

Annual Review of Controls on Imports of Animal Products: April 2006 – March 2007



I lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE



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Department for Environment
Food and Rural Affairs

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Presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State
for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury
by Command of Her Majesty
July 2007

Foreword by Jeff Rooker



I welcome the opportunity to report on progress made in the past year to reduce the risk of disease entering the country via imports of animal products.

Once again we have had a challenging year in monitoring the constantly changing disease situation around the world and evaluating and responding to threats. Whilst H5N1 Avian Influenza (AI) has continued to be at the forefront of most people's minds, we have also continued to work closely with Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to combat the risk of other major diseases entering the country.

The United Kingdom (UK) leads the way within the European Union (EU) in preventing illegal imports of Products Of Animal Origin (POAO), and having such a good level of co-operation between our Customs and veterinary authorities. We will continue to share our experience with other EU Member States, as well as at the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) to encourage similar levels of co-operation in other countries.

HMRC continues to deliver an enforcement strategy that targets anti-smuggling activity on the highest risk traffic and to review deployment of resources and react flexibly in response to changes in the pattern of risk. Seizures have again increased in 2006/07, reflecting the enforcement measures in place. We recognise that these efforts must be maintained.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and HMRC continue to undertake a great deal of publicity within the UK, at the border and overseas. Defra will continue with its ongoing publicity campaign with a change of emphasis, taking into account levels of public awareness in different communities and seizure information. HMRC will continue to promote the POAO personal import rules through a wide range of communication channels, as well as seeking new opportunities for media publicity. To assist in this process, a specialist marketing agency is being contracted to deliver commercial partnership opportunities to reach our general public audience.

The challenge now is to continue to build on the levels of public awareness but also to move onto the next stage of encouraging behaviour change – which will be challenging given the surprisingly high level of emotion people associate with their food.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Rooker". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Jeff Rooker
Minister of State for Sustainable Food
and Farming, and Animal Health

Introduction

1.1.1 This is the fifth annual review of controls on imports of animal products into Great Britain (GB) in accordance with section 10A of the Animal Health Act 1981. Northern Ireland (NI) represents a separate disease control regime within the United Kingdom (UK) and has differing challenges and controls regarding imports. Nevertheless, NI is equally committed to tackling the problem of illegal imports. The statistics at Annex 1 include seizures made by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for NI (DARDNI) at ports of entry in NI.

- ‘Animal product’ is not defined in the Act and for the purpose of this review: ‘Animal product’ and ‘Border Inspection Post (BIP)’ have the same meaning as in The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/2841), The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (SSI 2007/1) and The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/376 (W. 36));
- ‘import(s)’ means a product or products of non-European Union (EU) country origin entering GB from outside the EU;
- ‘intra-Community product’ means an animal product entering GB from within the EU.

1.1.2 Legally imported animal products from non-EU countries are checked on entry into the UK to ensure they meet EU veterinary import conditions. Animal Health (AH) is responsible for carrying out the checks where ports do not handle food products. Local Authorities carry out the checks at ports which handle food of animal origin such as meat, fish, eggs, milk and products containing them, and a mix of animal products. Veterinarians carry out checks, except for fishery products when Environmental Health Officers may do the checks. Technical assistants may assist the veterinarians. There are three types of checks:

- Documentary checks – checks on the certification accompanying the consignment;
- Identity checks – checks to ensure that the consignment matches the information given in the document;
- Physical checks – checks on the consignment itself, including checks on temperature, condition, and for microbiological and chemical contaminants.

Once the veterinary checks are completed, notification is provided to Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs (HMRC) to allow customs clearance of the goods.

Checks are carried out in approved facilities at ports or airports. These are known as BIPs. EU legislation lays down the requirements for BIPs and they are inspected periodically by the European Commission (EC) to ensure they meet the required standard. We have introduced a programme of liaison visits by AH to Local Authority operated BIPs to ensure compliance with the required standard. This scheme has had some success with several BIPs upgrading facilities and some choosing to come off the EU list of approved ports and airports. Ports which have no outstanding problems have a reduced frequency of visits by AH.

1.1.3 The UK’s controls on imported animals and animal products were most recently inspected by the EC in November 2006. The report recognises that improvements have been made in the system for auditing BIPs, and identification of consignments to be presented to the

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BIP for veterinary checks. The inspectors were also satisfied that effective control measures are in place to target illegal imports and that there is a clear publicity strategy to raise awareness of the personal import rules among the travelling public. The EC did find some areas where improvements can be made and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Food Standards Agency (FSA), HMRC and AH have prepared an action plan to resolve these. There was also an inspection of UK controls on gelatine. This took place between 29 January and 2 February 2007. The inspectors were generally content with inspection procedures in place at BIPs for imports. They noted, however, that Local Authorities could be better aware of the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES) to cross-check consignments, and that AH should be aware of the need for importers to notify them of incoming consignments.

1.1.4 Work to tackle illegal imports of animal products forms part of the overall Animal Health and Welfare Strategy for GB¹ and its associated implementation plans.

1.1.5 The Government remains committed to ensuring effective controls against illegal imports, but the risk of importing disease can never be completely eliminated. Import control measures must be proportionate and appropriate for the circumstances in each country. It is impossible for any country to stop smuggling altogether. As part of the EU, the UK must apply the same rules as other EU Member States. UK control measures against illegal imports compare favourably to other EU Member States.

1.1.6 We continue to recognise that we can only successfully tackle illegal imports with a combined effort across all relevant government departments and enforcement agencies, by raising public awareness, and by understanding the risks.

1.1.7 HMRC remains responsible for anti-smuggling controls on Products Of Animal Origin (POAO) at the GB external border. A Service Level Agreement (SLA) formalises the relationship and responsibilities between HMRC and other partners involved in the control of imports of animal products: Defra, FSA, AH, Forestry Commission, Scottish Executive and Welsh Assembly Government – Department for Sustainability and Rural Development (WAG-SRD).

The SLA is a living document incorporating the flexibility to deal with changes in priorities as they may occur.

1.1.8 Local Authorities are responsible for dealing with smuggled POAO when they are discovered inland at retail, catering, market stalls or other premises.

1.1.9 In NI, the transfer of responsibility for the detection of illegal imports of POAO to HMRC in 2003 did not take place as in other parts of the UK. Therefore, this responsibility remains as a central function of DARDNI, both at BIPs and other points of entry. DARDNI's close working relationship with HMRC facilitates the referral of animal products detected by HMRC in the conduct of examinations for other items (e.g. tobacco and illegal drugs) to DARDNI and vice versa. Inland detection responsibility currently rests with the 26 district councils in liaison with FSA NI in terms of identifying illegally imported animal products which may be either destined for or actually on retail sale.

1.1.10 The Government spent £25 million over the 3 years 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06 to tackle illegal imports from outside the EU of any meat, other animal products and plant products. From 2006/07 funding for HMRC activities is provided within its baseline budget and in line with Public Service Agreement target commitments. Funding continues to be available for Defra to examine the risks and help increase public awareness, and for the FSA for work on inland controls.

¹ <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/ahws/strategy/ahws.pdf>

Enforcement

1.2.1 HMRC continues to target POAO on the basis of risk and intelligence to reduce illegal imports, responding as appropriate to disease notifications and seeking prosecution in serious cases.

1.2.2 All HMRC front line detection staff include control of animal products as part of their anti-smuggling responsibilities, but within these resources dedicated teams (totalling up to 100 staff in 2006/07) with primary responsibility for detecting illegal POAO are also deployed on a mobile and flexible basis. In addition HMRC deploy resources into investigation and intelligence.

1.2.3 Detector dogs specifically trained to detect POAO are flexibly deployed in customs channels and baggage reclaim areas in accordance with latest risk assessments. HMRC currently have 11 such dogs. Dogs are particularly successful in identifying POAO concealed in baggage and are particularly effective in reviewing large numbers of passengers and their baggage in a short time. They also work from time to time in other customs controlled areas including freight sheds, car halls and lorry lanes.

