

Notes for guidance:

# Importation of Cattle into the Isle of Man from United Kingdom (Great Britain)

## 1. UK Isolation

All cattle must be resident on the holding of origin in the United Kingdom, for a minimum of **20 days** prior to exportation. This means export direct from market is not permissible.

## 2. UK Health Certification

The cattle must be accompanied by a Health Certificate **520EHC** and **520SUP** signed by a Local Veterinary Inspector (LVI) of DEFRA. No consignment of animals under one licence shall be transported with another under a further licence unless sourced from the same point in the UK or consigned to the same destination in the Isle of Man.

## 3. Disinfection

Arrangements must have been made before the time of Health Certification for the cleansing and disinfection of vehicles for the transport of the animals. Detailed advice on the current requirements should be sought from the local Animal Health Office of DEFRA.

## 4. Pre-Export Veterinary Inspection

All bovines must be examined by an LVI of DEFRA not more than **24 hours** prior to shipment to the Isle of Man, who must certify that the animals are free from signs and symptoms of infectious and contagious disease including ectoparasites, and are fit to travel.

All bovines must originate from Great Britain which is an Enzootic Bovine Leucosis Free and Brucellosis Free Region as laid down in Annex D Chapter 1 Sections E & F of Council Directive 64/432EEC as amended. All bovines must originate from officially Tuberculosis Free Herds.

## 5. Pre & Post Import Testing

**Pre:** All animals must have passed a comparative intradermal test for Tuberculosis within **30 days** prior to shipment. Exception: Cattle that have been resident in Scotland since birth, or for at least 120 days prior to departure are exempt from pre-export TB testing.

**Post:** All imported animals will be required to pass both a tuberculosis skin test and a gamma interferon blood test between 60-90 days post-import: any animal that fails any test is designated a reactor and destroyed (statutory compensation payable).

\* cattle must be 6 months of age to undergo the gamma blood test. Any animal under 6 months of age upon import, must remain in their import isolation group until they are old enough to undergo the post-import testing.

The Departmental funding of cattle post import testing is to be restricted within specific numerical parameters.

- The total number of such tests funded by the Department is to be limited to 30 animals per holding/individual.
- Additionally, total compensation payments in respect of failures will be limited to one animal only per holding/individual.

These parameters will apply in any 12 month period, irrespective of the total number within the entire importation, and whether comprised of single or multiple consignments.

Potential importers should be aware that they have a choice of procedures that may reduce the additional restrictions placed upon them in the event that a tuberculosis test is failed. Imported animals can be either:

- Isolated in an approved isolation premises as an import group
- Isolated in an approved isolation premises with some homebred animals (the home bred animals cannot be removed from the isolation area until all tests are passed)
- Run with the herd after the initial standard ten day import isolation period

If an import fails a TB test at 60-90 days

**either:**

- A If the imported animals have been kept in tuberculosis isolation premises - approved by DEFA prior to importation - for the entire 60-90 day period, only the animals kept in the isolation premises will continue to be restricted; these restrictions will last for a further 50 days minimum (for culture results to be known) and all the animals in isolation will need to pass at least one skin test. Isolation premises can consist of specific fields, provided separation from other stock can be guaranteed; **or**
- B) If the imported animals have not been placed in pre-approved tuberculosis isolation, the whole farm will be placed under tuberculosis restrictions; these farm restrictions will last for a further 50 days minimum (for culture results to be known) and at least one whole herd skin test will need to be passed.

**BVD:** Importers are required to test all imported cattle for BVD virus within the **10 day** isolation period at their own expense. Neither proof of vaccination, or antibody tests, will be accepted as alternatives to BVD virus testing. Blood tests or tissue tags may be used (tags will be provided at cost by the Department if required).

This test may be waived provided either:

- a previous certified BVD virus negative result can be demonstrated for each specific animal.
- The entire consignment comes from certified BVD Free holding (monitored status will not suffice).

**Warble:** All bovines imported into the Isle of Man must be treated in accordance with the requirements of the Warble Fly Treatment Order 1994; treatment must be carried out within the initial **10 day** isolation period in the presence of a DEFA Officer.

## 6. Transport

**Pick-ups:** Multiple pick-ups (more than one origin in GB) are possible BUT all animals making up such load must stay at a single destination on the Isle of Man until all isolation requirements have been fulfilled.

**Single origin loads** may be dropped at more than one destination. N.B. separate import licences are required for each destination.

All animals must be transported, by the specified route, and on arrival, must be taken directly to the premises specified, and there, shall be isolated from all other animals for the prescribed period of ten days and be subjected to any further detention, examination, test or medication laid down by a Government Veterinary Officer in order to prevent the introduction and possible spread of animal disease.

Any person transporting animals over 65km (approx. 40 miles) as part of an economic activity must have a specific authorisation under 'The Welfare of Animals (Transport) (Isle of Man Order) 2007'. If you require such authorisation please contact DEFA Agriculture at [Agriculture@gov.im](mailto:Agriculture@gov.im) or see: <https://www.gov.im/categories/business-and-industries/agriculture/livestock-transport-regulations/>

## 7. IOM Import Licence

No such animal shall be landed in the Isle of Man without a licence issued by DEFA, and such licence shall expire after **21 days**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must inform the Department of your intention to import, with the date/time of shipment at least **72 hours** in advance. Failure to notify the Department could result in the importer being prosecuted for not meeting the conditions of the Import Licence. Contact number for notification is (01624) **687595** (answer-phone) or [agriculture@gov.im](mailto:agriculture@gov.im)

This licence must be delivered on embarkation to the Captain of the Vessel or his representative and then submitted as soon as possible to DEFA Agriculture. All other relevant documents and certificates must accompany the animals in transit to the final destination on the Isle of Man and be retained there for further inspection.

### **8. IOM Isolation, Post-Import Inspection & Movement Restriction**

The period of isolation is a minimum of **10 days** for cattle, during this time they will be inspected by A Field Officer.

All premises used to import cattle shall be served with **Form A** restriction notice under the Tuberculosis (Control and Testing) Order 2001.

On arrival of the consignment on a Manx farm the whole farm will come under a **21 day** movement restriction for all livestock. This will not apply to livestock moved direct to slaughterhouse or Knacker's yard for immediate slaughter.

**Failure to produce the required valid documentation will result in the return of the consignment to the point of origin at the importer's expense.**

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**For European Union imports** – please contact the Department on 685844 or [agriculture@gov.im](mailto:agriculture@gov.im)