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Dr Bernard Van Goethem
Director, Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants
Directorate General for Health and Food Safety
European Commission
1049 Brussels

13 January 2025

Dear Bernard

Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Germany

Thank you to Dr Kluge for providing notification and assurance of action taken by the German competent authority following the confirmation of FMD on a holding in Brandenburg (district of Märkisch-Oderland) in Germany on 10 January 2025. I am grateful for the measures taken by the German authorities, including the suspension of issuing the corresponding veterinary certificates with reference to FMD-free status from the entire territory of Germany.

Restrictions on commercial trade

In response to the outbreak and to protect GB biosecurity, we are implementing restrictions for the following commodities from the entire territory of Germany at present from 13 January 2025:

- live (including non-domestic) ungulates (ruminants and porcine animals, including wild game) and their germplasm
- fresh meat from ungulates
- meat products from ungulates that have not been subject to specific treatment D1 or higher (including wild game)
- milk, colostrum and their products unless subject to treatment as defined in Article 4 of Regulation 2010/605
- animal by-products, unless subject to treatment to effectively mitigate the risk of FMD.

These restrictions came into force on 13 January 2025 and are set out in the relevant lists published here: [EU and EFTA counties approved to export animals and animal products to Great Britain](#).

Further safeguard measures restricting the commercial import of animal by-products and hay and straw unless treated to effectively mitigate the risk of FMD from Germany will be published in due course at [Imports, exports and EU trade of animals and animal products: topical issues](#).

Restrictions on personal imports

New measures will be implemented shortly to control the risk of FMD from personal imports of susceptible animal commodities (fresh meat, meat products, dairy, dairy products, colostrum and colostrum products, and certain animal by-products and composite products) from all of the European Union. These products will only be allowed into Great Britain if they:

- have been produced and packaged to EU commercial standards and weigh no more than 2kg per person
- bear an identification or health mark (or commercial labelling if it is an animal by-product) to evidence it is commercially produced.

Additionally, all personal imports of susceptible animal commodities, including commercially packaged products, will be restricted from Germany, with the exemption of infant milk, medical foods and certain composite products as set out in Annex III of [Regulation 2019/2122](#).

Live animals, germplasm and untreated wool, hair, skins and hides are not permitted for personal import under separate rules.

I will provide confirmation of the personal import measures once published at [Imports, exports and EU trade of animals and animal products: topical issues](#).

Please accept this letter as notification of measures under the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement. In accordance with the principles set out in Article 78 of the Agreement, the UK will consider lifting, or revising the additional restrictions for FMD subject to the satisfactory assessment of Germany's disease control measures and epidemiological situation, including details of any further outbreaks, results of surveillance, and movement tracing of relevant live animals and products.

I look forward to receiving further updates on the situation in Germany with the view of agreeing regionalisation and wish you every success with the control of this outbreak. Please do not hesitate to get in touch regarding any queries or issues for clarification.

Yours sincerely



PROFESSOR CHRISTINE MIDDLEMISS CB

UK Chief Veterinary Officer