HMRC detector dog, as referred to in section 1.2.3



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1.2.4 HMRC also has baggage x-ray scanners at major ports and airports to scan suspicious baggage. These can assist in detecting a range of prohibited and restricted goods including, on occasions, POAO.

1.2.5 Controls are carried out on a risk assessed basis targeting those routes of entry considered to pose the greatest risk of the introduction of disease into GB. A range of indicators is used to assist in tackling illegal imports including:

- Latest information available at international and national level about animal disease outbreaks. Defra's veterinary experts provide Preliminary Outbreak Assessments (POAs) and Qualitative Risk Assessments (QRAs) of new disease outbreaks around the world;
- High risk source countries for potentially infected products. Defra provide HMRC with a global risk map including information from the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE) detailing the animal health risks and categorising countries into RED, AMBER and GREEN risks, which assists customs targeting of traffic from high risk countries and high risk products;
- Historical data on the types of POAO seized, high risk routings, typical methods of concealment and any other risk trends;
- Any other relevant risk information from other national, EU and non-EU country enforcement agencies;
- Specific intelligence on suspect importers and/or consignments;
- Results from operational checks on baggage and freight.

Moreover, in response to the threat imposed by the spread of H5N1 Avian Influenza (AI) to new countries and regions in 2005/06, HMRC stepped up the level of checks at ports, airports and postal depots to target traffic from countries reporting H5N1 infection, doubling resources deployed on detection of illegal animal products. Targeting was revised to direct efforts at traffic from those countries, and included intensive exercises on passengers, freight and postal traffic from specific source countries. This arrangement was kept under constant review in 2006/07.

1.2.6 The number of seizures of illegal imports of POAO totalled 35,001, approximately a 7% increase on 2005/06. 81% of seizures are made from higher designated risk countries of origin. HMRC continues to account for 99% of all UK seizures. Most seizures continue to be under 20kg from small family groups, business people and students travelling to the UK for the first time with foodstuffs as gifts, for a special occasion or simply for a 'taste of home'. HMRC has also made seizures in postal traffic and in freight and keeps under review relative risks and any emerging smuggling trends. Further statistical information is at Annex 1.

1.2.7 Since assuming responsibility for anti-smuggling controls on POAO at the frontier in 2003, HMRC has successfully prosecuted 10 people for illegal imports offences under the POAO Regulations. Fines issued by magistrates have varied with the maximum to date being £400 and one offender receiving a 28-day custodial sentence. The latest prosecution (83kg of meat and dairy products seized from a passenger arriving from Egypt in February 2007) resulted in a £300 fine. HMRC will look to take further enforcement action (in addition to seizing the goods) in cases involving deliberate attempts to evade the POAO import prohibitions, repeat offenders, evidence of large scale smuggling (organised smuggling such as commercial or involving couriers), items intended for the food trade, or other serious factors such as abuse of a position of responsibility, violence to staff or smuggling with other goods. This includes referrals to Revenue and Customs Prosecution Office for prosecution where proportionate and in the public interest.

Meat and dairy products seized from a passenger who was subsequently prosecuted, as referred to in section 1.2.7



1.2.8 In NI, DARDNI staff are present on a full time (24/7) basis in Belfast and Larne ports, the port of Warrenpoint, George Best Belfast City Airport and Belfast International Airport. In addition, a profiled and risk based programme of attendance at the City of Derry airport and the 70 small ports, harbours and marinas around the NI coastline continues.

DARDNI continually reviews the profile and prevalence of relevant animal diseases, using information available from both the OIE and Defra in the form of dedicated risk assessments. The risk profile generated, in combination with retrospective evaluation of previous seizures made, enables the deployment of DARDNI staff in the direction of prioritised flights and sailings. In addition, combined examination exercises with HMRC may be undertaken according to available intelligence.

Following a successful evaluation of the trial of a detector dog within NI, which concluded in February 2006, the procurement process for a dedicated detector dog is to be shortly concluded.

1.2.9 Although HMRC's anti-smuggling strategy relates to the detection of illegal POAO imports from outside the EU, in 2006/07, operational guidance was agreed between Defra, HMRC, FSA and AH on HMRC action to be taken if products are discovered which may have evaded controls on restricted areas following a disease outbreak in another EU Member State.

1.2.10 Where necessary, as a result of disease outbreaks in EU Member States or non-EU countries which are liable to present a risk to animal or public health, restrictions may be put in place on the importation of live animals or animal products. The relevant Regulations under which restrictions are applied are shown in section 2.3.2.

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Declarations are put in place to prohibit or restrict imports from specified regions, areas or territories or to revoke any previous prohibitions.

Between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007, the number of declarations issued is as follows:

England	–	66
Scotland	–	54
Wales	–	56
NI	–	61

1.2.11 The FSA has continued to work closely with Local Authorities to improve Local Authority enforcement of imported food controls. Work has continued to deliver basic and intermediate level imported food courses which have been attended by over 400 officers. A review of training needs has been carried out to inform the 2007/08 programme for Local Authority personnel.

The Guidance and Regulatory Advice on Import Legislation (GRAIL) prototype system which provides database query facilities for information on imported food legislation has been made available to all major ports in the UK. The FSA has been developing the database to make it accessible online. It is planned that version 2 would have a wider deployment to UK Local Authorities, other Government Departments and potentially to a limited number of trade organisations. GRAIL currently contains information on products not of animal origin and fish and fishery products. It is however planned to expand GRAIL's content to include all POAO.

1.2.12 Defra, HMRC, FSA and AH continue to meet regularly to discuss progress, resolve any issues or to improve on guidance to enforcement officers. We will continue to review progress and ensure that existing relationships are further developed and strengthened where necessary.

1.2.13 The Imported Food Project Group (chaired by the FSA with Defra and HMRC also attending) meets bi-annually to discuss developments and engages with key regulatory stakeholders including the Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services (LACORS), the Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA), the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) and Port Health and Local Authorities.

1.2.14 Inspectors from AH who are involved with veterinary checks work, including checks on compliance at BIPs, meet 3 times a year. The aim of these meetings is to discuss current problems and disseminate best practice. Defra attend these meetings to provide policy advice. AH also provides update training for Portal Official Veterinary Surgeons (OVSSs) at least twice a year. Initial training for Portal OVSSs is a distance learning package followed by a short practical course at a BIP.

1.2.15 The Defra Import/Export Consultation Exchange (DICE) is a consultative forum in which trade issues can be discussed with key stakeholders. It encourages dialogue between the trade and the regulatory bodies with a view to facilitating legitimate trade without compromising animal, plant or public health standards. It brings together a range of Defra officials dealing with import and export controls on a wide range of products, colleagues from FSA, AH and HMRC, importers, exporters, shipping agents, port operators and others with an interest. The group met in May 2006 and a further meeting is envisaged in 2007.

1.2.16 The National Wildlife Crime Unit (NWCU) was formed in 2002 and then re-launched by the Bio-diversity Minister, Barry Gardiner, in October 2006 and is now housed at North Berwick Police Station, in the Lothian and Borders Police area in Scotland.

The NWCU is a Police-led multi-agency Unit reporting directly to a High Level Group (HLG) made up of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) and its counterpart in Scotland (ACPOS), Defra, AH, the Home Office, HMRC, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) on behalf of the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations (SNCOs) and the Scottish Executive incorporating the Procurator Fiscal Service. It maintains a full UK wide remit and its core function is that of gathering intelligence and information against set national priorities, analysing collected data to identify criminal activity and associated criminals and then making recommendations for prevention, intelligence and enforcement options to best tackle the criminal activity.

The NWCU has introduced a new national strategy to deal with serious wildlife crime and manages the whole process on behalf of the HLG.

