SFA Export Library Market Reports on Food Import Regulations and Standards

Country of Origin	Singapore (SG)
Country of Destination	United Kingdom (UK)
Food Product Category	Composite Products
Product Code	HS Codes: 1517, 1518, 160100, 1602, 160300, 1604, 1605, 1702, 1704, 1806, 1901, 1902, 1904, 1905, 2001, 2004, 2005, 2101, 2103, 2104, 210500, 2106, 2202, 2208

The information in this document has been compiled and provided by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA). SFA emphasises that importers and exporters have the responsibility to find out the import requirements of destination countries/regions/markets. Exporters are advised to confirm with their importers on the import requirements and eligibility of their product before exporting.

SN	Sub-header	Details
1	**Product eligibility / ineligibility**	Following the United Kingdom (UK)'s departure from the European Union (EU), foods exported to Great Britain (England, Scotland, and Wales) shall comply with UK regulations. The UK and EU have formally adopted a new Brexit Windsor Framework to alter the policy paper on The Northern Ireland Protocol for the entry of certain agriculture retail food into Northern Ireland from Great Britain. EU import requirements and rules on plant animal health will continue to fully apply in Northern Ireland. Composite Products (as defined in Retained EU Decision 2007/275) – a foodstuff intended for human consumption that contains both processed products of animal origin and products of plant origin and includes those where the processing of primary product is an integral part of the production of the final product – are eligible for export from Singapore to EU. Guidance on import composite products from the EU to Great Britain also provides the product standards for composite products.
2	**Importing country authority**	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) is the UK Central Competent Authority for international trade in agri-food products. Defra is also the Competent Authority for policy, regulation and assurance related to animal health, animal welfare and plant health controls in England, as well as certain elements of feed and food law such as veterinary residue monitoring and GMOs.

		Within the UK the devolved administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have devolved powers and responsibilities in relation to food, the environment and agriculture including policy, regulation and assurance relating to animal health, animal welfare and plant health controls. Veterinary medicine monitoring is devolved in Northern Ireland. Such relevant bodies are as follows • Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Department (EERAD) in **Wales.** • Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) in **Northern Ireland.** • Agriculture and Rural Economy Directorate (ARE) in **Scotland.** The Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) is an executive agency of DEFRA, and also works on behalf of the Scottish and Welsh governments. The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is responsible to DEFRA and has responsibility for food, farming, fisheries, and forestry in Northern Ireland. The Food Standards Authority (FSA) is the Central Competent Authority for food and feed safety and hygiene in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The Food Standards Scotland (FSS) is the Competent Authority in Scotland for food and feed safety and hygiene. The Chemicals Regulation Division (CRD) under Chemicals Regulation Directorate, Health, and Safety Executive (HSE) is responsible for the regulation of pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels).
3	**Pre-export approvals by the importing country**	**Products** The Import of, and Trade in, Animals and Animal Products (Miscellaneous Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, The Official Controls (Animals, Feed and Food, Plant Health etc.) (Amendment) (EU Exit) (No. 2) Regulations 2020, Retained EU Decision 2007/275, Retained EU Regulation 28/2012 and Retained EU Regulation 2019/625 set out import conditions for importing composite products from approved countries. Retained EU Regulation 853/2004 lays down specific rules on the hygiene of food of animal origin for food business operators. In particular, Article 6(4) states that the processed products of animal origin contained in the composite product must be produced in UK-approved establishments located either in UK or in third countries authorised for the entry into the UK of those processed products of animal origin. The third countries

