

Information Note

Impact of BREXIT for Irish Pedigree breeders and purebred breeding animals of the bovine, equine, porcine, ovine and caprine species

At the end of the Brexit transition period on 1 January 2021, the United Kingdom (UK) will leave the European Union (EU) and under the EU Animal Breeding Regulations (Regulation (EU) 2016/1012) the UK will be regarded as a third country.

From 1st January 2021, the procedure of registering purebred animals with UK Societies that are kept in Ireland will no longer be in line with EU legislation. This will have an impact on Irish breeders that are members of UK breed societies and who currently register their purebred breeding animals or offspring from germinal products in UK breeding books. Any living animals that are currently registered in a UK breeding book, but kept in Ireland must be entered, by 1st January 2021, into an equivalent breeding book either in Ireland or within another EU member state if the equivalent EU breeding book has extended into Ireland.

From 1st January 2021, where Irish breeders are importing purebred breeding animals from the UK, it will not be possible to enter these breeding animals in breeding books in Ireland unless the UK breeding books concerned are recognised by the EU Commission and the animals are accompanied by zootechnical certificates issued by that UK society. The same applies to the offspring from a germinal product from the UK. The EU Commission will maintain a list of recognised UK breed societies. The listing of such societies is a matter requiring to be agreed between the UK and the EU Commission.

Where Irish breeders are exporting purebred breeding animals to the UK, the UK domestic legislation will apply regarding the acceptability of these animals for entry into the UK breeding books.

If you are a breeder **registering purebred animals in UK breed societies or importing purebred breeding animals from the UK** you may wish to seek further information on this matter. Please contact: *Livestock Breeding Production & Trade Section, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Government Buildings, Farnham St. Cavan, H12 D459.*
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