Since inception its core funding has come from Defra (Wildlife Species Conservation (WSC)) with further contributions from the ACPO, the Home Office and recently Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

The Animal Health and Welfare Directorate General (AHWDG)² within Defra additionally contributed £100,000 to the NWCU operating costs in 2006/07. This was used to drive a project investigating previously registered UK Bird Quarantine Centres and ascertaining whether there was a potential risk of AI entering the UK from an illegal bird trade. The concluding report is currently being finalised.

The Unit's current national priorities which will be re-assessed at the HLG Meeting in October 2007 are Hen Harrier persecution, the illegal trade in Freshwater Pearl Mussels and Caviar, tackling the illegal trade in endangered species via the internet, the AI project as above, all species of Bat crime, a review of endangered species enforcement in the UK and a 'watching brief' on the illegal trade in Falcons.

The NWCU represents the UK Police Service at both EU level through the EC Enforcement Working Group and at international level on the Interpol Wildlife Working Group. It is the conduit to many Governmental and non-Governmental Organisations both within and outwith the UK.

1.2.17 The purpose of the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF), established in 1979, is to provide EU Member States with an effective tool for exchange of information on measures taken to ensure food safety. The FSA uses the RASFF system to inform, and prompt for action to be taken, by the EC or other EU Member States, including when food products from non-EU countries which breach public and animal health safety requirements are rejected. RASFFs are divided into 'alert' and 'information' notifications. The EC has a procedure in place to alert non-EU countries about problems affecting food. This system automatically alerts Port Health and Local Authorities at the border (ports and airports) enabling them to target their checks on imported food. The FSA will also, where appropriate, contact non-EU countries via their Embassies. Between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007, the UK issued 467 notifications via RASFF.

² Named the Food and Farming Group (FFG) since 1 April 2007.

Understanding the risk

1.3.1 The endemic nature of animal diseases in many countries around the world results in a continuous but low risk of them reaching the UK through illegal routes. All POAO seizures are treated as an animal or public health risk and destroyed, by incineration, in the shortest possible time.

1.3.2 Defra continues to monitor the occurrence of major animal disease outbreaks worldwide as an early warning to assess the risk these events may pose to the UK, and help inform our delivery partners' enforcement activities.

1.3.3 Defra publishes routine monthly reports and POAs and QRAs (as required), which are regularly distributed within Government, posted publicly on our website, or published in the Veterinary Record.

1.3.4 When Defra becomes aware of a new animal disease outbreak in another country, we may carry out a POA, which may conclude that a full QRA is justified. When there is official notification of a new disease incident in an EU Member State, a country on the border of the EU, or one of the UK's non-EU country trading partners then it is likely that measures will be taken to manage the increased threat.

1.3.5 In 2006/07 Defra conducted 49 POAs on outbreaks of diseases such as H5N1 Highly Pathogenic AI, Foot and Mouth Disease, Newcastle Disease, Peste des Petits Ruminants, Lumpy Skin Disease, Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Bluetongue, Equine Infectious Anaemia, Low Pathogenic AI, Vesicular Stomatitis, Rift Valley Fever, Sheep Pox and Goat Pox, and African Horse Sickness. Further to these, 5 more detailed QRAs were undertaken – the majority related to the evolving situation with regard to the outbreaks of H5N1 AI around the world. Defra veterinary and policy officials continue to meet with HMRC colleagues as required to discuss changes in the global disease situation and help plan future enforcement activity. This is also informed by a risk assessment conducted by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

1.3.6 On 22 September 2006 Dr Debby Reynolds, Defra's Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) gave a presentation to the OIE regional conference in Lyon on the issue of smuggling. This was based on the responses from member countries of the European Regional Commission (over 75% responded) to a questionnaire on smuggling drawn up by the UK on behalf of the OIE.

The main conclusions of the conference were that smuggling of live animals and products is considered to be an important issue with a potentially high impact on health status and economy. In addition the need for political commitment was recognised and that there was an effective legal basis for action.

At the conference the CVO encouraged the member countries to co-operate with Government Agencies and others, to provide assistance for under-resourced countries and to have greater regional co-operation and intelligence sharing.

1.3.7 The FSA is responsible for public health with respect to food, including imported food controls and co-ordinates work with the Department of Health, the Health Protection Agency and Defra through groups such as the UK Zoonoses Group and the Human Animal Infections and Risk Surveillance Group. Government advice to UK consumers is that illegal imported food, including meat and bushmeat, should not be eaten because it has evaded official controls designed to verify compliance with food safety standards and could therefore pose a danger to human health. The FSA believes that the main risks to public health from illegal imported meat are those associated with well-known food pathogens, which will be destroyed by cooking, and have concluded that a formal risk assessment is not warranted. To determine whether any additional advice is required, a study was commissioned to give an overview of the

microbiological risks associated with illegal imports of meat, which was put to the independent Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food (ACMSF). The ACMSF's Ad Hoc Group on Imported Foods considered this study, information on controls to prevent illegal imports, and research on species identification of seized meat. The Group concluded that the risk of foodborne illness from consumption of bushmeat appeared to be very low, and that the risk of foodborne illness from cross-contamination was also minimal. In addition, normal cooking would probably destroy any viruses and bacteria present although there was no data available to verify this. The Group also concluded that there was a lack of quantitative data relating to the microbiological risks associated with bushmeat.

1.3.8 In order to assess possible infringements of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) through the illegal importation of meat into the UK, a pilot study was undertaken to identify the species composition of bushmeat seized entering the UK at Heathrow airport. The project required a broad interdepartmental approach involving teams from HMRC, Defra (WSC and International Animal Health) and the FSA, in addition to backing from the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) and technical expertise from Wildlife DNA Services (WDNAS). The report³ was published on 1 May 2007.

Samples were obtained from seizures of illegal imports of meat coordinated by HMRC CITES and POAO teams operating on 5 separate occasions during late 2005 and early 2006.

A total of 230 meat samples were made available for DNA testing. 62 meat samples were chosen as possible wild meat of which 7 (4 pangolins, 1 marsh buck, 1 cane rat and a wild pig species) were identified as wild meat, with the remainder originating from agricultural animals. Of the wild meat samples, 5 (pangolins and marsh buck) were identified as belonging to CITES regulated species. The majority of the imported meat was likely for personal use, given the low weight of consignments. In addition to sampling at Heathrow, a further 3 samples were collected by Local Authority inspectors in London on behalf of the FSA. The 3 samples all originated from African native cane rats, a non-CITES listed species.

It is important to note that bushmeat forms only a small proportion of overall seizures. This study also helps in strongly suggesting that the vast majority of illegally imported bushmeat is not from endangered species, and not from gorillas and chimpanzees as reported in the media.

Example of the bushmeat sampled, as referred to in section 1.3.8



³ <http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/resprog/findings/bushmeat-summary.pdf>

Raising Awareness

1.4.1 There continues to be a joined-up approach across Government Departments on the overall communications strategy. Defra leads on inland audiences, HMRC amongst travellers (ie. those intending to travel), as well as at points of entry/departure from and into the UK, including travellers arriving from non-EU countries. The overall aim has continued to be to enhance awareness of the risks posed by products that may carry animal diseases and to reduce the volume of illegal products brought in because of ignorance of the rules.

1.4.2 Defra has distributed leaflets to a large number of organisations (universities, student groups, volunteer organisations, charities, travel guide companies, freight companies and hauliers) that provide information to individuals coming to, or returning to, the UK, as well as having leaflets available in approximately 6,000 Doctor's surgeries.

1.4.3 Defra has continued the public awareness campaign launched on 25 October 2004, which focuses on communities who may bring back food items from their trips abroad, and is being conducted by 2 specialist publicity agencies (although the second agency's involvement was only from November 2006 – April 2007). Bi-lingual leaflets and posters in 9 different languages have been produced: Arabic, Urdu, Bengali, Punjabi, Hindi, Gujarati, Chinese, Turkish and English (for African and Caribbean communities). 15,134 leaflets and 2,361 posters were distributed in 2006/07 to community groups/centres, places of worship, travel agents, high commissioners and visa offices. Over 1,000 posters were also distributed to over 900 high street shops including local supermarkets and other appropriate retail outlets. 12,820 branded travel wallets were also distributed to travel agents. The campaign has now gone to re-tender to appoint a specialist publicity agency to take the campaign forward from June 2007 – March 2008.

