

About this dossier

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Directorate F. -Health and Food Safety Audits and Analysis

Annual Report on Official Controls

Country Name: Northern Ireland

Concerns activity during year: 2023

Part I of Annex

Country

Northern Ireland

Year

2023

1. Introduction

This Annual Report on Official Controls (AROC) for Northern Ireland covers the calendar year from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 December 2023 and is based on the Multi- Annual Control Plan for the United Kingdom (UK) April 2019 to March 2023. DAERA (Department for Agriculture & Environment Northern Ireland) is the Competent Authority for Animal Health and Animal Welfare Policy, Plant Health Policy and facilitates trade through the delivery and enforcement of sanitary and phytosanitary controls. The Food Standards Agency Northern Ireland (FSA-NI) is the Central Competent Authority for Food and Feed Hygiene; DAERA delivers official controls in approved establishments on behalf of FSA-NI in line with a formal Service Level Agreement and agreed procedures detailed in the Manual for Official Controls. DAERA employs approximately 3000 staff who are located throughout Northern Ireland and is made up of 5 business areas: • Veterinary Service Animal Health Group (VSAHG) – Deputy Secretary Brian Dooher – NI Chief Veterinary Officer • Central Services and Contingency Planning Group • Environment, Marine & Fisheries Group (including Northern Ireland Environment Agency • Rural Affairs, Forest Service & Estates Transformation (RAFSET)). VSAHG has responsibility for animal health, animal welfare and public health and delivers a holistic service through its programmes of work. Forest Service Plant Health Division within RAFSET implements plant health policy through delivery of a programme of official controls at points of entry, in registered premises and in open countryside. The UK left the European Union (EU) on the 31 January 2020 and at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) Northern Ireland was aligned with EU rules on Sanitary and Phytosanitary eligible goods and animal trade in accordance with the terms of the Northern Ireland Protocol. Despite this the overall level of checks and compliance remained satisfactory.

2. Measures taken to ensure the effective operation of the Multi-Annual National Control Plan, including enforcement action and the results of such measures

Inspection and verification procedures were in place for all SPS programmes of work including a continuum of appropriate enforcement action ranging from administrative warnings, the re-export of commodities through to prosecution. DAERA has a comprehensive internal audit Programme and a VSAHG Welfare enforcement Branch which facilitates prosecutions. All staff performing official control duties were equipped with the requisite legal powers e.g. to enter premises and carry out an inspection/enforcement action, all staff are qualified and underwent regular training updates, all staff were assessed to ensure there is no conflict of interest in performing their duties. Excellent cooperation exists between all the Competent authority programmes delivering Official Controls and regular Contingency exercises were held bringing together representatives from those programmes for epizootic outbreak preparedness.

3. Amendments to the Multi-Annual National Control Plan

This Annual Report on Official Controls (AROC) for Northern Ireland covers the calendar year from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 December 2023 and is based on the Multi- Annual Control Plan for the United Kingdom (UK) April 2019 to March 2023. This MANCP was updated in December 2019 to take account of the introduction of the new Official Controls Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on 14 December 2019, which repealed and replaced Regulation (EC) No 882/2004.

4. Fees or charges

<https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/charges-for-controls-in-meat-premises>

Attachments

No

1.13.1

SANTE Data Collection Platform - PRODUCTION • Contact us at SANTE-XMLGATE3@ec.europa.eu

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 1 - Food and food safety, integrity and wholesomeness at any stage of production, processing and distribution of food, including rules aimed at ensuring fair practices in trade and protecting consumer interests and information, and the manufacture and use of materials and articles intended to come into contact with food

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023

Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

1.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

For the 2023 reporting period, the FSA (central competent authority) issued bespoke bi-annual return forms to district councils (DC) (competent authorities) in Northern Ireland (NI) to capture a limited range of data on the DCs delivery of official controls (OCs) against the expectations of them, as set out in the Food Law Code of Practice (the Code).. The Code enables DCs to prioritise their resources at the higher-risk establishments. The approach also reflects the changing business landscape with [JT1] [JT2] 2094 new food businesses registered or approved between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, changing food handling activities within existing businesses and DCs having reported a decline in food establishment compliance levels with the subsequent need for more follow up actions. However, the April 24 data shows that there is a relatively small number (2.9%) of food establishments registered/approved with DCs, which fall into the highest food hygiene risk (A and B categories). This is based on the inherent and compliance risk scores calculated by DCs, in accordance with the Code, following each OC intervention.

OCs in FSA approved establishments are carried out on behalf of FSA by DAERA under a Service Level Agreement. These include slaughterhouses, cutting plants, game handling establishments, egg packing and certain dairy establishments. Primary production holdings (dairy farms and raw drinking milk suppliers) are also included. The delivery of official controls is monitored at monthly, quarterly and annual frequencies by FSA.

OCs and other official activities in approved meat establishments (requiring permanent presence of the competent authority) continued in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625. All animals and birds presented for slaughter for the food chain received ante mortem and postmortem inspection. Site visits (announced and unannounced) to standalone meat establishments continued throughout the reporting period. More detail on these official controls can be found in the body of the report.

