

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE

11-20

3/18/20

ELIGIBILITY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM TO EXPORT RAW BEEF TO THE UNITED STATES

I. PURPOSE

FSIS has recognized the United Kingdom as a single food safety inspection system that encompasses England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and has reinstated equivalence for the United Kingdom's raw beef products inspection system. This notice provides instructions to inspection program personnel (IPP) at official import inspection establishments on actions to take when verifying the accuracy of inspection certificates for imported raw beef products from the central competent authority of the United Kingdom. The certificates provide assurance that these products meet FSIS requirements.

II. BACKGROUND

A. FSIS previously recognized the four countries (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales) that comprise the United Kingdom as individual countries with meat food safety inspection systems equivalent to that of the United States. However, only England and Northern Ireland had actively exported meat products, specifically raw pork, to the United States in over three years. Additionally, none of the individual countries has been eligible to export raw beef products to the United States for over three years.

B. Upon completion in 2019 of the on-site verification audit of the United Kingdom's raw beef food safety inspection system, FSIS has determined that the United Kingdom's inspection system meets the equivalence criteria as a single food safety inspection system that encompasses England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales and its beef inspection system meets equivalence requirements. FSIS has determined the United Kingdom as eligible to export raw beef to the United States from cattle slaughtered on and after March 6, 2020.

C. Raw beef products derived from cattle slaughtered in the United Kingdom and certified as slaughtered before March 6, 2020, are not eligible for entry into the United States.

III. IPP RESPONSIBILITIES

A. IPP are to follow the instructions in [FSIS Directive 9900.1](#), *Imported Product Shipment Presentation* and are to verify the slaughter dates on the inspection certificate are on or after March 6, 2020.

B. When the inspection certificate does not certify the slaughter dates, or the products are certified as slaughtered prior to March 6, 2020, IPP are to fail the Certification Type of Inspection (TOI) in the Public Health Information System (PHIS).

C. IPP are to refer to FSIS [Directive 9900.8](#), *Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products Refused Entry into the United States* for disposition of the refused entry.

DISTRIBUTION: Electronic

NOTICE EXPIRES: 4/1/21

OPI: OPPD

IV. QUESTIONS

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Import Export Policy Development Staff (IEPDS) through [askFSIS](#). When submitting a question, use the Submit a Question tab and enter the following information in the fields provided:

Subject Field: Enter **Notice 11-20**.
Question Field: Enter your question with as much detail as possible.
Product Field: Select **Import** from the drop-down menu.
Category Field: Select **Public Health Information System** from the drop-down menu.
Policy Arena: Select **International (Import/Export)** from the drop-down menu.

When all fields are complete, press **Continue** and at the next screen press **Finish Submitting Question**.

NOTE: Refer to [FSIS Directive 5620.1](#), *Using askFSIS*, for additional information on submitting questions.



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