		must be listed in Retained EU Decision 2007/777, Retained EU Regulation 798/2008, Retained EU Regulation 605/2010, or Retained EU Regulation 2019/626. Retained EU Decision 2011/163 lays down residue control plans and reports (including residue testing results) to be submitted by third countries to monitor certain substances and residues for each product category in live animals and animal products. Singapore is listed in Annex. **Establishments** Establishments in third countries which are manufacturing composite products should be registered by the responsible competent authority. These establishments do not need to be approved by UK competent authority. **Importers** For imports into Great Britain, importers should refer to the Guidance on import composite products from the EU to Great Britain and particularly information on the Import of Composite Products for Human Consumption in APVA Vet Gateway. For imports into Northern Ireland, importers should refer to the information on Composite Products – updated guidance from Food Standards Agency (FSA). In general, importers should work out the following tasks: - Register with Rural Payment Agency (RPA) to become importer of UK Agricultural Policy (UKAP) goods - Apply for import license to import agricultural products into UK, which includes using form IV58 to apply for a license to import animal products (applicable to composite products since it contains processed products of animal origin) into Great Britain - Notify enforcement agencies of incoming consignment of agricultural products through Import Product Animals Food and Feed System (IPAFFS) or Guidance on Import of products, animals, food and feed system using an existing UK Government Gateway account - Import through designated Border Control Post (BCP) in UK and Points of Entry (PoE) in Northern Ireland because different BCPs and PoE are approved to inspect and clear different food products

		- Check Guidance on Border Target Operating Mode (BTOM) import risk category and related rules for animal and animal products to be imported from non-EU countries (including Singapore) to Great Britian, and particularly the relevant summary tables, from 30 April 2024. For example, composite products – which are considered medium risk for permitted countries – must continue to be pre-notified before arrival, accompanied by model export health certificate, cleared via a BCP, and subject to the published check rates on documentation, identity, and physical checks. Composite products, that are both shelf-stable at ambient temperature and sterilised, as well as meet additional criteria, are deemed to be low risk. Retained EU Decision 2007/275 establishes a list of composite products to be subject to controls at border control points. Retained EU Regulation 2019/2129 lays down rules for the uniform application of the appropriate frequency rate of identity checks and physical checks on certain consignments of animals and goods. Documentary checks are compulsory for all composite products.
4	**Export certificates for food**	An Export Health Certificate issued by the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) is required for each consignment of composite products containing any meat products. For exports that require an Export Health Certificate, you may forward the import permit / conditions to SFA here. Retained EU Regulation 2019/625 adds supplementary requirements for the entry into the UK of consignments of certain animals and goods. - In particular, Article 13 states that each consignment of shelf-stable and non-shelf stable composite products – irrespective of the need to be transported or stored under controlled temperature – with the exclusion of shelf stable composite products not containing any meat products (except gelatine, collagen or highly refined products) shall enter the UK only where the consignment is accompanied by an official certificate signed by the responsible competent authority. In particular, Article 14 states that each consignment of shelf-stable composite products that do not contain any meat products (except gelatine, collagen or highly refined products) shall enter the UK only where the consignment is accompanied by a private attestation signed by the importing food business operator.

		Retained EU Regulation 2020/692 lays down supplementing animal health rules concerning consignments of certain species and categories of animals, germinal products, and products of animal origin. - In particular, Article 162 states that composite products containing meat products, non-shelf stable composite products containing dairy products and/or egg products, and composite products containing colostrum-based products must come from third country where the products of animal origin are UK-approved. - In particular, Article 163 states that shelf-stable composite products that do not contain meat products (expect gelatine and collagen or colostrum-based products) must use dairy products that have undergone risk-mitigating treatment in Annex XXVII and egg products that have undergone risk-mitigating treatment in Annex XXVIII. Retained EU Regulation 2020/2235 lays down rules regarding animal health certificates for the entry into UK. Each export consignment should be accompanied by an appropriate Great Britain model health certificate of the latest updated version for composite products containing meat exported to Great Britain. In particular, composite products from non-EU countries should refer to 28/2012 GBHC088X. Exporters may refer to the Guidance: How to complete a health certificate to export to Great Britain to fill in the health certificate.
5	**Regulations and standards**	Interested exporters who wish to export composite products to UK must meet all their regulations and standards. The following links are provided as a guide: **(1) General Principles** The Official Controls (Animals, Feed and Food, Plant Health) Regulations 2019 gives UK officials the authority to exercise the function of enforcement and execution in the veterinary and phytosanitary fields for the protection of public health. With the implementation of the Border Target Operating Model since August 2023, The Official Controls (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2024 institutionalise the changes. The Food Safety Act 1990 provides the framework for all food legislation in the England, Wales and Scotland, while The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 applies in Northern Ireland. This act stipulates violations related to safety, quality, and label, and states the responsibilities of companies that produce, handle, and sell food to ensure consumer safety.