Defra bi-lingual leaflets and posters available in 9 different languages, as referred to in section 1.4.3



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Defra mobile unit, as referred to in section 1.4.6



1.4.7 A Defra stand was displayed at Heathrow airport in Terminal 3 on 8 – 10 December 2006 and in Terminal 4 on 15 – 17 December 2006, with staff present to answer any queries, handing out over 17,000 leaflets to travellers flying to non-EU countries.

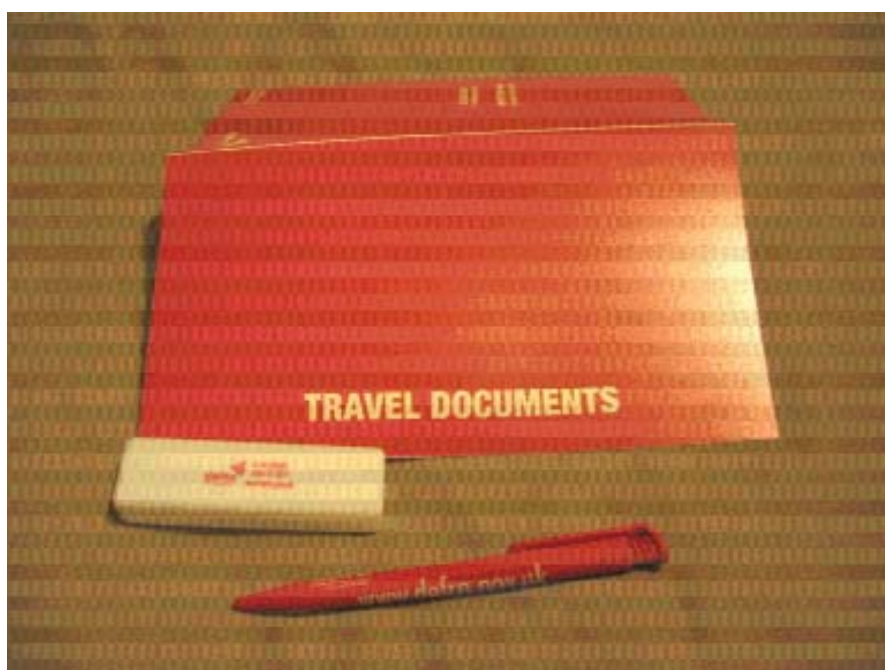
1.4.8 Defra commissioned advertising on phone booths and Adshels in community specific locations in London, which ran during pre-key travel periods amongst target communities and were scheduled to coincide with community outreach activity. Burst 1 activity (Phone booths) took place from 23 October 2006 – 5 November 2006 (175 sites to reach Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Turkish communities (pre-Eid)) and Burst 2 activity (Adshels) took place from 26 February 2007 – 11 March 2007 (170 sites to reach African Caribbean and Indian communities (pre-Easter and Baisakhi)). By upgrading the campaign to Adshels in Burst 2, we created additional media value of £20,400 (plus £4,100 production).

Defra advertising on phone booths and Adshels, as referred to in section 1.4.8



1.4.9 Merchandise was produced to support the outreach activity such as travel wallets, travel toothbrushes and branded pens.

Defra merchandise produced to support the outreach activity, as referred to in section 1.4.9



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1.4.10 Defra also aims to develop new relationships with key groups in an attempt to extend the marketing messages through partnerships with catering associations within Chinese and Asian markets (such as the Chinese Take-Away Association) and overseas student associations particularly Chinese and African. With regard to the Chinese Take-Away Association, contact was made with their President, Thomas Chan, who was very supportive of the campaign. An A4 flyer, translated into Chinese, was sent to members consisting of 719 Chinese restaurants around the country. Thomas Chan also discussed the Defra campaign in his weekly article in Sing Tao newspaper. In addition, 58 Chinese university students' associations were approached to send out an e-mail in a leaflet format alerting recipients to the rules on personal imports of POAO. This was in English only following discussions with Student Unions confirming that this was the most suitable language. 26 associations confirmed that the e-mail had been sent with the total number of e-mail alerts sent out being 12,459.

Defra A4 flyer sent to members of the Chinese Take-Away Association, as referred to in section 1.4.10



Defra e-mail in a leaflet format circulated by Chinese university students' associations, as referred to in section 1.4.10



1.4.11 Since its release in November 2004, the Defra television (TV) filler “I Packed My Bags” has generated over £1 million in equivalent paid advertising space, with a significant number of showings on stations such as Islam Channel and Zee TV as well as regional TV stations. This has been adapted for use as an in-flight video for incoming passengers to the UK to encourage them to surrender illegal goods to HMRC on arrival.

1.4.12 As with last year, Defra and HMRC conducted an online advertising campaign at peak travel periods aimed at UK travellers who research and book trips abroad on the internet, targeting people who were searching for destinations outside the EU, and using innovative and ‘eye-catching’ images to encourage users to click through to the Defra website. This year’s campaign commenced on 23 October 2006, utilising travel internet sites including Expedia, Lastminute, BAA, Time out, Virgin and Opodo, and ran until 28 February 2007. Campaign evaluation revealed that awareness of the import restrictions amongst the online audience increased significantly as a result of the publicity activity. Over 23 million impressions were served, reaching over 5.8 million unique users, with each user being exposed to the advertisements 4 times on average. Click through rate to the Defra website was higher than the industry standard.

Internet advertising, as referred to in section 1.4.12

The screenshot shows the Time Out website for Los Angeles. A red circle highlights an advertisement at the top that reads: "If you bring certain foods into the UK from outside the EU," accompanied by an image of a plate of food. Another red circle highlights the Defra logo, which is part of a banner for "Personal Food Import Restrictions - check here". The website layout includes a navigation bar with links for Home, Travel, London, Film, Eating & Drinking, Shop, and New York. Below the navigation bar, there is a main heading for "Los Angeles" and a sidebar with various travel-related links such as flights, hotels, and car hire. The main content area features an "Online city guide" with sections for Sights, Restaurants & bars, Shopping, Nightlife, Hotels, and Getting around. There is also a "Star ratings" section and a "This week in Los Angeles" section with a list of events. A "Buy this guide" section is visible at the bottom, along with a "Time Out Los Angeles" book cover. The right sidebar contains several travel-related advertisements, including Expedia.co.uk, octopustravel.com, lastminute.com, hotelconnect, lgluski.com, hotels.com, and theatre now.

Introduction

1.4.13 Defra's website includes a searchable database of products for personal imports and countries, which is a useful source of information for travellers. It is regularly updated as the rules change.

1.4.14 HMRC has continued to distribute high-impact leaflets summarising the rules for personal imports of animal products to travellers at ports and airports and at travel exhibitions or other events. These POAO leaflets are available in 10 dual language variants (including Welsh, Turkish, Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi, Urdu and Chinese) to provide non-English speakers arriving at ports and airports with something they can understand. The leaflets were updated in January 2007. Laminated POAO rule cards in 10 different languages are also available to assist customs officers when speaking to arriving overseas travellers.

1.4.15 Dedicated posters continue to be on display at high visibility sites at ports and airports, alerting travellers to the rules on personal imports of POAO.

HMRC bi-lingual leaflets and posters available in a number of different languages, as referred to in sections 1.4.14 and 1.4.15



1.4.16 In response to the spread of H5N1 AI to new countries and regions in 2005/06, HMRC introduced a number of additional measures, including specific "bird flu" posters displayed at ports and airports reminding travellers of prohibited products from AI affected countries and encouraging declaration of any such items to HMRC. A "bird flu" leaflet (in 8 languages) was also produced in association with Defra and the Department of Health describing prohibited goods and alerting travellers to the precautions to take when visiting AI infected countries. Special bins have been placed in the Red Channel and Red Point areas for the disposal of any animal products surrendered to customs staff by incoming passengers.

