F57/20: Brexit update: Exporting plants, plant products, wine and organic products to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) from 1 January 2021

Plant products, wine and organic products

9 November 2020

- 1 Exporting plants, plant products, wine and organic products to England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) and Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021
- (1) The UK left the European Union (EU) on 31 January 2020, entering a transition period during which all EU regulations and trade agreements continue to apply.
- (2) This transition period is scheduled to end on 31 December 2020.
- (3) Depending on the outcome of negotiations between the EU and UK, it is possible that import processes for England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) will be different to those for Northern Ireland.
- (4) Before 31 December 2020, specific UK OMARs for wine and organics will be published. The requirements in the UK OMARs will be the same as the EU OMAR and will also contain any known new UK import processes. It is possible there could be separate Great Britain and Northern Ireland OMARs if they have differing import processes.
- (5) Until new UK OMARs are published, the EU OMARs for wine and organics will continue to apply for England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) and Northern Ireland.
- (6) The UK has provided assurance that they will continue to recognise the Approved Inspection Scheme (AIS) for fresh fruit and vegetables.
- (7) Existing EU plant health legislation will be incorporated into UK law at the end of the transition period, along with the Plant Health (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 No. 787 and the equivalent regulations in Scotland.
- (8) The UK Importing Country Phytosanitary Requirements (ICPR) for both horticulture and forestry will be updated before the end of the transition period. MPI does not anticipate major implications for any significantly traded plants and plant products.
- (9) Phytosanitary certificates should continue to be raised as per usual processes from 1 January 2021.

- (10) The UK has provided assurance that they will continue to recognise the existing equivalency arrangements between the EU and New Zealand for the import of organic products.
- (11) Organic exporters will no longer use the EU TRACES-NT system to generate the Certificate of Inspection (COI) for exports to England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) from 1 January 2021.
- (12) For organic exports to England, Scotland and Wales (Great Britain) from 1 January 2021, MPI will issue a paper COI for each consignment. Requests for the Great Britain COI should be submitted to MPI using the same excel form used for exporting to other organic destinations.
- (13) Northern Ireland will continue to have access to TRACES-NT from 1 January 2021. Organic exporters should continue to raise COI's for organic exports to Northern Ireland in TRACES-NT after 31 December 2020 as per current processes.
- (14) Wine exporters should continue to use the EU VI-1 certificates until further notice. The UK have confirmed that the EU VI-1 certificates will be accepted until 30 September 2021.
- (15) MPI will update this FYI and the MPI Brexit webpage as further details from the UK are made available.
- (16) This FYI cancels:
 - a) F4/20 Exporting plants, plant products, wine and organic products to the UK after Brexit on 31 January 2020

Contact for further information

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