		Retained EU Regulation 178/2002 lays down rules for the performance of UK official controls and other official activities by the competent authorities. Retained EU Regulation 2017/625 lays down specific rules of the official organization controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption; and on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules. **(2) Food Hygiene** The Food Safety and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013, The Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006, The Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations 2006, and The Food Hygiene Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 permit the enforcement of Retained EU Hygiene Regulations. Retained EU Regulation 852/2004 lays down general rules for food business operators on the hygiene of foodstuffs. This Regulation shall apply to all stages of production, processing, and distribution of food. In particular, Chapter IV Article 10 states the requirements that are relevant to imported food. Retained EU Regulation 853/2004 lays down specific rules on the hygiene of foodstuffs of animal origin for food business operators. They shall apply to unprocessed and processed products of animal origin. In particular, Chapter II Article 6 states the obligations of food business operators concerning imported food on products of animal origin. Such products must be imported from third country of dispatch listed and approved by UK. **(3) Microbiological Criteria** Retained EU Regulation 2073/2005 lays down the microbiological criteria for certain microorganisms and the implementing rules to be complied with by food business operators when implementing the general and specific hygiene measures referred to in Article 4 of Retained EU Regulation 852/2004. **(4) Contaminants**

		The Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2013, The Contaminants in Food (Wales) Regulations 2013, The Contaminants in Food (Scotland) Regulations 2013, and The Contaminants in Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 stipulate the controls on contaminants. Retained EU Regulation 1881/2006 sets the maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs. Food with levels of contaminants higher than those specified in the Annex to this Regulation shall not be sold in the market. The maximum levels shall apply to the edible part of food concerned. **(5) Veterinary Drug Residues** The published Maximum Residue Limits in Great Britain lists the allowed substances, prohibited substances, and out of scope as well as corresponding limits. Retained EU Regulation 37/2010 lays down the maximum residue limits for pharmacologically active substances. Table 1 of Annex lists the allowed substances and Table 2 lists the prohibited substances. **(6) Pesticide Residues** The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels) (England and Wales) Regulations 2008, The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, and The Pesticides (Maximum Residue Levels) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 stipulate the controls on pesticide residue. Retained EU Regulation 396/2005 establishes the maximum levels of pesticide residues (MRL) in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin or parts covered by Annex I. In particular, Chapter III Article 18 declares the default MRL to be 0.01 mg/kg for those products for which no specific MRL is set out in Annexes II or III or for active substances not listed in Annex IV. The GB MRL statutory Register allows users to search for information on Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) in food products. **(7) Food Additives** The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (England) Regulations 2013, The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (Wales) Regulations 2013, The Food Additives,

		Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents (Scotland) Regulations 2013, and The Food Additives, Flavourings, Enzymes and Extraction Solvents Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013 stipulate the controls on food additives. Retained EU Regulation 1333/2008 lays down rules on food additives used in foods. Retained EU Regulation 1332/2008 lays down rules on food enzymes used in foods, including such enzymes used as processing aids. Retained Regulation 1334/2008 lays down rules on flavouring and food ingredients with flavouring properties for use in and on foods. Retained EU Regulation 1925/2006 establishes the harmonized requirements on the addition of vitamins and minerals and of certain other substances to foods. Retained EU Directive 2009/32/EC establishes the extraction solvents used or intended for use in the production of food and food ingredients. The Food Additives, Food Flavourings and Novel Foods (Authorisations) (England) Regulations 2023, The Food Additives, Food Flavourings and Novel Foods (Authorisations) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, The Food Additives, Food Flavourings, and Novel Foods (Authorisations) and Food and Feed (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2023 make amendments to Regulations 1333/2008 and 1334/2008.
6	**Labelling, packaging and marking requirements**	**(1) Labelling** The Food Information Regulations 2014, The Food Information (Wales) Regulations 2014, The Food Information (Scotland) Regulations 2014, and The Food Information Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 stipulate the controls on labelling and marking of prepacked food. Retained EU Regulation 1169/2011 establishes food labelling requirements. Chapter IV Section 1 Article 9 states the list of mandatory particulars to be included in the food label. Article 13 states the presentation of mandatory particulars which include font size. Section 2 Article 26 states that the country of origin or place of provenance must be indicated for meat failing within the Combined Nomenclature codes as listed in Annex XI. Section 3 Article 30 states the content of the mandatory nutrition declaration to be included in the food label. Food Standards Agency and Food & Drink Federation have respectively published allergen labelling guidance and guidance on change management of allergen information for prepacked food products.