"Bird flu" bi-lingual leaflets and posters, as referred to in section 1.4.16



1.4.17 POAO leaflets are issued to all travellers from whom products are seized, and to those receiving items in the post, thus ensuring better understanding of the rules. Press releases on significant seizures and successful prosecutions are also issued.

1.4.18 2 radio fillers (one 40 seconds long, the other 20 seconds long) were produced in March 2007 to be broadcast on UK radio stations, using unsold advertising airtime slots.

1.4.19 HMRC is also promoting the 'If in doubt message' prominently in the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) members' handbook. The handbook is distributed to 16,000 travel agents in the UK and used by them for the duration of 2007. In addition, 500,000 ticket wallets advertising the UK restrictions on bringing back animal products were distributed to travel agents for issue to customers.

1.4.20 In 2006/07 HMRC instigated 2 separate exercises to contact all airlines flying from non-EU countries into the UK and remind them of their obligations under EC Regulation 745/2004 to draw passengers' attention to the personal import rules for animal products and offering text for an inflight announcement or a free video to show on inbound flights. A database of 114 airlines was compiled as a result and a commitment given by the majority to show the video or make announcements.

Introduction

1.4.21 As of February 2007, HMRC and Defra have appointed a partnership marketing agency to create, develop and manage beneficial relationships with commercial organisations on publicising POAO import rules. The objective of the ongoing partnership activity is to disseminate key messages to travellers to the UK, particularly returning UK residents, at relevant points in their travel journey as well as to focus on publicity within the top 5 source countries for illegal import seizures.

1.4.22 Over the reporting period, DARDNI has continued to raise the profile of the threat of introduction of disease from POAO in the following ways:

- Production of leaflets and posters giving information to the travelling public on which POAO items can and cannot be brought back to NI;
- Active surveillance beyond risk based searching, in the form of questioning passengers regarding awareness;
- Issuing press releases, reminding the public not to bring back illegal POAO personal imports when returning from holidays;
- An appearance on local TV by DARDNI staff, highlighting the issues and risks associated with the illegal importation of POAO;
- Development of relevant advertising on plasma screen displays at points of entry advising passengers of the rules on POAO personal imports.

Stakeholder involvement

1.5.1 Defra and HMRC have been leading the way in encouraging greater co-operation between customs and veterinary authorities in other EU Member States including input at working groups of both DG SANCO and DG TAXUD – the Directorates General of the EC for Health and Consumer Protection, and Taxation and Customs Union respectively. We have received good feedback from other EU Member States at these groups about the progress the UK has made in relation to good co-operative working relationships and on our publicity activity, including the video.

HMRC also provided the Rapporteur for another DG TAXUD working group looking at customs controls across the EU to combat the spread of AI and other animal diseases. The Group has produced EU customs enforcement best practice guidelines and common indicators to assist customs authorities in risk targeting.

1.5.2 Defra, HMRC and the FSA hosted visits from the Norwegian Food Safety Authority and customs administration to discuss food import controls including passing on our expertise in enforcing the import rules, use of risk and intelligence and our joint publicity efforts.

1.5.3 Defra worked closely with London Borough of Lambeth in organising and delivering presentations to a workshop which took place on 24 November 2006 aimed specifically at local commercial traders but with an element covering personal food imports.

1.5.4 Defra and HMRC gave a joint presentation to the Defra CSF stakeholder group on legal and illegal imports.

1.5.5 As part of the Government's review of policy for financing the costs of exotic animal disease outbreaks, the Joint (Industry/Government) Working Group on Sharing Responsibilities and Costs of Animal Disease published a consultation in July 2006: "Sharing Responsibilities and Costs and Exotic Animal disease." The report's conclusions and recommendations represented a major breakthrough in that, for the first time, Government and industry representatives achieved a consensus around the principles of sharing costs and responsibilities in the event of an exotic disease outbreak.

A UK Responsibility and Cost Sharing Consultative Forum was established at the end of 2006 to work together to develop mechanisms through which responsibilities and costs could be shared on animal health and welfare and Defra launched a consultation on 11 December 2006 on the principles underpinning any future sharing of responsibilities and costs for animal health and welfare activities. More detailed Government proposals for responsibility and cost sharing will be the subject of a further consultation in July 2007.

1.5.6 On 17 – 19 November 2006, Defra attended the British Cattle Veterinary Association Congress – leaflets and posters were supplied to put on an illegal imports exhibit.

1.5.7 We also feed into the CITES Officers Group meetings and the Home Office Border Management Group meetings.

Review of controls on imports of meat and other animal products

The Animal Health Act 1981 (as amended by the Animal Health Act 2002) requires a return to be made against 5 headings as given below:

Review of activities of enforcement agencies directed to the prevention of the introduction of disease

2.1.1 Defra and the **Welsh Assembly Government** are responsible for animal health policy in England and Wales, and Defra is the central competent authority for veterinary checks and animal health aspects of import controls on POAO. Defra remains the nominated UK management authority for CITES policy, whilst the responsibility for licensing imports, exports and commercial use of listed species of animals, plants and their derivatives transferred to Animal Health with the Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service on 1 April 2007. Responsibility for intra-EU movements of food products is with Defra and the Local Authorities.

2.1.2 Animal Health (named the State Veterinary Service (SVS) prior to 1 April 2007) has a presence in most busy ports and airports. It is able to support other enforcement bodies and provide a line of communication with Defra headquarters. AH is also able to provide advice on identifying products and can advise on disposal arrangements, disinfecting etc. AH is also responsible for veterinary checks on POAO at BIPs that take only products not for human consumption. AH brings together all the expertise previously offered by the SVS, the Dairy Hygiene and Egg Marketing Inspectorates and the Wildlife Licensing and Registration Service. During 2006/07 the SVS took on the responsibility for dealing with service delivery work relating to the import of POAO, such as responding to external enquiries about the requirements for imports from non-EU countries, and for intra-Community trade.

2.1.3 The **FSA** is responsible for public health aspects of food imported into the UK. The FSA has particular responsibility for policy issues for imports of fishery products, bivalves and food which is not of animal origin. The FSA has responsibilities for assisting and co-ordinating local enforcement activities of Local Authorities, both inland and at ports, in this aspect of their duties.

2.1.4 The **Meat Hygiene Service (MHS)** is an executive agency of the FSA, and operates controls at licensed meat cutting and processing plants. These include random checks on non-EU country meat and intra-Community products, to ensure compliance with public and animal health legislation.

2.1.5 HMRC is responsible for ensuring that commercial imports of animal products are not granted customs clearance unless the goods have undergone the necessary veterinary checks and have been authorised for entry into the UK. HMRC is also responsible for anti-smuggling controls on illegal imports from non-EU countries at GB points of entry (i.e. where goods are under customs supervision) except in areas designated as BIPs, including postal imports whether at postal depots, ports or airports, and for enforcing controls under CITES. HMRC is not responsible for controlling intra-EU movements except where goods have not been subject to customs control elsewhere on arrival in the EU, such as interline baggage. This is baggage which has been checked through from a non-EU country departure airport to its final destination in the EU but is routed via another EU airport.

2.1.6 The **Scottish Executive** and the **Welsh Assembly Government** are responsible for the legislation and overseeing of enforcement in their respective countries.

Review of controls on imports of meat and other animal products

2.1.7 Port Health and Local Authorities are responsible for food safety and standards checks on goods presented at ports and airports, including veterinary checks required by EU law on POAO at BIPs. They are not responsible for detecting smuggled POAO at GB points of entry. If, however, they uncover illegal products in the course of their duties outside of a BIP, including at ports and airports after goods have passed through customs controls, they issue a detention notice and seek HMRC assistance. Local Authorities are also responsible for dealing with smuggled POAO when they are discovered inland at retail, catering, market stalls or other premises. Responsibility for intra-EU movements of food products is with the Local Authorities and Defra.

