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## United Kingdom

### FAIRS Country Report

### Annual

### 2007

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**Report Highlights:**

This report is intended to supplement the European Food & Agricultural Import Regulations (FAIRS) Report with UK-specific information. The UK FAIRS aims to assist U.S. exporters by providing contact information for the UK authorities that are responsible for the import of animal products, plant products, forestry products, fishery products and general food products. In addition, this report provides guidance on UK import procedures including information on health certificates, licenses and duty. UK regulations on food labeling, additives and packaging are also covered. Sections Updated: All

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Annual Report  
London [UK1]  
[UK]

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DISCLAIMER: This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture, London for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped.

## SECTION I. FOOD LAWS

As the United Kingdom is a member of the European Union (EU), the UK follows all EU Directives, Regulations and obligations. This report is designed to be read in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at: <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp>

The vast majority of food laws of the EU member countries have already been fully harmonized into EU law. Where EU regulatory harmonization is not yet complete, imported product must meet existing UK requirements.

### UK Competent Authorities

1. Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)  
Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR  
Tel: 011 44 20 7238 6951  
Email: [helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

Within its trade remit, the UK's Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) has responsibility for the following key areas:

**Animal product** import regulations including: eggs, dairy, red meat, poultry, gelatin, honey and pet food. See: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/imports/iins/index.htm>

**Horticultural product** import regulations including: plants, cut flowers, planting seeds and fruit. See: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/planth/imp.htm>

**Agricultural policy** - including wine, agricultural biotechnology (commercial planting) and organic standards.

2. Food Standards Agency (FSA)  
Aviation House  
125 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6NH  
Telephone: 011 44 20 7276 8000  
Email: [helpline@food.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:helpline@food.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

The Food Standards Agency (FSA) has responsibility for all aspects of food safety and standards on all packaged and loose food products sold direct to the consumer. It also takes the UK policy lead on the assessment of agricultural biotechnology products through its Novel Food Division.

Food that is intended for human consumption must meet the general food safety requirements of European Union (EU) law.

Under EU/UK law, a UK importer faced with a legal action involving a U.S. product that contravenes the requirements must show that they took "all reasonable precautions" and

exercised all "due diligence" to avoid committing an offence. This makes traceability of all ingredients in the product supply chain very important.

UK food law is documented as "Statutory Instruments" and these can be found at: [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/about\\_legislation.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/about_legislation.htm)

### **Enforcement of UK Regulations**

The UK enforcement system is based on the "Home Authority Principle". For every UK business (including importers) there is one local authority office that they can call on for advice, guidance and information on consumer protection, trading standards, food safety and composition and regulatory best practice. There are over 70 such regional trading standards offices located throughout the UK. Further information can be found at [www.tradingstandards.gov.uk](http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk) and [www.lacors.gov.uk](http://www.lacors.gov.uk)

U.S. exporters are advised to encourage their UK importer to liaise with their local trading standards office when introducing U.S. products to the market. The "Home Authority Principle" aims to provide advice and support to UK businesses to "get it right first time". This local government provision is particularly useful in seeking to resolve composition and labeling issues on U.S. food products.

## **SECTION II. LABELING REQUIREMENTS**

The standard U.S. label fails to comply with EU labeling requirements.

EU labeling requirements are detailed in the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/AttacheRep/default.asp>

In the UK, labeling requirements fall under the Labelling, Standards and Allergy Division of the Food Standards Agency. The UK has transposed general EU labeling requirements into The Food Labelling Regulations 1996 and The Food Labelling (Amendment) Regulations 1998 (which introduce quantitative ingredient declarations (QUID) to be given on food labels for certain ingredients or categories of ingredients used in foods). The 1996 regulations also prescribe nutritional labeling and date-marking requirements.

