

Imports in GB requirements

The Government set out a new timetable for introducing full import controls for goods being imported from the EU to GB.

- **Since 1 January 2021**, phytosanitary certificates (PC) and pre-notification have been required to accompany EU imports of certain species of plants and plant products. Documentary, identity, and physical checks of these goods can be carried out at Places of Destination or Border Control Points.

A full list of which species fall into the above categories can be found [here](#).

To import into GB, you require the following documentation;

- Commercial invoice
- Packing list
- Phytosanitary certificate – if required, please see link above

Pre-notification of the goods arriving in GB needs to be carried out either by the recipient or their customs agent before the seed arrives. This needs to be done on IPAFFS, again species falling into this category can be found at the above link.

You can register for IPAFFS on the [Gov.uk website](#).

It is expected from late 2022 that GB will accept ePhyto certificates from the EU for imports, this will also work alongside a cloning system which will pre-populate a large percentage of the pre-notification required.

There will be no further implementation of import controls until December 2023, when the new Border Operating Model is released

Seed sampling/testing of seed imported into GB takes place either at the Border Control Point or Place of Destination, which species are affected, frequency and costs of this can be found in the tables below.

Frequency of checks

The below table shows the inspection frequency from the **1st of July 2022** for seed.

| Commodity | Category | Description | Frequency of checks from EU and Row |
|---|----------|--|---|
| Helianthus annuus (sunflower) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Medicago sativa (lucerne) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Zea mays (maize) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Allium cepa (onion) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Allium porrum (leek) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Phaseolus cocineus (runner bean) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Phaseolus vulgaris (common bean) | Seeds | | 5% |
| Pisum sativum | Seeds | Pea seeds for sowing | 5% |
| Vicia faba | Seeds | Beans for sowing | 5% |
| Brassica napus | Seeds | Rape seeds for sowing | 5% |
| Brassica rapa | Seeds | Seeds of B. rapa for sowing | 5% |
| Glycine max | Seeds | Soya bean seeds for sowing | 5% |
| Linum usitatissimum | Seeds | Linseed for sowing | 5% |
| Sinapis alba | Seeds | Mustard seed for sowing | 5% |
| Seed for trials | Seeds | | 10% |
| Brassicaceae, Poaceae and Trifolium spp | Seeds | | 10% |
| Capsicum (pepper) | Seeds | Seed for sowing | 100% |
| Solanum sp. | Seeds | | 100% |
| Solanum tuberosum | Seeds | True seed for sowing and multiplication and seed potato tubers | 100% |
| Triticum, Secale and Triticosecale | Seeds | Seed for sowing | 100% frequency for countries where Tilletia indica (Karnal bunt) occurs (Afghanistan, India, Iran, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa and the USA). Other countries 10%. |

Fees

From the 22nd of July 2022 there has been flat rate for both finished and non-finished for cuttings and plants for planting, however seed and bulbs will remain on the existing fee's structure.

Details of the fees can be found [here](#), with the key crops in the table below.

The full fees review will be delayed until these short-term measures are in place.

| High-level category | Sub category | Physical fee (£) | ID fee (£) |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------|------------|
| Tubers of Solanum tuberosum | Egypt, Poland, Portugal, Romania | £78.34 | £2.62 |
| | Spain | £156.69 | £5.25 |
| | All other third countries | £4.70 | £0.15 |
| | Seed potatoes - Solanum tuberosum | £156.69 | £5.25 |
| Seeds | Not specified elsewhere in this table | £6.40 | £0.26 |
| | For trials or testing | £12.81 | £0.52 |
| | Brassicaceae, Poaceae and Trifolium spp. (Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Uruguay) | £128.13 | £5.25 |
| | Capsicum sp., Solanum lycopersicum, Solanum tuberosum (true seed) | £128.13 | £5.25 |
| | Triticum, Secale and Triticosecale, (Afghanistan, India, Iraq, Mexico, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa and the USA) | £128.13 | £5.25 |