Overall compliance in FSA approved meat establishments remained at a high level during the period with no meat establishments in the 'improvement necessary' or 'urgent improvement necessary' categories. Of the 27 sites audited, 6 audit outcomes were better than previous, 20 outcomes were the same as previous and 1 outcome was worse. More detail on food business operator audits can be found in the body of the report. All non-compliances were closed without the need for judicial measures.

Compliance at primary production hygiene inspections continued at a very high level with 1096 (99%) inspection outcomes from 1109 visits in the 'good' category and the remaining 13 visits returning an 'improvement necessary' outcome.

Compliance at dairy hygiene inspections also continued at a very high level with 786 (61%) inspection outcomes from 1294 visits in the 'good' category. 498 (38%) in the 'generally satisfactory' category and 10 visits returning an 'improvement necessary' outcome.

Explanatory Notes regarding table 1.2 data:

The data populated in table 1.2 regarding the number of approved activities is the collective total for FSA and DC establishments taken from the published EU list. Establishments approved under more than one category are included in each of those categories.

The FSA data capture from DCs does not request the number of food establishments within each specific premises registration type as listed in table 1.2. However, on 30 September 2023, the total number of establishments registered with DCs was 21,514. The number of registered establishments was obtained in the form of FSA monitoring categories, which are similar but not exactly the same as the specific establishment types requested. Furthermore, DCs record their registered establishments electronically by main activity only and therefore any additional activities carried out by any one establishment is not available. There would, however, only be a relatively small number of registered establishments carrying out more than one activity. In addition to the registered figures provided in the table for 'retail', 'food and beverages' and 'food contact material' establishments, there was also 522 primary producers, 1236 manufacturers and packers, 63 importers and exporters and 479 distributors and transporters registered.

The number of OCs performed populated in table 1.2 refer to FSA/DAERA OCs and the figures provided for 'retail', 'food and beverages' and 'food contact material' establishments were carried out by DCs. While the FSA data capture from DCs did not request the number of OCs specific to each of the establishment categories as listed in table 1.2, the figures obtained show that DCs carried out a total of 15,473 OCs in all establishment categories. This included the figures which have been included in table 1.2 for 'retail', 'food and beverages' and 'food contact material' establishments and also 323 OCs in approved establishments, 123 in registered primary producers, 1027 in manufacturers and packers, 27 in importers and exporters and 237 in distributors and transporters. Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, DCs completed 100% of their planned food hygiene and standards interventions in category A risk rated establishments. They also completed 100% of planned food hygiene and 75% of planned food standards interventions in category B risk rated premises.

1.2 Official controls on operators / establishments

Approved establishments	Number of establishments	Number of official controls performed
General activity establishments (cold stores, re-wrapping and re-packing establishments, wholesale markets, reefer vessels)	117	55
Meat of domestic ungulates	45	3941
Meat from poultry and lagomorphs	21	215
Meat of farmed game	4	6
Wild game meat	5	7
Minced meat, meat preparations and mechanically separated meat (MSM)	67	67
Meat products	74	32
Live bivalve molluscs	13	0
Fishery products	64	0
Colostrum, raw milk, colostrum-based and dairy products	29	1437
Egg and egg products	65	6
Frogs' legs and snails	0	0
Rendered animal fats and greaves	3	0
Treated stomach, bladders and intestines	8	5
Gelatine	1	0
Collagen	0	0
Highly refined chondroitin sulphate, hyaluronic acid, other hydrolysed cartilage products, chitosan, glucosamine, rennet, isinglass and amino acids (HRP)	0	0
Honey	0	0
Sprouts	0	0

Registered operators/establishments	Number of operators/establishments	Number of official controls performed
Growing of crops	0	0
Animal production	0	0
Mixed farming	26099	2448
Hunting	0	0
Fishing	0	0
Aquaculture	32	1360
Processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables	0	0
Manufacture of vegetable oils and fats	0	0
Manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products	0	0
Manufacture of bakery and farinaceous products	0	0
Manufacture of other food products	0	0
Manufacturers of beverages	0	0
Wholesale	0	0
Retail	4135	2671
Transport and storage	0	0
Food and beverage service activities	15069	11065
Others	0	0
Establishments producing food contact materials	10	0

1.3 Official controls requiring continuous or regular presence of staff or representatives of the competent authorities on the operator's premises

Types of operators' premises	Number of establishments	Number of official controls performed (number of carcasses or weight in tonnes)	Rejections
Meat of domestic ungulates — slaughterhouses	13	2805744	22976
Meat from poultry and lagomorphs — slaughterhouses	5	140364208	1563020
Meat of farmed game — slaughterhouses	1	1166	13
Wild game meat — Game-handling establishments	3	907	0