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1996/Uksi\\_19961499\\_en\\_1.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1996/Uksi_19961499_en_1.htm)  
<http://www.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/Fguidnot1.pdf>

EU product specific labeling and composition requirements have also been transposed into UK legislation for products such as bread, chocolate, coffee, fruit juice, honey, infant foods, jam, and milk. Further information is available at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/labelregsguidance/>

Health claims – the Food Standards Agency is currently compiling a list of health claims that will be put forward to the European Commission to fulfill forthcoming EU legislation on nutrition and health claims. Further information on this can be found at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/foodlabelling/ull/claims/>

Although they are not a legal requirement, many UK manufacturers and retailer private label products are displaying front-of-pack nutritional information using the Food Standards

Agency's "Traffic light labeling" system. Further information is available at:  
<http://www.eatwell.gov.uk/foodlabels/trafficlights/>

However, some UK retailers and manufacturers have opted to use a system that displays "Guideline Daily Amounts" or GDAs instead. Further information is available at:  
<http://www.fdf.org.uk/hotissues.aspx>

In addition to the above voluntary labeling initiatives, there is also an increasing amount of attention in the UK on "food miles". The British Standards Institute (BSI) and The Carbon Trust are working on a measurement system capable of indicating the carbon footprint of each product. Marks and Spencer, the UK's leading department store food hall chain, has already started to label many products with a front-of-pack airplane symbol and the words "Air freighted".

### **SECTION III. PACKAGING AND CONTAINER REGULATIONS**

EU packaging requirements are detailed in the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at  
<http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp>

#### **Weights and measures**

Legislation governing weights and measures comes under the jurisdiction of the UK's Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR) (previously Department of Trade & Industry). At a local level, enforcement is through Trading Standards Departments of local councils. Further information is available at:  
<http://www.dti.gov.uk/consumers/buying-selling/weights-measures/page8844.html>

and

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/consumers/buying-selling/weights-measures/packaged-goods/page27641.html>

#### **Packaging Waste**

The UK has implemented the European Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) through two sets of regulations. Responsibility for these is split between the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR).

BERR leads on EU single market aspects of the EC Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive, EU negotiations, and has responsibility over the UK's domestic Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2003, as amended. At a local level, enforcement is through Trading Standards Departments of local councils. Further information is available at:  
<http://www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/sustainability/packaging/Packaging%20in%20the%20UK/page38930.html>

Defra leads on UK waste policy and all other aspects of domestic implementation of the Packaging Directive- including the setting of recycling and recovery targets – through the Producer Responsibility Obligation (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2005. Further information is available at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/Environment/waste/topics/packaging/index.htm>

## Materials in Contact with Food

This falls under the Food Standards Agency's remit and the UK legislation (transposed from the EU Directive) is known as The Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (England) Regulations 2005. Further information is available at:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/foodguid/foodcontacteng2005guid>

## SECTION IV. FOOD ADDITIVE REGULATIONS

EU food additive directives are detailed in the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/AttacheRep/default.asp>

UK guidance notes on food additive regulations (covering sweeteners, colors and miscellaneous additives) are available at:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/foodguid/foodadlegguid>

## SECTION V. PESTICIDES AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS

EU pesticide legislation is detailed in the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/AttacheRep/default.asp>

The competent authority in the UK for pesticides is the Pesticides Safety Directorate:

Pesticides Safety Directorate  
Mallard House, 3 Peasholme Green  
York, YO1 7PX  
Tel: +44 1904 455775  
Fax: +44 1904 455 733  
E-mail: [information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:information@psd.defra.gsi.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.pesticides.gov.uk](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk)

Information on UK maximum residue limits (MRLs) for pesticides can be found at:

[http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/food\\_safety.asp?id=549](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/food_safety.asp?id=549)

In addition, the Pesticides Safety Directorate maintains on-line resources to communicate all current and proposed MRLs.

