



**Circular 01/2021**

**Date 20 May 2021**

## **NOTICE TO ALL ORGANIC CONTROL BODIES & IMPORTERS/FIRST CONSIGNEE**

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### **1. Third Country Imports Advance Notification**

Further to the previous Department Notice of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019 referring to advance notification, please note these are mandatory requirements for Importers and First Consignees in relation to third country imports.

Advance notice of all Imports of organic products from third countries must be forwarded to the Organic Unit of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). The operator responsible for a consignment shall give prior notification **at least one working day** before the expected arrival of the consignment, as set out in Article 1 of Commission Implementing Regulation 2019/1013.

Control requirements for import of plants, plant products, livestock products and foodstuffs comprising of plant and/or livestock products, animal feedingstuffs, compound feedingstuffs and feed materials from third countries are set out in Chapter 5 of Title IV of the Commission Regulation 889/2008. In accordance with Article 84 of the aforementioned regulation, the importer shall in due time, inform the control body or control authority of each consignment to be imported to the European Community. A person who contravenes Chapter 5 of Title IV of the Commission Regulation 889/2008 commits an offence under Regulation 47 of Statutory Instrument 683 of 2016.

All notifications should be sent by email to [OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie). Notifications **MUST** contain the following information:

- COI number
- Specify whether it's food or feed
- Description of how the consignment is packaged
- If travelling by ship, is it in a mixed container (Full container/Part container)?
- Expected date & time of arrival
- Port of Entry/Border Control Post
- Notice given to your Organic Control Body

All email notifications to the Department must contain the COI number in the subject title of email.

**The attached form is to be used for all advance notification of third country imports. Please send a copy of this advance notification form to DAFM and your Organic Control Body a minimum of 24 hours before expected arrival of the consignment.**

All Importers should be aware that all third country consignments may be red routed through Customs for inspection by DAFM staff and potential sampling. If your consignment is 'red routed' you will be notified of same by the Organic Unit in advance. Your COI will not be verified by DAFM on TRACES until such time as the inspection has been completed and all results are clear of any irregularities.

In addition, the following documentation should be uploaded on TRACES for each COI:

- a) The results of analyses or tests carried out on the samples taken, and all other supporting documents such as the travel plan where relevant.
- b) Commercial transport documents such as bill of lading, invoices and packaging list.

**Failure to adhere to the above specified criteria of advance notification may result in delays in the verification of the COI on TRACES, which may in turn result in delays in the clearance of the import consignment.**

## **2. Border Control Posts**

In accordance with the Official Controls Regulation No. 625 of 2017, all products must be imported through a designated Border Control Post (BCP). Each BCP is designated for importation of specific categories of products.

Dublin Port, Dublin Airport, Shannon Airport and Rosslare EuroPort are the Border Control Posts designated for the importation of animals, products of animal origin, composite products, germinal products, animal by-products, hay and straw.

Dublin Port, Dublin Airport and Rosslare EuroPort are also Border Control Posts designated for importation of goods of non-animal origin e.g. plants and plant products.

No other BCP is currently designated for the importation of organic products.

## **3. Additional Controls**

In addition, please also be aware that there may be additional controls or requirement on products imported from certain non-EU countries. These guidelines can be found here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming/trade\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming/trade_en)

*Any queries regarding same please contact:*

*Organic Unit, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford*

*Tel: 053-9163400 Lo-Call 0761 064415*

*email: [OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie)*

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Joan Furlong

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Organic Unit

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Seamus Barron

Agricultural Inspector

Agricultural Environment & Structures Division  
(AES)

### ***Third Country Import of Organic Products – Advance Notification Information***

1. COI Number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Specify, Food or Feed:                      Food   ☐                      Feed   ☐

3. How consignment is packaged:                      Pre-packed   ☐                      Loose   ☐

4. Mode of Transport:                      Air   ☐                      Ship   ☐

If ship please specify, full/part container   \_\_\_\_\_

5. Expected Date & Time of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Port of Entry/Border Control Post: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Notice given to your O.C.B:                      please tick   ☐                      Name of OCB   ☐

This form is to be completed by all Importers/First consignees in advance of all Third country Imports. Please forward this completed form to: [OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:OrganicImports@agriculture.gov.ie)

Organic Unit, DAFM, Johnstown Castle, Wexford

May 2021