1.4 Official controls on products/goods by horizontal rule and food category

By horizontal rule / By food category	Microbiological criteria			Pesticides in food			Contaminants in food			Residues of veterinary medicinal products in food			Labelling, nutritional and health claims		Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) in food		Improvement agents (additives, enzymes, flavourings, processing aids)			Irradiation			Contamination by/migration of food contact materials			Others
	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total		
1. Dairy products	0	1590	1590	0	768	768	0	36	36	0	174	174	90	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Dairy alternatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Fats and oils and fat and oil emulsions	0	19	19	0	1949	1949	0	51	51	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	28	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Edible ices	0	603	603	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	195	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Fruit and vegetables	0	9653	9653	0	14557	14557	0	70	70	0	0	0	143	0	0	0	28	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Confectionery	0	52	52	0	784	784	0	0	0	0	0	0	460	0	0	0	175	175	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Cereals and cereal products	0	1503	1503	0	36582	36582	0	146	146	0	758	758	132	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Bakery wares	0	851	851	0	3917	3917	0	65	65	0	0	0	421	0	0	0	128	128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Fresh meat	0	421	421	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	352	0	0	0	29	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

By horizontal rule / By food category	Microbiological criteria			Pesticides in food			Contaminants in food			Residues of veterinary medicinal products in food			Labelling, nutritional and health claims		Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) in food		Improvement agents (additives, enzymes, flavourings, processing aids)			Irradiation			Contamination by/migration of food contact materials			Others
	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total	ESFA Data	Additional	Total		
Domestic ungulates	0	0	0	0	99	99	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poultry and lagomorphs	0	0	0	0	55	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Minced meat, meat preparations and MSM	0	1621	1621	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	87	87	3158	0	0	0	250	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Meat products	0	13711	13711	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1192	0	0	55	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12. Fish and fisheries products	0	1004	1004	0	768	1539	0	1539	1539	806	806	130	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0
Live bivalve molluscs	0	13	13	0	14	14	0	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1319	0
Fishery products	0	0	0	0	42	42	0	42	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Eggs and egg products	0	1629	1629	0	61	61	0	61	61	0	0	0	3	0	0	24	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	26	0
14. Sugar, syrups, honey and table-top sweeteners	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Explanatory Notes regarding table 1.4 data:

The DC sample test data provided in table 1.4 includes samples procured at the ports.

At the start of the 2023 reporting period the sample data for 'labelling, nutritional and health claims' included the total number of labelling checks associated with each sample. However, this was amended mid-year, with samples subject to a labelling assessment being recorded as one assessment. Each sample tested for pesticides will have been subject to several individual pesticide tests which has contributed to some of the relatively large values.

Verification of FBO sampling as follows.

- Salmonella – domestic ungulates (2749 FBO samples) and poultry (450 FBO samples)
- Campylobacter – broilers (635 FBO samples)
- Trichinella – pigs (1,344,578 FBO samples and 1208 CA samples) and wildlife (302 CA fox samples)

The microbiological sample figure provided for LBM is FSA official control microbiological samples taken for Class A and Seasonal Class A production areas to ensure product meets microbiological criteria as per 2073/2005 (ready to eat products). The LBM figure provided in the 'other' column includes FSA official control samples for microbiological sampling of Class B/Class C and seasonal beds (i.e. not ready to eat product), biotoxin sampling and phytoplankton sampling[JT1] .

Other Information:

There was a total compliment of 90.31 FTE professional officers allocated to food control by DCs on 31 March 2023 with 86% of that compliment being occupied. Some DCs have reported some difficulty with recruitment and reallocation of resource to other core functions.

In addition to the planned OC work, DCs also carried out 2215 revisits and responded to 1796 complaints[J2] from 1 April 23 to 31 March 24. They also responded to requests for service and delivered food safety training and various other food safety promotion and educational activities.

During the reporting period inspection, verification and audit (including outcomes) official controls by activity were as follows.

- Domestic ungulates – 3941 official controls included 29 full FBO audits (28 good, 1 generally satisfactory), 4 partial FBO audits, 42 unannounced inspections, 624 slaughter hygiene verifications, 3026 SRM removal verifications and 216 microcriteria verifications.
- Poultry and lagomorphs – 215 official controls included 9 full FBO audits (8 good, 1 generally satisfactory), 2 partial FBO audits, 16 Unannounced inspections, 152 slaughter hygiene verifications and 36 microcriteria verifications.
- Farmed game – 6 official controls included 2 full FBO audits (1 good, 1 generally satisfactory), 2 partial FBO audits and 2 unannounced inspections.
- Wild game – 7 official controls included 3 full FBO audits (2 good, 1 generally satisfactory), 2 partial FBO audits and 3 unannounced inspections.
- Minced meat, meat preparations, MSM) – 21 official controls included 21 full FBO audits (20 good, 1 generally satisfactory)
- Processed Products – 10 official controls included 10 full FBO audits (9 good, 1 generally satisfactory)
- Treated stomachs, bladders and intestines – 5 official controls included 5 full FBO audits (5 good)
- Eggs & egg products – 6 official controls included 6 inspection visits.

In addition to above the following official controls were carried out

- Raw drinking milk – 4 hygiene inspections
- Dairy farm hygiene – 1339 inspections
- Milk purchasers, hauliers, on-farm pasteurisers, distribution centres – 94 inspections.
- Primary production hygiene (non-dairy) – 1109 inspections
- Controlled housing conditions (pigs) – 33 inspections

During the reporting period sampling official controls were as follows

- 215 pasteurised milk
- 54 raw drinking milk
- 39 water

Resources (DAERA) - In addition to the existing compliment of staff a further 5 officials (3 official veterinarian and 2 primary production hygiene inspectors) were authorised to carry out official controls under Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on behalf of FSA.