2.1.8 The **Police** do not have any specific enforcement responsibilities under the legislation listed, but their assistance might be sought to aid Port Health and Local Authorities or other inspectorates in their enforcement duties.

Statistics on illegal products

2.2.1 Statistics relating to total seizures, in this and previous years (where records are available) are set out in Annex 1.

Legislation: powers

2.3.1 The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/2841) is the principal regulation relating to imports of products. It gives effect to Directive 97/78/EC laying down principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on products entering the EU and also Commission Regulation (EC) No. 745/2004 laying down measures with regard to imports of POAO for personal consumption. It also gives effect to the responsibility of HMRC to enforce controls on prohibited goods at points of entry. In exercising their responsibility, HMRC draws down its powers from the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 under which it has wide-ranging powers, including powers of search, seizure and arrest.

Similar regulations apply in Scotland:

- The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (SSI 2007/1); and Wales:
- The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/376 (W. 36)).

In addition:

- Commission Regulation (EC) No. 745/2004 requests that international passenger transport operators shall draw the attention of all passengers they carry into the EU to the animal health conditions for POAO;
- The EC Wildlife Trade Regulations (Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97) came into force in June 1997, implementing CITES within the European Community, replacing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3626/82. This Regulation restricts the movement of and/or trade in endangered wild flora and fauna, and requires EU Member States to designate Customs offices for imports and exports of all CITES specimens, set out in the Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Designation of Ports of Entry) Regulation 1985.

This has largely been superseded by the Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) legislation. Defra is looking to revise and update Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Designation of Ports of Entry) Regulations and a consultation will be issued in June 2007, with a view to revising legislation in spring 2008.

Review of controls on imports of meat and other animal products

2.3.2 In respect of section 1.2.10, these are the Regulations under which restrictions are applied:

Regulation 27 of the Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export) (England) Regulations 2005/Regulation 28 of the Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export) (England) Regulations 2006	Live animals from other EU Member States and non-EU countries/Intra-Community trade in genetic material
Regulation 59 of the Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) (No 4) Regulations 2004/Regulation 59 of Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) Regulations 2006	Imports of meat, meat products, other animal products and genetic material from non-EU countries
Regulation 35 of the Products of Animal Origin (Import and Export) Regulations 1996	Intra-community trade in meat and other animal products

Legislation: effectiveness

2.4.1 Very little legislation relevant to controls on imports of animal products is made under the Animal Health Act 1981. The Importation of Animal Products and Poultry Products Order 1980 (SI 1934), as amended in 1984 (SI 2920) is extant and applies to all animal products (derived from mammals or birds) which are not subject to the provisions of The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/2841), The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (SSI 2007/1) and The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/376 (W. 36)). This includes some hides and skins, and certain products not for human consumption.

2.4.2 The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (England) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/2841), The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (SSI 2007/1) and The Products of Animal Origin (Third Country Imports) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/376 (W. 36)) create an absolute offence and provide for a fine not exceeding £5,000 and/or up to 3 months' imprisonment on summary conviction, and an unlimited fine and/or up to 2 years' imprisonment on indictment.

2.4.3 HMRC may also use its powers under the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979, where penalties for being knowingly concerned with smuggling prohibited or restricted items can include imprisonment for up to 7 years and/or unlimited fines.

Future action

Enforcement strategy

2.5.1 HMRC will continue to deliver an enforcement strategy that targets anti-smuggling activity on the highest risk traffic and to review deployment of resources and react flexibly in response to changes in the pattern of risk.

2.5.2 Defra and HMRC will continue to meet on a regular basis to discuss various issues including animal disease risks and enforcement priorities for 2007/08.

Review of controls on imports of meat and other animal products

Understanding the risk

2.5.3 Defra will continue to monitor the international disease situation, producing assessments as necessary to help inform enforcement activity.

Raising public awareness

2.5.4 Both HMRC and Defra have completed the initial evaluation of publicity activity in 2006/07. Defra will continue with its ongoing campaign with a change of emphasis, having taken into account evaluation levels of public awareness and seizure information. Defra will also continue with the mainstream activity such as providing leaflets to UK universities and colleges to send to international students who are about to embark upon a course of study in the UK. HMRC will continue to promote the POAO personal import rules through a wide range of communication channels including high impact leaflets, posters, websites and contact with airlines, as well as seeking new on and offline publicity opportunities. Defra/HMRC/FSA will together undertake a project to refresh publicity material to be used in the joint communication strategy for 2007/08.

2.5.5 HMRC and Defra will continue to work with the contracted marketing agency to deliver commercial partnership opportunities to reach our general public audience both in the UK and overseas.

2.5.6 Defra, HMRC and the FSA will meet at regular intervals to review the publicity strategy for 2007/08, taking into account successes and lessons learned from 2006/07 and any changing priorities as the year progresses.

International co-operation and information exchange

2.5.7 We continue to support all efforts to encourage closer co-operation between customs and veterinary authorities in other EU Member States. HMRC will seek opportunities to build on the work conducted in 2006/07 at EU level in developing and sharing best practice for the control of imports of animal products and facilitating the exchange of intelligence and other risk information to detect illegal imports.

Working in partnership with stakeholders

2.5.8 Defra will continue to work with stakeholders to assist in the development of its policies.

2.5.9 All enforcement partners will review the current SLA and revise it as necessary for 2007/08.

Monitoring progress

2.5.10 The Government will continue to monitor the effectiveness of all these activities.

Funding

2.5.11 HMRC will continue to fund its enforcement activities in line with Public Service Agreement target commitments. Funding continues to be available for Defra to examine the risks and help increase public awareness, and for the FSA for work on inland controls. Overall, the money for the illegal imports programme needs to be looked at in the context of the whole control regime including the legal trade. Funding has to be proportionate to risk. Our controls compare well with other EU Member States.

Statistics on imports of illegal products

Background

Statistics relating to total seizures, in this and previous years (where records are available) are set out in this Annex.

For the purposes of these statistics 'illegal' refers to POAO seized as items from individuals being in contravention of the personal concessions permitted or commercial consignments that have sought to evade correct entry procedures by not being declared at a BIP. It also includes items voluntarily surrendered by passengers at ports and airports.

Data on HMRC seizures is maintained by HMRC on their Detection Control Information Service (DCIS) database. Up until 31 March 2006, the balance of the seizure data is retained on the Illegal Import of Animal Product Seizures (ILAPS) database held by Defra and from 1 April 2006, on an Excel spreadsheet.

Tables 1 and 2 (and Graphs 1 and 2) show the number, weight and volume of seizures from non-EU countries by HMRC at GB points of entry (and by staff funded by Defra until 11 April 2003), those made by DARDNI at points of entry in NI and those made by inland Local/Port Health Authorities where they were able to establish that the illegal products came from non-EU countries.

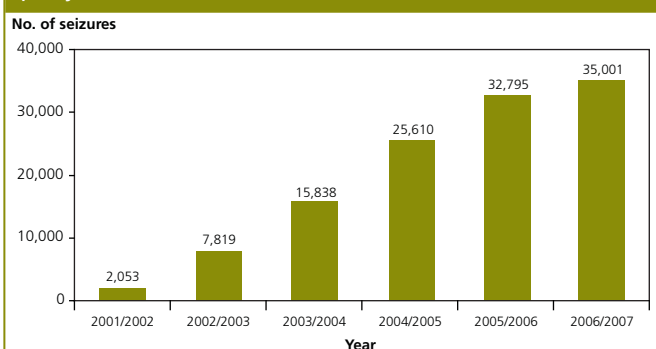
On occasions more than one POAO product at a time will be seized (e.g. meat, fish, dairy and honey). This is referred to as a 'multiple seizure'. Up until 31 March 2006 (see Tables 3a and 3b), this was only recorded as one seizure against the product of highest weight although the weight of the other products seized was included in the weight recorded for that product. However, the number of seizures by product for 2006/07 in Table 3c reflect the number of times each product was seized including those from a 'multiple seizure'. This means that the sum total of the number of seizures for each of the four product categories will be higher than the overall seizure total for 2006/07. However, the total number of seizures remains directly comparable to the figures for previous years (see Table 1 and Graph 1).

