

Notes for guidance:

Importation of Cattle into the Isle of Man from Great Britain*

Summary of main points:

Requirements prior to importation

- No such animal shall be landed in the Isle of Man without a licence issued by the Department of Environment, Food & Agriculture, and such licence shall expire after 21 days. The Licence conditions (see over) must be complied with.
- All cattle must be resident on the holding of origin in Great Britain for a minimum of 20 days prior to exportation. This means export direct from market is not permissible.
- All animals must have passed a comparative intradermal test for Tuberculosis within 30 days prior to shipment.
- The animals must:
 - be accompanied by valid Health Certification 520EHC AND 520SUP concerning residence, cleansing and disinfection.

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

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.

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.
- any person transporting animals other than their own is required to have a specific authorisation under The Welfare of Livestock during Transport Order 1997. If you require such authorisation please contact DEFA Agriculture at Agriculture@gov.im

Restrictions after Importation & Post Import Tests and Treatments.

- Period of isolation on Manx farm after importation is minimum of 10 days.
- 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.

BVD

- Importers are required to test all imported cattle for BVD virus **within the 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

- A post-import visit will be carried out by an officer of the Department. Owners must treat the cattle with a product approved for use against warble fly in the presence of the officer.

Tuberculosis

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).

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 twelve 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.

If you require further information or clarifications please contact DEFA Agriculture at Agriculture@gov.im

* For European Union imports see end of document.

Conditions of licence to import Cattle into the Isle of Man from Great Britain

1. 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.
2. All bovines must originate from officially Tuberculosis Free Herds.
3. All cattle must be resident on the holding of origin in the United Kingdom, for a minimum of 20 days prior to exportation.
4. This licence, the health certificate and other documentation must accompany the animals in transit to the Isle of Man. The import licence, only, shall be delivered to the Captain of the Vessel or his representative and then submitted as soon as possible to DEFA Agriculture. The health certificate must accompany the animals to their destination
5. All animals must be transported without coming into contact with animals not similarly certified, by the specified route, and on arrival, must be **taken directly to the single premises specified**, and there, shall be **isolated from all other animals for a minimum 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. 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.
6. **Health Certification**

All bovines must be accompanied by an EHC520 certificate and EHC520 (SUP).
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.
All bovines must be examined by a Local Veterinary Inspector of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs 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.
7. **Restrictions on Movement**

On arrival in the Isle of Man, all bovines must be isolated from all other livestock on the holding for a minimum of **10 days**.
In addition, for a period of **21 days** following importation, no livestock shall be moved from the holding specified in this licence except direct for slaughter (Foot and Mouth (Precautionary Measure)(Regulation of Livestock Movement) Order 2002).
8. **Post Import Test and Treatment**
 - a) 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 isolation period (10 days) in the presence of an Officer.
 - b) 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.
 - c) All premises used to import cattle shall be served with Form A restriction notice under the Tuberculosis (Control and Testing) Order 2001.

European Union imports (not UK)

Imports from the EU do not require an import licence being covered by the Animal and Animal Products (Import and Export) Order 2001.

24 hours notice (working days) is required to be given to the Division prior to the actual import. Imports **must** be accompanied by the relevant EU Health documentation **and** transport documentation.

Transporting and landing animals without the required documentation is an offence.

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.