- Database search for Maximum Residue Levels for trade into the UK  
<https://secure.pesticides.gov.uk/MRLs/>
- Spreadsheet of all MRLs  
[http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/Web\\_Assets/PSD/MRL\\_Spreadsheet.xls](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/Web_Assets/PSD/MRL_Spreadsheet.xls)
- Potential and Agreed Changes to Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs)  
[http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/food\\_safety.asp?id=546](http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/food_safety.asp?id=546)

## Other contaminants

The UK implemented the EU Commission Regulation 1881/2006 with effect from March 1, 2007. This legislation covers nitrates, mycotoxins, heavy metals, dioxins and other contaminants. Further information is available at:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/news/newsarchive/2007/mar/contamreg>

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si2007/20070210.htm>

## SECTION VI. OTHER REGULATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

### General Import Controls

Some products can only come into the European Union (EU) through specific ports. For example, animal products (such as meat, dairy foods and fish) can only enter through a port or airport with a Border Inspection Post (BIP). Some other foods that are not of animal origin have similar rules. Further information on UK Border Inspection Posts can be found at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/beforeimporting/pointofentry>

Food from a third country is subject to routine inspection. Port Health Officials (PHOs) have the power to examine, take samples and detain consignments of food if they suspect it is in breach of food legislation. PHOs liaise with Customs officers and may request that a consignment, under Customs control, is presented for Port Health examination. Consignments of imported food may be selected for examination and sampling for a number of reasons:

- type of food
- potential hazard/contamination
- country of origin
- any particular current problems (including EU Commission decisions)
- past history of product/country

The examination may be a documentary check to confirm that the product being imported is as stated on the manifest (or in any customs declaration) e.g. type, weight, quantity, etc. or samples of the food may be taken for chemical analysis or microbiological examination. Whilst these checks are being carried out the consignment may, if a detention notice is served, be detained for up to 6 working days. The consignment can only be released by a written notice from the PHO. The importer is liable for the cost of storage and handling during this time.

If the consignment is thought to be unfit for human consumption it may be detained for a further 21 days pending the results of any further testing. If the results are satisfactory the importer can speak to the PHO to discuss an alternative use for the consignment: voluntary surrender, reprocessing or, in some cases, re-exportation. Or the importer can appeal to a Justice of the Peace against the PHO's decision.

From time to time, when adverse conditions in a third country come to light, the EC will impose additional import conditions on particular items. This may mean that PHOs have to undertake additional checks and sampling of specific products from that country. A current example of this is Commission Decision 2007/563/EC, amending Decision 2006/504 on special import conditions for almonds from the U.S. See: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/l\\_215/l\\_21520070818en00180020.pdf](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/l_215/l_21520070818en00180020.pdf).

Further information about current procedures regarding Port Health inspections can be found in Section 2 of the Port Health Handbook 2007:

<http://apha.org.uk/pdfs/APHA-Handbook-1-54.pdf>

## **SECTION VII. OTHER SPECIFIC STANDARDS & REGULATIONS**

This section provides quick links to UK information and is designed to complement the corresponding section of the Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards (FAIRS) report produced by the U.S. Mission to the EU in Brussels, Belgium - Report Number: E47056. Available at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scriptsw/AttacheRep/default.asp>

### **A. Genetically Modified Foods (GMOs)**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/gmfoods/>

### **B. Novel Foods**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency  
(Novel Foods is grouped together with biotech/GM foods)

<http://www.food.gov.uk/gmfoods/>

### **C. Fortified Foods**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/consultations/consulteng/2007/avm2007eng>

### **D. Dietetic or Special Use Foods**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/consultations/consulteng/2007/parnutsamendeng2007>

### **E. Wine, Beer and Other Alcoholic Beverages**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/winestandards/>

### **F. Organic Foods**

UK competent authority: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/farm/organic/imports/index.htm>

### **G. Vertical Legislation on Specific Products**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/guidancenotes/labelregsguidance/>

### **H. Animal Products**

(including red meat, poultry, dairy, honey and products containing these as ingredients, as well as hay and straw)

UK competent authority: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/imports/iins/index.htm>