Table 1: Total number of POAO seizures and weight (2001-2007) and volume (2006-2007)

Period	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	Vol (ltrs)
01/04/01 – 31/03/02	2,053	114,790	N/A
01/04/02 – 31/03/03	7,819	109,211	N/A
01/04/03 – 31/03/04	15,838	185,889	N/A
01/04/04 – 31/03/05	25,610	220,155	N/A
01/04/05 – 31/03/06	32,795	272,121	N/A
01/04/06 – 31/03/07	35,001 ⁴	239,773	63,165

⁴ Of this number approximately 4% were made in freight and cargo. These seizures account for approximately 40% of the total weight of seizures, and approximately 3% of the total volume of seizures

Graph 1 for Table 1: Total number of POAO seizures per year (2001-2007)



Graph 2 for Table 1: Total weight and volume of POAO seizures per year (2001-2007)

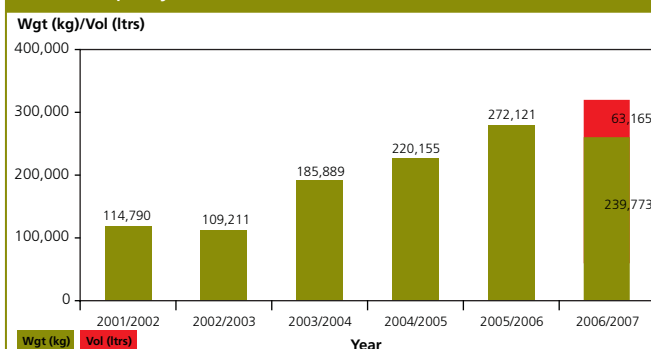
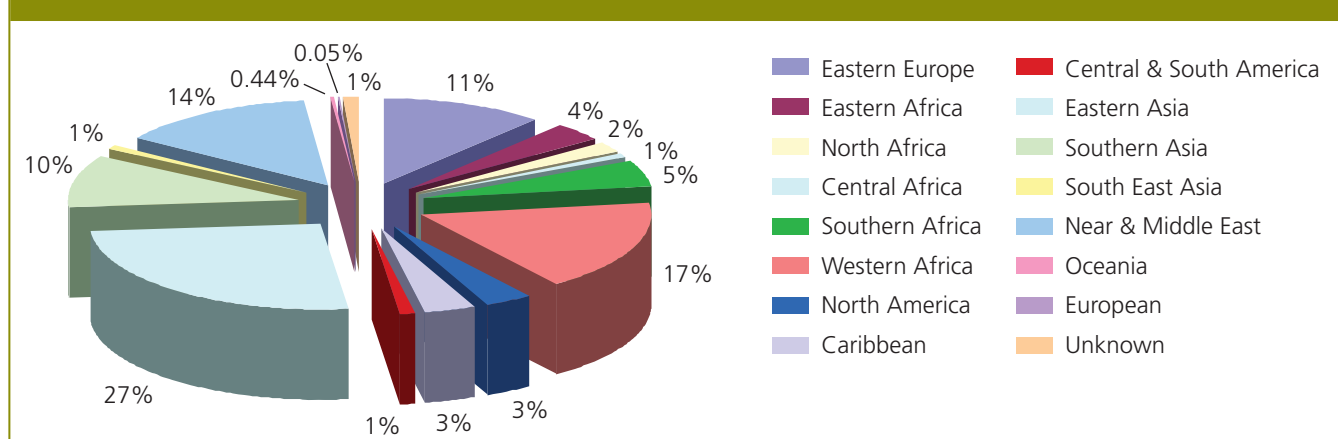


Table 2: POAO seizures, weight and volume by region (2006-2007)

Region ID/Name	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	Vol (ltrs)
1 Eastern Europe ⁵	3,956	15,655.76	15,434.03
2 Eastern Africa	1,248	8,264.41	9,507.00
3 North Africa	692	2,517.55	1,200.00
4 Central Africa	312	2,281.45	2,000.00
5 Southern Africa	1,780	4,549.44	1,576.00
6 Western Africa	6,040	35,121.40	2,641.00
7 North America	1,184	21,267.52	286.15
8 Caribbean	1,175	4,580.79	454.00
9 Central & South America	409	3,908.93	0.00
10 Eastern Asia	8,993	56,350.55	2,893.10
11 Southern Asia	3,514	20,334.38	10,713.00
12 South East Asia	282	883.21	1,000.00
13 Near & Middle East	4,820	36,486.78	14,940.80
14 Oceania	153	24,172.49	0.00
15 European	18	91.17	0.00
16 Unknown	425	3,307.50	520.00
Totals	35,001	239,773.33	63,165.08

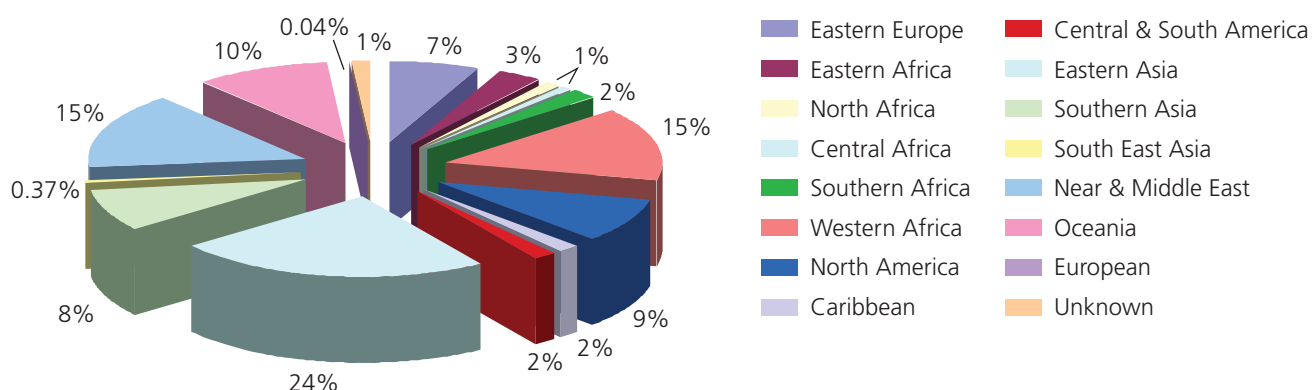
Pie Chart 1 for Table 2: POAO seizures by region (2006-2007)⁶

⁵ Includes seizure statistics from 1 April – 31 December 2006 for Bulgaria and Romania (both countries joined the EU on 1 January 2007).

⁶ The percentages do not add up to 100% due to roundings up and down.