1.6 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

Approved establishments	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators/establishments	Number of controlled operators/establishments where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
General activity establishments (Cold stores, re-wrapping and re-packing establishments, wholesale markets, reefer vessels)	9	0	0	9	0
Meat of domestic ungulates	10	45	23	10	
Meat from poultry and lagomorphs	6	21	9	6	
Meat of farmed game	0	0	0	0	
Wild game meat	0	0	0	0	
Minced meat, meat preparations and mechanically separated meat (MSM)	13	67	22	13	
Meat products	11	0	0	11	
Live bivalve molluscs	0	0	0	0	
Fishery products	0	0	0	0	
Colostrum, raw milk, colostrum-based and dairy products	10	29	10	10	
Egg and egg products	0	0	0	0	
Frogs' legs and snails	0	0	0	0	
Rendered animal fats and greaves	0	0	0	0	
Treated stomach, bladders and intestines	0	0	0	0	
Gelatine	0	0	0	0	
Collagen	0	0	0	0	
HRP	0	0	0	0	
Honey	0	0	0	0	
Sprouts	0	0	0	0	

Registered operators/establishments	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators/establishments	Number of controlled operators/establishments where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
Growing of crops	0	0	0	0	0
Animal production	0	0	0	0	
Mixed farming	13	26099	13	13	
Hunting	0	0	0	0	
Fishing	0	0	0	0	
Aquaculture	0	0	0	0	
Processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables	0	0	0	0	
Manufacture of vegetable oils and fats	0	0	0	0	
Manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products	0	0	0	0	
Manufacture of bakery and farinaceous products	0	0	0	0	
Manufacture of other food products	0	0	0	0	
Manufacturers of beverages	0	0	0	0	
Wholesale	0	0	0	0	
Retail	1435	0	0	1435	
Transport and storage	0	0	0	0	
Food and beverage service activities	5371	0	0	5371	
Others	0	0	0	0	
Establishments producing food contact materials	0	0	0	0	

	Non-compliances of food							Actions/measures	
	Non-compliances detected during official controls performed							Administrative	Judicial
	Microbiological criteria	Pesticides in food	Contaminants in food	Residues of veterinary medicinal products in food	Labelling, nutritional and health claims	Improvement agents (additives, enzymes, flavourings, processing aids)	Others		
1. Dairy products	8	0	19	0	10	0	0	10	0
2. Dairy alternatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3. Fats and oils and fat and oil emulsions	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	
4. Edible ices	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	17	
5. Fruit and vegetables	0	3	2	0	62	0	67	0	
6. Confectionery	0	0	0	0	57	1	0	58	
7. Cereals and cereal products	0	11	0	0	29	0	0	40	
8. Bakery wares	0	2	2	0	142	0	0	146	
9. Fresh meat	0	0	0	0	28	2	0	30	
Domestic ungulates	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Poultry and lagomorphs	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10. Minced meat, meat preparations and MSM	0	0	0	0	164	9	0	173	
11. Meat products	0	0	0	0	110	3	1	113	
12. Fish and fisheries products	0	0	20	0	40	0	0	60	
Live bivalve molluscs	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
13. Eggs and egg products	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	
14. Sugar, syrups, honey and table-top sweeteners	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	4	
15. Salts, spices, soups, sauces, salads and protein products	0	6	0	0	46	0	0	52	
16. Foods intended for particular nutritional uses as defined by Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	11	
17. Beverages	0	1	0	0	84	5	22	91	
18. Ready-to-eat savouries and snacks	0	0	1	0	14	0	0	15	
19. Desserts excluding products covered in categories 1, 3 and 4	0	0	0	0	14	0	0	14	
20. Food supplements as defined in point (a) of Article 2 of Directive 2002/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council excluding food supplements for infants and young children	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	11	
21. Processed foods not covered by categories 1 to 17, excluding foods for infants and young children	1	0	0	0	287	0	0	288	
22. Others – foods not covered by categories 1 to 21	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	

Non-compliances related to horizontal rules		Actions/measures	
	Non-compliances detected during official controls performed	Administrative	Judicial
GMOs in food:			
Unauthorised GMOs	0	0	0
Labelling of GMOs	0	0	

Non-compliances related to horizontal rules		Actions/measures	
	Non-compliances detected during official controls performed	Administrative	Judicial
Irradiation	0	0	0
Novel foods	0	0	0
Food contact materials	0	0	0

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

DCs have reported investigations of potential fraudulent and deceptive practices including: reports of illegal shellfish gathering, use of 'fresh' claim on packaging, potential case of food substitution, RASFF referrals regarding potentially unauthorised novel foods, allegations of meat substitution in two restaurants (unannounced visits and formal samples taken but complaints were not substantiated), fish substitution identified through sampling survey (written warning issued and resamples found to be satisfactory), allegation of alcohol substitution (unannounced visit and samples taken, but samples found to be genuine for alcohol declared and alcohol content), suspected food premises operating from a domestic property (established food production was for personal use), and an alleged unapproved game establishment.