U.S. competent authority for meat & meat products: USDA's Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS)

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&Policies/Export\\_Information/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Export_Information/index.asp)

U.S. competent authority for dairy and dairy products: USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) [http://www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/eu\\_prgm.htm](http://www.ams.usda.gov/dairy/eu_prgm.htm)

U.S. competent authority for "Other Animal Products", including live animals, semen, embryos, hatching eggs, pet food, pig bristles, animal casings, apiculture products, dried bones & products, raw materials for pharmaceuticals, serum, dog chews:

USDA's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import\\_export/animals/animal\\_exports.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/animals/animal_exports.shtml)

### **I. Frozen Foodstuffs**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.food.gov.uk/consultations/consulteng/2006/qffengland2006>

### **J. Irradiated Foodstuffs**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.uk/consultations/ukwideconsults/2001/irradiationconsul>

### **K. Fruits and Vegetables**

UK competent authority: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/hort/index.htm>

### **L. Seafood**

UK competent authority: Food Standards Agency

[http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/want\\_to\\_import/fisheryproducts/](http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/want_to_import/fisheryproducts/)

### **M. Forestry Products**

UK competent authority: Plant Health Service/Forestry Commission

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/hcou-4u4j4j>

### **N. Plants/Bulbs/Cut Flowers etc.**

UK competent authority: Plant Health Division/Defra

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/planth/impexp.htm>

**SECTION VIII. COPYRIGHT/TRADE MARK LAWS**

The UK's Intellectual Property Office (IPO) is the official government body responsible for granting patents, designs, trademarks and copyright. Exporters wanting to register trademarks/brand names are advised to contact:

Intellectual Property Office  
Concept House, Cardiff Road  
Newport, Gwent NP10 8QQ  
Tel: 011 44 1633 813930  
Fax 011 44 1633 817777  
Website: [www.ipo.gov.uk](http://www.ipo.gov.uk)

**SECTION IX. IMPORT PROCEDURES**

UK importers customarily handle all import procedures. The following information is provided to further a U.S. exporter's understanding of the procedures, time-frames and costs that are involved in importing into the UK.

When an importing ship or aircraft arrives at the UK location where goods are to be unloaded, the goods must be 'presented' to Customs (Her Majesty's Customs & Revenue or HMRC) by the person who brought them into the EC or the person who assumes responsibility for their onward carriage (this includes freight haulage companies, shipping and aircraft lines). Goods may be presented by:

- using an approved computerized trade inventory system linked to customs; or
- lodging Form C1600A at the designated Customs office

All goods must be presented within 3 hours of their arrival at the place of unloading. After presentation the goods must be covered by a summary declaration containing the information needed to identify the goods. The summary declaration should be made within 24 hours of presentation and is normally made at the same customs office. The summary declaration must be made by:

- the person who conveyed the goods into the EC; or
- the person who assumes responsibility for their onward carriage
- the shipping, airline or haulage company; or
- the representative of any of the above

In the UK the prescribed form of summary declaration is Form C1600. Customs may also accept commercial documents or computer records, if they contain the necessary details. Acceptable commercial documents include:

- bills of lading
- air way-bills
- container manifests
- load lists
- manifests
- consignment records (on computerized inventory systems)

An import declaration is required for goods from third countries such as the U.S. When goods are imported into the UK it is the responsibility of the importer or his authorized agent to declare them to Customs. In most cases a Single Administrative Document (SAD) is used for this purpose. Further information on the SAD and its online submission through the CHIEF system (Customs Handling of Import Export Freight) can be obtained from H.M. Customs & Revenue web site: [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

In addition to the above paperwork, U.S. products may require import licenses or health certificates. This particularly applies to red meat, dairy, seafood and honey – see Section VII. H. of this report.

All imported goods are liable to be examined by Customs. If goods are selected for examination, the opening, unpacking and re-packing must normally be done by employees of the dock company or an agent of the importer. The examination of goods normally occurs at the place where they are being declared for importation.