Annex 1

Pie Chart 2 for Table 2: Weight of POAO seizures by region (2006-2007)⁶



Pie Chart 3 for Table 2: Volume of POAO seizures by region (2006-2007)⁶

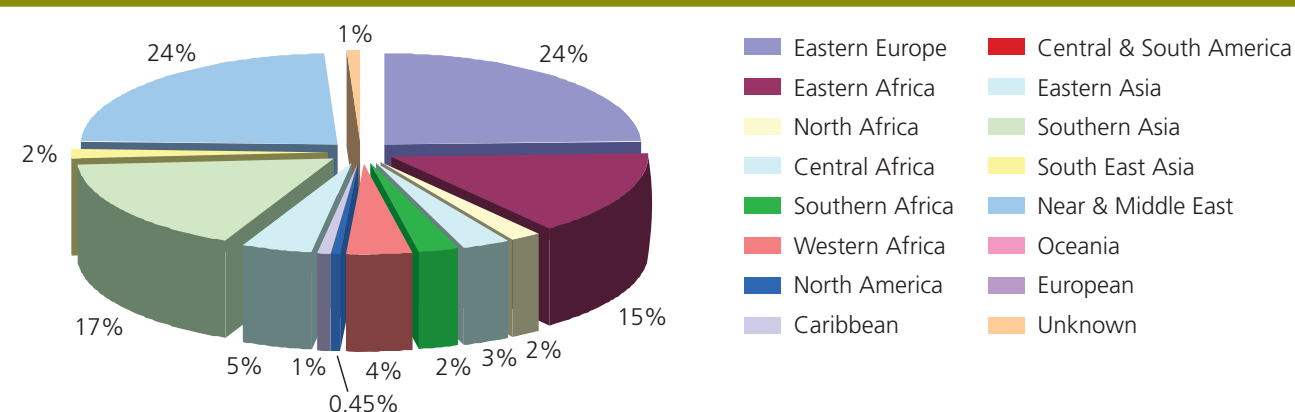


Table 3a: POAO seizures by product (old reporting format)

Period	Meat		Fish		Dairy		Multiple		Other	
	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)
01/04/01-31/03/02	1,242	18,955	353	32,691	63	3,784	361	55,791	34	3,569
01/04/02-31/03/03	2,986	31,301	1,837	21,267	759	19,807	2,172	36,170	65	666
Totals	4,228	50,256	2,190	53,958	822	23,591	2,533	91,961	99	4,235

Table 3b: POAO seizures by product (old reporting format)

Period	Meat		Fish		Dairy		Honey	
	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)	No. of seizures	Wgt (kg)
01/04/03-31/03/04	6,810	72,734	5,325	76,179	3,168	28,052	535	8,924
01/04/04-31/03/05	10,987	78,664	8,322	85,757	5,127	40,685	1,174	15,049
01/04/05-31/03/06	14,826	106,135	9,740	100,840	6,759	48,011	1,470	17,135
Totals	32,623	257,533	23,387	262,776	15,054	116,748	3,179	41,108

⁶ The percentages do not add up to 100% due to roundings up and down.

Table 3c: Number of times POAO seized, including weight and volume, by region (2006-2007)

Region ID/Name	No. of times seized, Wgt (kg) and Vol (ltrs)	Meat	Fish	Dairy	Honey	Totals
1 Eastern Europe ⁵	No. of times seized	3,125	211	1,483	256	
	Wgt (kg)	11,040.98	418.70	3,379.59	816.49	15,655.76
	Vol (ltrs)	9,920.00		5,514.03		15,434.03
2 Eastern Africa	No. of times seized	647	172	568	248	
	Wgt (kg)	3,343.27	975.59	2,876.24	1,069.31	8,264.41
	Vol (ltrs)			9,507.00		9,507.00
3 North Africa	No. of times seized	394	146	169	133	
	Wgt (kg)	1,225.29	612.20	401.62	278.44	2,517.55
	Vol (ltrs)	1,200.00				1,200.00
4 Central Africa	No. of times seized	130	220	11	6	
	Wgt (kg)	730.54	1,460.35	58.98	31.58	2,281.45
	Vol (ltrs)	2,000.00				2,000.00
5 Southern Africa	No. of times seized	1,625	118	94	13	
	Wgt (kg)	2,359.40	1,103.68	1,065.72	20.64	4,549.44
	Vol (ltrs)	1,550.00		26.00		1,576.00
6 Western Africa	No. of times seized	2,059	4,049	716	277	
	Wgt (kg)	8,918.23	21,619.44	2,937.71	1,646.02	35,121.40
	Vol (ltrs)	2,640.00		1.00		2,641.00
7 North America	No. of times seized	656	137	452	13	
	Wgt (kg)	1,427.28	2,720.50	16,987.90	131.84	21,267.52
	Vol (ltrs)	256.00		30.15		286.15
8 Caribbean	No. of times seized	722	371	267	61	
	Wgt (kg)	2,215.70	1,616.94	565.79	182.36	4,580.79
	Vol (ltrs)			454.00		454.00
9 Central & South America	No. of times seized	252	45	165	16	
	Wgt (kg)	2,799.13	697.30	368.98	43.52	3,908.93
	Vol (ltrs)					0.00
10 Eastern Asia	No. of times seized	5,795	3,832	1,306	90	
	Wgt (kg)	18,735.59	24,569.83	12,696.01	349.12	56,350.55
	Vol (ltrs)	2,380.00		513.10		2,893.10
11 Southern Asia	No. of times seized	1,205	685	2,062	150	
	Wgt (kg)	7,746.80	3,167.07	8,926.45	494.06	20,334.38
	Vol (ltrs)	1.00		10,712.00		10,713.00
12 South East Asia	No. of times seized	184	89	57	5	
	Wgt (kg)	380.67	373.64	122.32	6.58	883.21
	Vol (ltrs)			1,000.00		1,000.00
13 Near & Middle East	No. (A)	2,100	465	2,748	722	
	Wgt (kg)	9,579.50	3,164.57	16,627.19	7,115.52	36,486.78
	Vol (ltrs)	400.00		14,540.80		14,940.80

⁵ Includes seizure statistics from 1 April – 31 December 2006 for Bulgaria and Romania (both countries joined the EU on 1 January 2007).

Annex 1

Table 3c: Number of times POAO seized, including weight and volume, by region (2006-2007) continued

Region ID/Name	No. of times seized, Wgt (kg) and Vol (ltrs)	Meat	Fish	Dairy	Honey	Totals
14 Oceania	No. of times seized	80	18	39	21	
	Wgt (kg)	17,698.86	2,322.64	232.84	3,918.15	24,172.49
	Vol (ltrs)					0.00
15 European	No. of times seized	14	5	2	2	
	Wgt (kg)	65.84	15.98	2.25	7.10	91.17
	Vol (ltrs)					0.00
16 Unknown	No. of times seized	266	81	92	16	
	Wgt (kg)	2,059.64	706.68	468.05	73.13	3,307.50
	Vol (ltrs)	520.00				520.00
Totals	No. of times seized	19,254	10,644	10,231	2,029	
	Wgt (kg)	90,326.72	65,545.11	67,717.64	16,183.86	239,773.33
	Vol (ltrs)	20,867.00		42,298.08		63,165.08

Glossary of Commonly Used Abbreviations and Acronyms

ABTA	Association of British Travel Agents
ACMSF	Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safety of Food
ACPO	Association of Chief Police Officers
ACPOS	Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland
AH	Animal Health
AHWDG	Animal Health and Welfare Directorate General
AI	Avian Influenza (more commonly known as “bird flu”)
APHA	Association of Port Health Authorities
BIP(s)	Border Inspection Post(s)
CIEH	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CSF	Classical Swine Fever
CVO	Chief Veterinary Officer
DARDNI	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland
DCIS	Detection Control Information Service
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DICE	Defra Import/Export Consultation Exchange
EC	European Commission
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EU	European Union
FFG	Food and Farming Group
FSA	Food Standards Agency
GB	Great Britain
GRAIL	Guidance and Regulatory Advice on Import Legislation
HLG	High Level Group
HMRC	Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
ILAPS	Illegal Import of Animal Product Seizures
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee

Annex 2

LACORS	Local Authorities Coordinators of Regulatory Services
MHS	Meat Hygiene Service
NI	Northern Ireland
NWCU	National Wildlife Crime Unit
OIE	Office des International Epizooties
OVS(s)	Official Veterinary Surgeon(s)
POA(s)	Preliminary Outbreak Assessment(s)
POAO	Products Of Animal Origin
QRA(s)	Qualitative Risk Assessment(s)
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
SI	Statutory Instrument
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNCOs	Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SSI	Scottish Statutory Instrument
SVS	State Veterinary Service
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System
UK	United Kingdom
WAG-SRD	Welsh Assembly Government – Department for Sustainability and Rural Development
WDNAS	Wildlife DNA Services
WSC	Wildlife Species Conservation



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