1.7 Comment box

Explanatory Notes regarding table 1.6 data:

DC data is not currently available in the format which would enable full completion of table 1.6. However, from the data that was captured electronically by DCs and obtained by FSA, DCs issued a total of 7682 administrative enforcement actions. These actions include written warnings and a range of enforcement notices and actions. This figure includes the data populated in the table for 'retail', 'food and beverages' and 'food contact material' establishments and also 173 issued on approved establishments, 19 on primary producers, 589 on manufacturers and packers, 7 on importers and exporters and 88 on distributors and transporters. The number of 'non-compliances' identified by DCs during OCs are not recorded in a format which enable electronic counting and reporting. However, each enforcement action will be in response to at least one non-compliance.

The DC sample data includes tests and non-compliances of samples procured at the ports.

At the start of the 2023 reporting period the sample data for 'labelling, nutritional and health claims' included the total number of labelling checks and non-compliances associated with each sample. However, this was amended mid-year, with samples subject to a labelling assessment being recorded as one assessment and, as appropriate, one non-compliance. A significant proportion of chemical samples were non-compliant which can be attributed to the DCs proactively targeting their chemical sampling at suspected/known non-compliant products. The data provided regarding 'non-compliances related to horizontal rules' is based on sample data only. Any non-compliances detected during other OCs are not recorded in an electronically retrievable format. Furthermore, any samples relating to novel foods are not specifically coded to distinguish between unauthorised and labelling issues.

The 1 non-compliance recorded for live bivalve molluscs were samples from Class A and/or Seasonal A production areas that exceeded the maximum value 700 MPN/100 g of flesh and intravalvular liquid. From 1 Jan 23- 31 Dec 24 there were no prohibited sample results from active production areas.

Other Information:

During audits of food business operators (approved slaughterhouses, cutting plants and game handling establishments) a total number of 519 minor non-compliances were detected across 27 establishments audited where 89 activities were ongoing. In addition, there were 2 major non-compliances detected. Compliance was achieved in all cases using the hierarchy of enforcement without the need for judicial action.

The competent authority verifies FBO micro testing under Regulation 2073/2005 for domestic ungulates and poultry, a total of 73 FBO samples (2%) out of a total of 3816 were found to be non-compliant with Regulation 2073/2005. 776 slaughter hygiene verification checks detected 2 non-compliances which required administrative action. 8 non-compliances were detected during 3026 checks verifying the removal, storage and handling of specified risk material. As above, compliance was achieved in all cases of minor non-compliance using the hierarchy of enforcement without the need for judicial action. All samples analysed for Trichinella (1,345,786 domestic swine and 302 wildlife) were negative.

In addition to above, during the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 the following enforcement action was taken due to non-compliance.

- 10 warning letters and 250 guidance letters were issued relating to dairy hygiene.
- 2 guidance letters were issued relating to egg hygiene.
- 13 warning letters were issued relating to primary production hygiene.

Also

- 37 samples of pasteurised milk (out of 215) were found to be non-compliant.
- 5 raw milk samples (out of 50) were found to be non-compliant.
- 2 water samples (out of 35) were found to be non-compliant.

Attachments

No

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 2 - Deliberate release into the environment of GMOs for the purpose of food and feed production

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023
Have you any data to report in this period ? No

2.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

No comments

2.2 Official controls

	Number of official controls performed
Commercial cultivation of GMOs for the purpose of food and feed production (Part C of Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council)	0
Experimental releases of GMOs related to food and feed (Part B of Directive 2001/18/EC)	0
Seeds and vegetative propagating material for the purpose of food and feed production	0

2.3 Comment box

No comments

2.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators	Number of controlled operators where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
1. Commercial cultivation of GMOs for the purpose of food and feed production (Part C of Directive 2001/18/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council)	0	0	0	0	0
2. Experimental releases of GMOs related to food and feed (Part B of Directive 2001/18/EC)	0	0	0	0	
3. Seeds and vegetative propagating material for the purpose of food and feed production	0	0	0	0	
3.1 Unauthorised GMOs in seeds and vegetative propagating material	0	0	0	0	
3.2 Labelling of GMOs in seeds and vegetative propagating material	0	0	0	0	

2.5 Comment box

No comments

Attachments No

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 3 - Feed and feed safety at any stage of production, processing and distribution of feed and the use of feed, including rules aimed at ensuring fair practices in trade and protecting consumer health, interests and information

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023
Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

3.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

Overall level of compliance was good.

3.2 Official controls

By establishments	Number of establishments	Number of official controls performed
Establishments approved in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council	60	1272
Primary producers approved in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2005	63	36
Establishments registered in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2005, with the exclusion of primary production	457	136
Primary producers registered in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2005 and complying with provisions in Annex I to that Regulation	15	5
Operators (farmers) using feed	22685	1242
Operators manufacturing and/or trading medicated feeding stuffs	106	54

By horizontal rule	Number of official controls performed
Labelling of feed	173
Traceability of feed	117
Additives in feed (Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council)	25
Undesirable substances in feed (Article 2 of Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council)	304
Prohibited materials in feed (Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 767/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council)	1
Medicated feeding stuffs (Council Directive 90/167/EC)	37
Pesticides in feed	59
GMOs in feed	2