Customs duties and other charges that are due must be paid, deferred or secured before the goods are cleared by Customs. It is advisable to show invoices with no freight costs incorporated, only the value of the imported goods, as import duty will be charged on the total amount presented for that shipment. Charges payable on imported goods may include:

- import duties
- 'additional duties' on flour and sugar
- 'countervailing charges' on fruit and vegetables
- 'variable charges' on processed goods
- 'compensatory charges' on oils and fats
- 'extra charges' on eggs, poultry or pig meat
- 'sugar levies' on processed goods with sugar in them
- Value Added Tax (VAT)
- excise duty on alcoholic beverages

The charges payable are linked to the Commodity Code (similar to an HS code, but more detailed) for a particular product. U.S. exporters will need to find out what the Commodity Code for their product, and the associated import duty, is likely to be. This will be necessary to determine a pricing strategy for the product.

### **Obtaining the EU Commodity Code**

To obtain the Commodity Code for your product, contact the H.M. Customs & Revenue, Tariff Classification Helpline on Tel: 011 44 1702 366077. This service gives a verbal reading on the appropriate code and respective import duty for a particular product. It is also possible to obtain a written ruling on the product's Commodity Code known as Binding Tariff Information (BTI). This service is advisable for more complex food products, as it involves closer consideration of the product's composite ingredients and is legally binding. See information on [Classifying Your Goods](#) at:

[http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=pageImport\\_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=IMPEXP\\_CLASSGOODS](http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pageImport_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=IMPEXP_CLASSGOODS)

It is also possible to look up the Commodity Code and relevant import duty for your product on the Internet at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/dds/en/tarhome.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/dds/en/tarhome.htm)

However, as stated above, rather than making your own estimation of the Commodity Code it is advisable to do a BTI for more complex food products.

### Value Added Tax (VAT)

The UK standard rate of Value Added Tax (VAT) is 17.5%. While UK foodservice outlets must charge the standard rate of VAT on everything they serve, retail food products, in general, do not have VAT on them.

However, some exceptions that do incur VAT are:

- Ice Cream and similar products, and mixes for using them
- Confectionery
- Alcoholic beverages
- Other beverages, and preparations for making them
- Potato chips (crisps) roasted or salted nuts, and some other savory snack products
- Products for home brewing and wine making

VAT can also be a value located somewhere between the Standard (S = 17.5%) and the Zero (Z = 0%) rates. For assistance when a case is less straightforward, contact: the VAT Helpline Tel: 011 44 2920 501561, or refer to Her Majesty's Customs & Excise web site: [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk). On-line information on VAT is available at: [http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=pageVAT\\_Home](http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pageVAT_Home)

### Excise Duties

#### Alcohol

Product	Rate of Excise Duty
BPS per liter of pure alcohol	
Spirits	19.56
Wine and made-wine Exceeding 22% abv	19.56
BPS per hectoliter per cent of alcohol in the beer	
Beer	13.71
BPS per hectoliter of product	
Still wine and made-wine Exceeding 5.5%, but not exceeding 15% abv	177.99
Wine and made-wine Exceeding 15%, but not exceeding 22% abv	237.31
Sparkling wine and made-wine Exceeding 5.5%, but less than 8.5% abv	172.33
Sparkling wine and made-wine Exceeding 8.5%, but less than 15% abv	227.99

The above table is an excerpt from the information given by H.M. Revenue & Customs at:  
[http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=pageExcise\\_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=EXCISE\\_INFOS\\_ALCOHOLS](http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pageExcise_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=EXCISE_INFOS_ALCOHOLS)

### **Tobacco**

Tobacco import duties and procedures can be found at:

[http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?\\_nfpb=true&\\_pageLabel=pageExcise\\_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=EXCISE\\_INFOS\\_TOB](http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pageExcise_InfoGuides&columns=1&id=EXCISE_INFOS_TOB)

