

NEW RULES FOR EXPORTING IRISH SEAFOOD AND LIVE AQUATIC ANIMALS TO OR THROUGH GREAT BRITAIN

Frequently Asked Questions

This information was updated on 19 February 2024 and may be subject to further change

I export Irish seafood and live aquatic animals to or through Great Britain. What new rules have been introduced and what do I need do?

Since 31 January 2024, exporters of Irish seafood and live aquatic animals are required to obtain animal health certification for the following live aquatic animals transiting the Great Britain (GB) landbridge to the EU.

- Live aquaculture animals intended for ongrowing/farming at the site of destination.
- Live bivalve molluscs intended for consumption but requiring further treatment involving re-immersion at the site of destination.

Where can I get animal health certificates?

You can get animal health certificates from the Marine Institute. More details can be found [here](#).

Have rules for the direct export of live aquatic animals to GB changed?

- Rules for direct export of live aquatic animals to GB have been in place since January 2021 and remain unchanged.

Can live animals from aquaculture businesses that are not approved by the Marine Institute under regulation (EU) 2016/429 be animal-health certified?

- Only live animals originating from aquaculture establishments approved by the Marine Institute under regulation (EU) 2106/429 can be certified for transit through the landbridge.

Can native oysters be certified to transit the landbridge?

- No. Native oysters cannot be certified to transit the landbridge because of differing health status between IE (Ireland) and GB.

For more information on the animal health requirements for movement of live aquatic animals through the GB landbridge contact the Marine Institute by email notification@marine.ie.

What rules apply for fishery products and live bivalve molluscs directly exported to Great Britain for human consumption?

Export health certificates must be obtained from the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) on the relevant GB export health certificate from the options below:

- GBHC400: Model health certificate for live bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods (LBM).
- GBHC401: Model health certificate for the placing on the market of fishery products (FP).

The full SFPA process on Export Health Certification can be found [here](#), and instructions on how to complete an application for an Export Health Certificate are found [here](#).

Is certification needed for transit of live bivalve molluscs intended for direct consumption?

No certification is required for live bivalve molluscs transits over GB landbridge when they are intended for consumption in the following cases:

- live bivalve molluscs placed on the market for human consumption without further processing, provided that they are packed in retail-sale packages which comply with the provisions for such packages in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004,
- live bivalve molluscs which are intended for further processing before human consumption without temporary storage at the place of processing and packed and labelled with an EU approval number for that purpose in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

Is certification needed for transit of live wild caught crab and lobster?

No certification is required for transits of live wild caught crab and lobster.