3.3 Comment box

No comments

3.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

By establishment	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled establishments	Number of controlled establishments where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
Establishments approved in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005	57	0	0	57	0
Primary producers approved in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005	18	0	0	18	
Establishments registered in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005, with the exclusion of primary production	20	0	0	20	
Primary producers registered in accordance with Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 and complying with provisions in Annex I to that Regulation	0	0	0	0	
Operators (farmers) using feed	261	0	0	261	
Operators manufacturing and/or trading medicated feeding stuffs	70	0	0	70	

By horizontal rule	Number of non-compliances found	Administrative	Judicial
Product non-compliance: Labelling/traceability of feed placed/to be placed on the market	20	20	0
Product non-compliance: Safety of feed placed/to be placed on the market	0	0	
Additives in feed (Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council)	0	0	
Undesirable substances in feed (Article 2 of Directive 2002/32/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council)	0	0	
Prohibited materials in feed (Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 767/2009)	1	1	
Medicated feeding stuffs (Council Directive 90/167/EC)	3	3	
Pesticides in feed	0	0	
Unauthorised GMOs in feed	0	0	
Labelling of GMOs in feed	0	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

None detected

3.5 Comment box

No comments

Attachments

No

About this dossier

Output on: 2024/09/12 13:09 (Europe/Luxembourg)

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Part II, Section 4 - Animal health requirements

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023

Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

4.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

Satisfactory level of compliance.

4.2 Official controls

	Number of holdings/ establishments	Number of official controls performed	Number of animals registered	Number of animals checked
Identification and registration of bovine animals	21437	903	1645514	117994
Identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals	13387	563	1329676	108365

	Number of holdings/ establishments	Number of official controls performed
Approved assembly centres (bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine, equine)	50	18
Approved dealers (bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine)	0	0
Control posts (Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97)	1	0
Approved bodies, institutes and centres (Council Directive 92/65/EEC)	0	0
Establishments approved for EU trade of poultry and hatching eggs	0	0
Bird quarantine establishments	0	0
Approved aquaculture establishments	94	424
Approved fish aquaculture establishments	46	415
Approved live bivalve molluscs aquaculture establishments	48	9
Authorised aquaculture animals processing establishments	0	0
Semen collection centres	4	7
Semen collection centres, Bovine	3	0
Semen collection centres, Porcine	1	0
Semen storage centres	12	16
Semen storage centres, Bovine	11	11
Semen storage centres, Equine	1	3
Embryo collection / production teams	5	6
Embryo collection / production teams, Bovine	5	6

4.3 Comment box

Aquaculture - From consulting Table 1 Point 47 of Commission Notice of the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Official Controls Regulation) 2022/C467/02, there is an increase in the number of official controls on finfish establishments as we have now included pre-certification inspections of the establishments and consignments for the export of ornamental fish. On reading point 47 there is also a decrease in the number of Official Controls for live bivalve molluscs as these are now exported on notification and any pre-notification inspections we complete for these consignments are not Official Controls.

Control posts - In 2023 we had only 1 Control Posts approved for use in Northern Ireland

4.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

	Actions/measures								
	Number of holdings/ establishments with non-compliances	Restriction of movements of individual animals – Affected animals	Restriction of movements of individual animals – Affected holdings	Restriction of movements of all animals – Affected animals	Restriction of movements of all animals – Affected holdings	Destruction of animals – Affected animals	Destruction of animals – Affected holdings	Administrative	Judicial
Identification and registration of bovine animals	284	316	75	675	12	0	0	240	4

	Actions/measures		
	Number of holdings/ establishments with non-compliances	Administrative	Judicial
Identification and registration of bovine animals	284	240	4
Identification and registration of ovine and caprine animals	355	4	
Approved assembly centres (bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine, equine)	0	0	
Approved dealers (bovine, ovine, caprine, porcine)	0	0	
Control posts (Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/97)	0	0	
Approved bodies, institutes and centres (Council Directive 92/65/EEC)	0	0	
Establishments approved for EU trade of poultry and hatching eggs	0	0	
Bird quarantine establishments	0	0	
Approved aquaculture establishments	4	0	
Approved fish aquaculture establishments	4	4	
Authorised aquaculture animals processing establishments	0	0	
Semen collection centres	0	0	
Semen storage centres	0	0	
Embryo collection / production teams	2	0	
Embryo collection / production teams, Bovine	2	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

IRM - no fraudulent and deceptive practices.

Aquaculture - no fraudulent and deceptive practices.

Control posts - no fraudulent and deceptive practices.

Assembly Centres - no fraudulent and deceptive practices.

Semen/Embryo - Artificial Insemination - no fraudulent and deceptive practices.

4.5 Comment box

No comments

Attachments

No

About this dossier

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Created: 2024/07/10 10:51

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Part II, Section 5 - Prevention and minimisation of risks to human and animal health arising from animal by-products and derived products

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023
Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

5.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

The findings of the Inspections overall reflect a satisfactory level of compliance.

