

Agenda

- Tariffs
- SPS requirements
- Labelling
- Geographical Indications
- Organics
- Wood packaging
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- Q&A

Tariffs

- The UKGT tariff schedule will come into force at the end of the transition period, on 1 January 2021. It is tailor-made for the UK economy and will replace the EU's Common External Tariff (EU's CET)
- The UKGT will apply to all goods, unless an exception applies. Exceptions may include a preferential arrangement, e.g. a free trade agreement, or a tariff suspension.
- It is a simpler, easier to use and lower tariff regime than the EU's Common External Tariff (EU's CET) and will be in pounds (£), not euros. It will, scrap red tape and other unnecessary barriers to trade, reduce cost pressures and increase choice for consumers and back UK industries to compete on the global stage.
- No tariffs lines have had their tariff increased under the UKGT.
- A tariff lookup tool can be found on GOV.UK
- We remain open to hearing feedback from stakeholders on the UKGT

Labelling

Goods marketed in Great Britain (GB) and Northern Ireland (NI):

- You'll need to make any required labelling changes for goods sold in GB by 30 September 2022.
- Goods sold in NI will continue to follow EU rules for labelling, but you may need to make some labelling changes.
- Your label can contain other information if you need to comply with labelling requirements for another market.

Guidance on food and drink labelling changes from 1 January 2021 is available here: www.gov.uk/guidance/food-and-drink-labelling-changes-from-1-january-2021

Labelling

Food business operator (FBO) addresses for goods marketed in GB:

The rules have changed: from January 2021 for prepacked food and caseins you will need either:

- A UK address: this would be the address of the FBO established in the UK, or if the FBO is not established in the UK it would be the address of the importer of the food.
- or
- An EU address: this would be the address of the FBO established in the EU, or if the FBO is not established in the EU it would be the address of the importer of the food

From 1 October 2022 you will need a UK address. Where both a UK and an EU address are used, the label will be acceptable at all times.

We are continuing to consider arrangements for the Northern Ireland Market, and will update industry with detailed guidance as soon as we are able to do so.

Labelling

Origin labelling in general for goods marketed in GB

Food from and sold in NI can continue to use 'origin EU' from 1 January 2021.

Food from and sold in GB can be labelled as 'origin EU' until 30 September 2022.

From 1 October 2022, food from GB must not be labelled as 'origin EU'.

Origin labelling in general for goods marketed in NI

Food from GB must not be labelled as origin 'EU' from 1 January 2021.

Origin labelling of specific foods

Some foods will continue to require either:

- the country or countries of origin
- or
- the origin to be described using specific other terms, known as origin indicators

Labelling

Origin labelling of minced meat (except beef and veal) marketed in GB:

From January 2021, where the origin on a label does not list a specific country or countries, you must use either:

- 'non-UK' alone or with 'UK' where appropriate.
- or
- 'EU' and/or 'non-EU' until 30 September 2022

From 1 October 2022 you can no longer use the alternative terms of 'EU' and/or 'non-EU' for UK food. An accurate indication of 'UK/Non-UK' must be used.

Origin labelling of minced meat (except beef and veal) marketed in NI:

From 1 January 2021 minced meat sold in NI must be labelled as 'EU' and non-EU' when the label does not list each country of origin. You must accurately reflect that GB meat is no longer EU meat

Some specific questions...

Q: Does the FBO address requirement apply to Duty Free Retail?

A: We are not aware of any exemptions or derogations.

Q: Does the FBO address requirement apply to gift boxes?

A: The information should be on the retail packaging being offered to consumers at the point of sale and this would include a presentation carton or box.

Q: Does the FBO address requirement apply to shipping containers?

A: This information should “also appear on the external packaging in which prepacked foods are presented for marketing” (Article 8.7 of Regulation 1169/2011 which will be incorporated into UK law).

Geographical Indications (GIs)

The new UK GI scheme:

- The UK Government will establish new UK GI schemes on 1 January 2021.
- Existing UK GI products, including favourites such as Scotch Whisky, Welsh Lamb, Cornish Pasties and Lough Neagh Eels, will continue to receive protection in the UK after the transition period.
- The new UK GI logos are now available to download on GOV.UK and can be used from 1 January 2021.
- Producers of GIs registered before the end of the transition period, that are required to use the UK GI logos, will have until 1 January 2024. The logos will remain optional for producers outside of GB.
- All UK GIs registered under the EU GI schemes at the end of the transition period will continue to receive protection in the EU.

Organics

To ensure a smooth transition process, we will recognise the EU as equivalent for the purpose of trade in organics until 31 December 2021.

This temporary measure will give certainty to the organic sector.

It remains our objective to negotiate a durable, long-term organics equivalence agreement with the EU.

Wood Packaging material

- From 1 January 2021 all Wood Packaging Materials (WPM) moving between GB and the EU must meet ISPM15 international standards by undergoing heat treatment and marking.
- WPM may be subject to official checks either upon or after entry to the EU.
- As there will be no immediate change to the biosecurity threat of WPM originating from the EU at the end of the Transition Period, the UK will maintain its current risk-based checking regime for EU WPM.

Pesticides

- On 1 January 2021 we will introduce a new independent pesticides regulatory regime in Great Britain.
- All existing active substance approvals, Plant Protection Product (PPP) authorisations and Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) will continue to be valid.
- We will set MRLs for GB based on our own assessments, but all existing MRLs will remain valid until they are amended.
- Divergence in GB and EU MRLs is likely over time. Businesses should ensure they understand the rules in their target markets.
- Pesticide applicants will need to apply for pesticide registrations under both the GB and EU regimes to gain access to both markets.
- The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) remains the national regulator for the whole of the UK.
- Under the terms of the Northern Ireland Protocol, the EU pesticides regime will continue to apply in NI after the end of the transition period.

Further information at: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/brexit/regulating-pesticides.htm>