

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Trader Notice: MH 02/2024

To: All Food Business Operators at DAFM-approved sheep slaughterhouses

Subject: Export of un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM to Italy

Regulation No (EC) 999/2001, Annex V, 10.1 allows Member States to dispatch of heads or of un-split carcasses containing specified risk material (SRM) to another Member State only after that Member State has agreed to receive the material and has approved the conditions of dispatch and transport.

Food Business operators (FBOs) wishing to export un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM (and that are greater than one year old) to Italy may only do so under the following conditions and each application will be considered by DAFM on a case-by-case basis:

- The plant must have a SOP drafted and approved by the Veterinary Inspector, which would include the addition of a written statement on the accompanying CMR outlining the obligation of the receiving plant to remove and dispose all SRM on receipt of the carcasses.
- They provide the plant Veterinary Inspector (VI) with a letter from the plant of destination stating that the receiving plant is authorised to receive un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM and to remove and dispose of the (SRM) in accordance with Regulation No (EC) 999/2001, Regulation No (EC) 1069/2009.
- They must provide the VI with a copy of the approval certificate of the receiving plant.
- Formal application will have to be made for the application of this derogation to the Italian competent authority through the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) for each combination of dispatching and receiving plants.
- The plant VI must forward an application letter from the FBO, together with the documents referred to in the 2nd and 3rd bullet points and a Word copy of the draft CVO letter (Annex I) with the dispatching and receiving plant details completed to their RSVI. The RSVI will forward these documents to Meat Hygiene Division with a cover letter (Annex II), cc'ing the VPHOps SSVI.
- Meat Hygiene Division will communicate to the VI and FBO of the applicant plant the decision of the Italian CVO as to whether approval has been granted or not granted
- No un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM may be dispatched to Italy until the Italian CVO has accepted the application of the derogation for that combination of dispatch/receiving plant.

For each dispatching/receiving plant combination approved by the Italian competent authority, the FBO at the dispatching plant must go through the following steps for each consignment prior to dispatch:

- The plant VI must be notified at least a week in advance of the dispatch of each consignment of un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM
- The CMR accompanying each consignment must include an instruction statement for the customer that "Un-split ovine carcasses contain spinal cord SRM which must be removed.
- If the consignment contains a mix of <12month and >12month un-split carcasses, this should be stated on the CMR:

Number of Unsplit carcasses containing Spinal Cord SRM which must be removed =

Number of Unsplit carcasses containing Spinal Cord SRM which need not be removed =

To comply with the specific Italian requirement that the principle of the channelling procedure should be observed, the FBO must issue a CHED for each consignment, indicating in box 1.23 that it is for the internal market and the optional column for 'Batch Number' in box 1.31 must contain the statement that that "Un-split ovine carcasses contain spinal cord SRM which must be removed".

Instructions on creating a CHED are contained in the attached document "Creating a CHED-P part 1 for Operators on Traces".

Annex I

Draft CVO letter

Dear _____

_____, an EU approved premises in Ireland (approval number IE____) has received a request from _____ and EU approved premises in Italy (approval number IT_____) to supply them with un-split ovine carcasses containing specified risk material. The Irish company have asked this Department to facilitate this trade.

The request, a copy of which is attached, foresees that un-split ovine carcasses containing specified risk material would be dispatched from Ireland to Italy where I understand that the Italian food business operator (IT_____) is authorised for the removal and disposal of specified risk material (SRM), in accordance with Regulation No. (EC) 999/2001 and Regulation No. (EC) 1069/2009, and that it is in compliance with the traceability obligation provided in Regulation No. (EC) 178/2002. A copy of the approval certificate is provided in the attached application from the Irish food business operator. Such movement of product would be in accordance with Annex V, section 10.1 of Regulation No. (EC) 999/2001, which states that un-split carcasses containing SRM may be allowed to be dispatched to another Member State only after that Member State has agreed to receive the material and has approved the conditions of dispatch and transport.

To facilitate the monitoring or channelling of this product by the Italian competent authorities in accordance with the requirements of Regulation No. (EU) 2019/1666, Ireland will issue a Common Health Entry Document (CHED) for this and future consignments of un-split ovine carcasses.

I would be grateful if you would consider this proposal and let me have your decision at your convenience.

Many thanks for your help with this request,

Kind regards,

Annex II

To Meat Hygiene Division

To whom it concerns,

I wish to forward the application of _____, an EU approved premises in Ireland (approval number IE____) to supply _____ an EU approved premises in Italy (approval number IT____), with un-split ovine carcasses containing specified risk material in accordance with Annex V (10.1) of Regulation No (EC) 999/2001. I attach:

1. with a letter from the plant of destination stating that the receiving plant is authorised to receive un-split ovine carcasses containing SRM and to remove and dispose of the (SRM) in accordance with Regulation No (EC) 999/2001, Regulation No (EC) 1069/2009.
2. a copy of the approval certificate of the receiving plant.
3. A completed letter for the Irish CVO to send to the Italian CVO

The OV at _____ has verified that they have a SOP includes the addition of a written statement on the accompanying CMR outlining the obligation of the receiving plant to remove and dispose all SRM on receipt of the carcasses.

Each consignment will be accompanied by a CMR that includes an instruction statement for the customer that "Un-split ovine carcasses contain spinal cord SRM which must be removed.

To comply with the specific Italian requirement that the principle of the channelling procedure should be observed, the FBO will issue a CHED for each consignment, indicating in box 1.23 that it is for the internal market and box 1.31 must contain the statement that that "Un-split ovine carcasses contain spinal cord SRM which must be removed.

Yours faithfully

_____ VI/RSVI

Date _____