5.2 Official controls

By establishment/plant	Number of establishments/plants	Number of official controls performed
Establishments or plants approved in accordance with Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council	207	164
Establishments or plants registered in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009	586	31

By horizontal rule	Number of official controls performed
Labelling and traceability of animal by-products/derived products	195

5.3 Comment box

No comments

5.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

By establishments/plants	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled establishments/plants	Number of controlled establishments/plants where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
Establishments or plants approved in accordance with Article 24 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009	3	0	0	3	0
Establishments or plants registered in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009	1	0	0	1	

By horizontal rule	Number of non-compliances found	Administrative	Judicial
Product non-compliance: labelling and traceability of animal by-products/derived products	0	0	0
Product non-compliance: labelling and traceability of animal by-products/derived products. Categories 1 and 2	0	0	
Product non-compliance: labelling and traceability of animal by-products/derived products. Category 3	0	0	
Product non-compliance: safety of animal by-products/derived products	0	0	
Product non-compliance: safety of animal by-products/derived products. Categories 1 and 2	0	0	
Product non-compliance: safety of animal by-products/derived products. Category 3	0	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

No fraudulent and deceptive practices.

5.5 Comment box

No comments

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 6 - Welfare requirements for animals

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023

Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

6.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

Overall, there is a high level of compliance with welfare requirements for animals. There is a 91% compliance rate at on farm welfare inspections and 99% compliance rate for welfare of animals in transport.

In NI, any farm animal non-compliances are referred to the Area Based Schemes Payment Agency and a notice or cover letter is served. Non-compliances in transport also receive a notice. Serious incidents in all cases are referred for investigation with a view to potential prosecution and we also have the option to suspend / revoke transporter authorisations in cases of persistent offenders.

6.2 Official controls, non-compliances and actions/measures on animal welfare on farms

Animals kept for farming purposes (animal category)	Number of production sites	Number of official controls performed	Non-compliances		Actions/measures	
			Total number of controlled production sites	Number of controlled production sites where non-compliances were detected	Administrative	Judicial
Pigs (as defined in the Council Directive 2008/120/EC)	1100	27	0	2	5	13
Laying hens (as defined in the Council Directive 1999/74/EC)	444	443	0	1	1	
Chickens (as defined in the Council Directive 2007/43/EC)	527	24	0	0	0	
Calves (as defined in the Council Directive 2008/119/EC)	13465	227	0	41	16	
Other (specify)						
Cattle (except calves)	21241	327	0	53	81	
Sheep	19136	213	0	21	33	
Goats	1126	8	0	0	0	
Ratites	11	0	0	0	0	
Ducks	1232	3	0	0	0	
Geese	563	1	0	0	0	
Turkeys	459	6	0	0	0	

6.3 Analysis and action plan for animal welfare on farms

Northern Ireland classify the outcomes of inspections as A, B or C in accordance with Commission Decision 2006/778/EC. Non-compliances scored as C are therefore considered the most serious. In 2023, non-compliances occurred most frequently in categories inspection and feed, water and other substances and were mostly relating to cattle and sheep. The number of production sites inspected in 2023 (1279) was slightly lower than 2022 (1394). There has been an increase in the number of most serious breaches (scored C). Many of these have been incurred by a small number of keepers and steps have been taken to address this including increased inspection visits and commencement of investigations with a view to prosecution and potential disqualification from keeping animals.

Training sessions are held to refresh staff knowledge and train new staff. Following inspections, a notice is issued providing details of any non-compliance and the action needed to reach compliance. Follow up inspections are carried out to ensure compliance. Those responsible for farmed animals, or who employ or engage others, are required by law to ensure that those attending to their animals are familiar with and have access to the relevant Codes of Practice. In cases where non-compliances relate to persistent offenders, evidence is gathered and cases compiled with a view to prosecution. This process takes some time but is done with the aim of reducing serious non-compliance.

6.4 Animal welfare during transport

Protection of animals during transport (by species)	Number of official controls performed	Number and category of non-compliances						Actions/measures	
		Fitness of animals	Transport practices, space allowance, height	Means of transport	Water, feed, journey and resting times	Documents	Other	Administrative	Judicial
Bovine	869	11	1	0	0	2	0	21	32
Porcine animals	130	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Ovine/caprine	1303	2	0	0	0	12	0	8	
Equidae	3402	5	3	8	0	44	2	64	
Poultry	23648	2	2	1	1	1	0	7	
Other species									
Canine	1999	15	3	8	1	52	2	67	
Alpaca	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bear	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Birds	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Bongo	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Capybara	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cats	4	0	1	0	0	3	0	4	
Giraffe	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pudu	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Other animals	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

6.5 Analysis and action plan for animal welfare during transport

The number of inspections carried out in 2023 are slightly higher than 2022. The number of bovine inspections has decreased due to a general decrease in numbers of exports of bovines. There is a slight decrease in the number of non-compliances in relation to both equidae and canines.

Overall, the number of non-compliances is less than 1% of the total inspections carried out.

To help combat puppy smuggling, DAERA carried out routine and targeted inspections at two Northern Ireland ferry terminals under the Paws for Thought initiative; this saw a visible reduction in the number of dogs being transported to Great Britain. These inspections are carried out in partnership with other statutory agencies such as local councils and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

Training sessions are conducted to refresh staff knowledge and train new staff.

