREAT BRITAIN (GB) FEED MANUFACTURERS EXPORTING A MEDICATED FEED TO IRELAND (Note - does not apply to Feed Manufacturers in Northern Ireland)

1. Regulation 13 of Statutory Instrument No. 176 of 1994 - European Communities (Animal Remedies and Medicated Feedingstuffs) Regulations, 1994, provides for the importation of a medicated feed into Ireland from a third country. This import requires a licence granted by the Minister to the Irish importer, which is, in most cases, the end user of the feed or keeper of the animals.

2. When a medicated feed is being manufactured in GB for export to Ireland, the GB feed manufacturer is required to use a premix authorised in Ireland, as the active medicinal agent for the manufacture of the feed. This 'authorised' pre-mix is a medicinal premix which **possesses a Veterinary Product Authorisation (VPA) or an EU number**.

3. As advised by the GB Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD), the GB Veterinary Medicines Regulations (VMR) allows approved GB commercial feed mills to incorporate non-GB authorised premixes into feed provided that the final medicated feed is for export to a country where that premix is authorised. The GB feed mill is required to notify the VMD of the products they export, as outlined in the following guidance provided by the VMD: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/manufacturing-and-supplying-veterinary-medicines-for-animal-feed#export-of-unauthorised-substances-or-feed-containing-them

   This means that an Irish applicant could have a GB feed mill import an Irish authorised premix, incorporate the premix into a medicated feedingstuff, and export it back to the applicant. The GB feed manufacturer may source the Irish authorised premix from their own sources alternatively and may hold required stocks of the medicinal premix in suitable, secure, separated storage at the manufacturing site, to manufacture further anticipated orders. The feed may only be supplied by the feed mill in accordance with a valid Veterinary Written Direction (VWD).

4. Supporting documentation is required as part of the overall application process and will be requested primarily from the Irish importer. This will include copies of the VWD directing the manufacture and subsequent administration of the feed, veterinary justification regarding the need for the treatment proposed and details of the GB manufacturer.

   Some supporting documentation may be requested directly from the GB feed manufacturer. The GB feed manufacturer may be requested to supply a copy of their manufacturing licence. We may verify the manufacturing status of the GB feed manufacturer proposed to supply the feed with the VMD. This is to ensure that we are satisfied that the feed has been manufactured to EU equivalent standards.

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The Medicated Feed Import Licence is granted to the Irish importer of the feed. The GB feed mill should also be supplied with a copy of the import licence by the licensee to demonstrate that supply of the feed to Ireland was legal and in accordance with Regulation 13 of S.I. No. 176 of 1994.

5. GB Feed Business Operators (FBOs) wishing to export feed into the European Union, must ensure that their feed has been produced in accordance with EU feed legislation and must also have adequate third country representation within the Union.

6. Recognising the urgency of requests for the manufacture of a medicated feed, all efforts will be made to process applications as quickly as possible. Protecting animal health and welfare and facilitating the need for essential animal remedies is priority, while also working within the regulations.

7. This licensing system is a new system overseen by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine's Veterinary Medicines Section to facilitate the import of medicated feed from GB by an Irish importer, now that GB are no longer part of the European Union.

8. For further information, please contact VeterinaryMedicinesWMC@agriculture.gov.ie

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