		Retained EU Regulation 1924/2006 establishes the harmonized requirements on use of nutrition and health claims on foods. Retained EU Regulation 432/2012 establishes a list of permitted health claims made on foods. The Great Britain nutrition and health claims (NHC) register which should be used in conjunction with the Guidance on nutrition and health claims on foods allows user to check for information on all authorised and rejected nutrition and health claims. DEFRA is consulting on proposals to introduce fairer food labelling to provide consumers with clearer information on where food comes food and how its produced. **(2) Packaging materials** The Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (England) Regulations 2012, The Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Wales) Regulations 2012, The Materials and Articles in Contact with Food (Scotland) Regulations 2012, and The Materials and Articles in Contact with Food Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 stipulate controls on food packaging materials. Retained EU Regulation 1935/2004 stipulates the requirements for materials and articles, including active and intelligent food contact materials, which in their finished state are intended to be or already in contact with food. In particular, Article 5 states that specific measures may be adopted or amended for the groups of materials and articles listed in Annex I. Such specific measures include but not limited to the following: - Retained EU Regulation 10/2011 on plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, - Retained EU Regulation 282/2008 on recycled plastic materials and articles intended to come into contact with foods, - Retained EU Regulation 1895/2005 on the restriction of use of certain epoxy derivatives in materials and articles intended to come into contact with food, - Retained EU Directive 2007/42/EC of relating to materials and articles made of regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs, - Retained EU Directive 94/62/EC lays down measures aimed at preventing the production of packaging waste and as additional fundamental principles at recovering packaging waste, and

		- Retained EU Directive 84/500/EEC on the approximation of laws relating to ceramic articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs. **(3) Identification marking** Retained EU Regulation 853/2004 lays down specific rules on the hygiene of foodstuffs of animal origin for food business operators. In particular, Article 5 states that products of animal origin must be affixed with identification marks in compliance with Section 1 of Annex II.
7	**Other information**	**(1) Import Information for Composite Products** The first point of contact for enquiries related to imports of composite products should be Animal and Plant Health Agency imports@apha.gov.uk. Import Information Notes are available in Imports of animal products for human consumption and Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) Vet Gateway. For imports into Great Britain, importers should refer to the Guidance on import composite products from the EU to Great Britain and particularly information on the Import of Composite Products for Human Consumption in APVA Vet Gateway. For imports into Northern Ireland, importers should refer to the information on Composite Products – updated guidance from Food Standards Agency (FSA). **(2) Other Import Information** For more information on the taxes related to the import of food, please see the following: - Import, export and customs for businesses: detailed information - UK Integrated Online Tariff - Northern Ireland Online Tariff For more information on the procedures related to the import of food, please see the following: - Import, export and distribution of food (see Services, as well as Guidance and regulation) - Business guidance on imports and exports - Importing Composite Products of Animal Origin

		For more information on the application guidance related to the import of regulated products, please see the following: - Regulated products application guidance **(3) Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Contact Points** DEFRA trade secretariat TradeSecretariat@defra.gov.uk serves as the UK centralised contact point for all queries relating to trade agreement implementation in agri-food sectors across animal health, plant health and food and feed safety. DEFRA SPS Committee Secretariat uksps.secretariat@defra.gov.uk manages and runs all SPS committees and SPS input into wider trade committees. **(4) WTO Import Licensing Procedures** United Kingdom' legislation and notifications

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