## **SECTION X. FAS/USDA LONDON CONTACT INFORMATION**

USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service  
American Embassy/Box 48  
24 Grosvenor Square  
London, W1A 1AE  
United Kingdom  
Tel: 011 44 20 7894 0040/0464  
Fax: 011 44 20 7894 0031  
Email: [AgLondon@fas.usda.gov](mailto:AgLondon@fas.usda.gov)

**APPENDIX I. – Government Regulatory Agency Contacts**

Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA)

2.02 Suffolk Enterprise Centre

Felaw Maltings

44 Felaw Street

Ipswich IP2 8SJ

Tel: 011 44 1473 407040

E-mail: [apha@cieh.org.uk](mailto:apha@cieh.org.uk)

Website: [www.apha.org.uk](http://www.apha.org.uk)

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra)

Nobel House

17 Smith Square

London SW1P 3JR

Helpline: 011 44 20 7270 6591

E-mail: [helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

Department of Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR)

1 Victoria Street

London, SW1H 0ET

Tel: 011 44 20 7215 5000

Fax: 011 44 20 7215 0105

E-mail: [enquiries@berr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@berr.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.berr.gov.uk](http://www.berr.gov.uk)

(For weights & measures legislation)

Food Standards Agency (FSA)

Aviation House

125 Kingsway

London WC2B 6NH

Telephone: 011 44 20 7276 8000

Fax: 011 44 20 7238 6330

Email: [helpline@food.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:helpline@food.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk)

and <http://www.food.gov.uk/aboutus/contactus/>

H.M. Customs and Revenue (HMRC)

Portcullis House

27 Victoria Avenue

Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 6AL

Tel: 011 44 1702 367 330

Email: [intenquiries@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:intenquiries@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

The Stationery Office (TSO)

Tel orders: 011 44 870 242 2345 **(To buy copies of UK legislation)**

Website orders: [www.tsoshop.co.uk](http://www.tsoshop.co.uk)

Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI)

Website: [www.opsi.gov.uk](http://www.opsi.gov.uk)

**(To view web copies of UK legislation)**

Rural Payments Agency  
Lancaster House  
Hampshire Court  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 7YH  
Tel: 011 44 191 226 5050  
Fax: 011 44 191 226 5212  
Email: [enquiries.newcastle@rpa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.newcastle@rpa.gsi.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.rpa.gov.uk](http://www.rpa.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX II. – Other Import Specialist Contacts

### UK Trade Associations

Fresh Produce Consortium  
Minerva House  
Minerva Business Park  
Lynch Wood  
Peterborough PE2 6FT  
Tel: 011 44 1733 237117  
Fax: 011 44 1733 237118  
E-mail: [info@freshproduce.org.uk](mailto:info@freshproduce.org.uk)  
Website: [www.freshproduce.org.uk](http://www.freshproduce.org.uk)

British Frozen Food Federation  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Springfield House  
Springfield Road  
Grantham, Lincs, NG31 7BG  
Tel: 011 44 1476 515 300  
Fax: 011 44 1476 515 309  
E-mail: [generaladmin@bff.co.uk](mailto:generaladmin@bff.co.uk)  
Website: [www.bfff.co.uk](http://www.bfff.co.uk)

Food and Drink Federation  
6 Catherine Street  
London, WC2B 5JJ  
Tel: 011 44 20 7836 2460  
Fax: 011 44 20 7836 0580  
E-mail: [generalenquiries@fdf.org.uk](mailto:generalenquiries@fdf.org.uk)  
Website: [www.fdf.org.uk](http://www.fdf.org.uk)

Grain & Feed Trade Association  
GAFTA House  
6 Chapel Place  
Rivington Street  
London, EC2A 3SH  
Tel: 011 44 20 7814 9666  
Fax: 011 44 20 7814 8383  
Email: [post@gafta.com](mailto:post@gafta.com)  
Web: [www.gafta.com](http://www.gafta.com)

