

Sauces containing products of animal origin

General information

There are strict rules for importing from non-EU countries sauces which contain products of animal origin and these cover sauces that contain any meat, poultry, fish, eggs and egg products, honey etc. These types of sauces must meet the same or equivalent food hygiene requirements for European Union (EU) compositional standards and procedures as food produced in the UK or other EU Member States. They must also be accompanied by a health certificate issued by the competent authority in the country of origin. Examples of such products include carbonara sauce, cheese sauce, mayonnaise, béchamel sauce, hollandaise sauce, parsley sauce and certain meat gravies or stocks.

The rules for importing sauces containing meat or dairy (including milk powder), gelatine, poultry, eggs or ratites (emu, ostrich and rhea) products are dealt with by the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). This also includes sauces that contain wild game, insects, grubs, unusual meat (reptiles, alligators) or honey. For further information please contact APHA in Carlisle on 01228 403 600 (option 3) or by email at imports@apha.gsi.gov.uk. APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

For further information on importing sauces containing shellfish or fish, or their products please see our website at:

[http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/want to import/fisheryproducts/](http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/want%20to%20import/fisheryproducts/)

However, if after reading information on the website, you still require further information, please contact the Imported Food Helpline on 020 7276 8018 or email at:

imported.food@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Food hygiene

For general enquiries on food hygiene please contact the Food Hygiene Policy Team by email at foodhygiene.policy@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Contaminants

A guidance note on the Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2013, which make provision for enactment and enforcement of Commission Regulations setting regulatory limits for contaminants in food (nitrate, mycotoxins, metals, 3-MCPD dioxins and PAHs), can be found at: <http://www.food.gov.uk/news-updates/news/2013/oct/regulations>

Import restrictions

Imports of feed and food from Japan

As of 27 March 2011 imports of all feed and food originating in or consigned from Japan to the EU are subject to special conditions. This is following the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in Japan in March 2011. This will mean that consignments of feed and food can only enter the UK through specific ports and airports where official controls will be carried out. Further information for business operators can be found at:

http://www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/imports/banned_restricted/japan

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