Health Food Manufacturer's Association  
1 Wolsey Road  
East Molesey  
Surrey KT8 9EL  
Tel: 011 44 20 8481 7100  
Fax: 011 44 20 8481 7101  
E-mail: [hfma@hfma.co.uk](mailto:hfma@hfma.co.uk)  
Website: [www.hfma.co.uk](http://www.hfma.co.uk)

Institute of Grocery Distribution  
Grange Lane  
Letchmore Heath  
Watford, Hertshire WD2 8DQ  
Tel: 011 44 1923 857141  
Fax: 011 44 1923 852531  
Email: [igd@igd.com](mailto:igd@igd.com)  
Web: [www.igd.com](http://www.igd.com)

National Association of British & Irish Millers  
21 Arlington Street  
London, SW1A 1RN  
Tel: 011 44 207 493 2521  
Fax: 011 44 207 493 6785  
Email: [info@nabim.org.uk](mailto:info@nabim.org.uk)  
Web: [www.nabim.org.uk](http://www.nabim.org.uk)

### **Food Law & Labeling Specialists**

Berwin Leighton Paisner (Solicitors)  
Adelaide House  
London Bridge  
London, EC4R 9HA  
Tel: 011 44 20 7760 1000  
Fax: 011 44 20 7760 1111  
Contact: Hilary Ross  
E-mail: [hilary.ross@blplaw.com](mailto:hilary.ross@blplaw.com)  
Website: [www.blplaw.com](http://www.blplaw.com)

Shoosmiths Solicitors  
The Lakes  
Northampton  
NN4 7SH  
Tel: 011 44 7477 2222  
Contact: Ron Reid, Head, Food Department  
Email: [ron.reid@shoosmiths.co.uk](mailto:ron.reid@shoosmiths.co.uk)  
Website: [www.shoosmiths.co.uk](http://www.shoosmiths.co.uk)

**Testing Laboratories**

Campden & Chorleywood Food Research Association  
Chipping Campden  
Gloucestershire GL55 6LD  
Tel: 011 44 1386 842000  
Fax: 011 44 1386 842100  
Email: [info@campden.co.uk](mailto:info@campden.co.uk)  
Website: [www.campden.co.uk](http://www.campden.co.uk)

Eclipse Scientific Group  
Bridge Street  
Chatteris  
Cambridgeshire PE16 6QZ  
Tel: 011 44 1354 695858  
Email: [sales@esglabs.co.uk](mailto:sales@esglabs.co.uk)  
Website: [www.eclipsescientific.co.uk](http://www.eclipsescientific.co.uk)

Eurofins Genetic Services Ltd  
318 Worples Road  
Raynes Park  
London SW20 8QU  
Tel: 011 44 8707 555007  
E-mail: [info@eurofins.co.uk](mailto:info@eurofins.co.uk)  
Website: [www.eurofins.co.uk](http://www.eurofins.co.uk)

Lawgistics Ltd  
Alliance House  
North Gate  
Alconbury Airfield  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4WY  
Tel: 011 44 870 267 7118  
E-mail: [info@lawgisticsonline.co.uk](mailto:info@lawgisticsonline.co.uk)  
Website: [www.lawgistics.co.uk](http://www.lawgistics.co.uk)

Leatherhead Food International  
Randalls Road  
Leatherhead  
Surrey KT22 7RY  
Tel: 011 44 1372 376761  
Fax: 011 44 1372 386228  
E-mail: [help@leatherheadfood.com](mailto:help@leatherheadfood.com)  
Website: [www.leatherheadfood.com](http://www.leatherheadfood.com)

RHM Technology  
The Lord Rank Centre  
Lincoln Road  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire HP12 3QR  
Tel: 011 44 1494 526191  
Email: [enquiries@rhmtech.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@rhmtech.co.uk)  
Web: [www.rhmtechnology.co.uk](http://www.rhmtechnology.co.uk)