Following inspections, a notice is issued providing details of any non-compliance and the action needed to reach compliance. A large amount of guidance is available for transporters on the DAERA website. In cases of serious non-compliance, evidence is gathered and cases compiled with a view to prosecution with the aim of reducing serious non-compliance. In cases where non-compliances related to persistent offenders, evidence is gathered and cases compiled with a view to suspend Transporter Authorisation.

6.6 Animal welfare at the time of killing

In Food Standards Agency Approved Establishments in Northern Ireland all operatives slaughtering animals are trained in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1099/2009 requirements. Certificates of Competence (CoCs) are issued by DAERA and operatives undergo regular on-site monitoring checks by Official Veterinarians during the hours that the Approved premise is undertaking slaughtering operations. In 2023 DAERA issued 138 temporary Certificates of Competence and 35 Certificates of Competence.

In 2023 there were no Certificates of Competences or temporary Certificates of Competencies revoked by DAERA for contraventions of EC regulation 1099/2009

6.7 Comment box

No comments

Attachments

No

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 7 - Protective measures against pests of plants

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023
Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

7.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

High level of compliance achieved.

7.2 Official controls

	Number of operators	Number of official controls performed
Operators authorised to issue plant passports	248	5603
Operators authorised to apply the mark (wood packaging material, wood or other objects)	20	20

7.3 Comment box

Official controls include registration inspections and growing season inspections.

7.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators	Number of controlled operators where non-compliances were detected	Actions/measures	
				Administrative	Judicial
Operators authorised to issue plant passports	17	177	17	17	0
Operators authorised to apply the mark (wood packaging material, wood or other objects)	0	0	0	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

None

7.5 Comment box

Corrective action was taken by operators to resolve non-compliances identified during official controls.

Attachments No

About this dossier

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Part II, Section 8 - Requirements for the placing on the market and use of plant protection products and the sustainable use of pesticides, with the exception of pesticides application equipment

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023

Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

8.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

The Official Controls (Plant Protection Products) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 came into operation on 31/12/2020. The provision of a dedicated staff resource has been agreed but is not yet in place, therefore operational targets have not yet been set on which to measure the level of compliance within each sector and across the PPP regulatory regime.

8.2 Official controls

On marketing of plant protection products (PPPs)	Number of operators	Number of official controls performed
Entry points	0	0
Manufacturers/formulators	1	0
Packers/re-packers/re-labellers	4	0
Distributors/wholesalers/retailers - professional and/or amateur use PPPs	51	16
Storage depots/transport operators/logistics companies	0	0
Authorisation/parallel trade permit holder	0	0
Others	0	0

On use of PPPs and sustainable use of pesticides	Number of operators	Number of official controls performed
Agricultural users	0	0
Applicants under the EU Basic Payment Scheme or Rural Development schemes, subject to Cross Compliance (CC) controls	24119	254
Agriculture users outside the scope of CC controls	21654	798
Other Professional users	94	0
Others	0	0

8.3 Comment box

Uptake of registration for inclusion on our list of operators - remains significantly lower than anticipated, particularly in the agricultural sector and retail sector, despite the Department proactively promoting the requirement to register across all sectors. In 2023 we saw a small increase in registrations of professional users by 163 businesses. We carried out a targeted letter campaign of grass-based sports clubs which increased the number registrations in the golf sector. A further 12 supply chain businesses have registered in 2023.

Due to resourcing, a dedicated PPP Official Controls programme was not commenced for 2023. As in 2022 we are relying on the following inspection regimes and data sources for our reported figures:

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Distributors/wholesalers/retailers - data from the 2022 independent Store Inspection Scheme run by BASIS who annually audit distributors on their scheme register (currently 51 NI premises), with DAERA staff from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency physically inspecting 14 premises in 2023, chosen on a risk basis.

- Controls on users of PPP - Agricultural users: Data has been included on inspections carried out on farm businesses under the following regimes:

Ø Cross Compliance (CC) controls under SMR10. Total Number of Farm Businesses subject to Cross Compliance inspections equate to the total number of farms in receipt of basic payments. Not all will be subject to inspections under SMR10 (i.e. not all will be pesticide users). The total number of SMR10 inspections carried out in 2023 includes 254 programmed inspections, however only 27 operators inspected under SMR 10 used PPPs in 2023 – 10.6 %. No areas of non-compliance were identified.

Ø Primary Producer Hygiene Inspections (recorded on the line titled “Agriculture users outside the scope of CC controls” but please note many of these PPH operators may also be subject to cross-compliance controls). Total Number of Farm businesses subject to PPH rules is based on farm census figures and quality assurance scheme membership. A risk assessment is conducted using the inspection frequencies of between 1% - 25% depending on the producer type to determine the total number of inspections which Inspectors will undertake.

No data has been gathered for the following for 2023:

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Entry points – The 42 premises registered under the ‘Importer’ category. All are also registered as ‘Distributors’. We have no long-term plan to carry out checks at the ‘Point of Entry’, rather our future controls will focus on the point of distribution/sale to end user.

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Manufacturers/formulators – As of 2023 there is 1 company registered as ‘Manufacturers/Formulators’. The company is registered in Northern Ireland with premises in GB and NI.

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Packers/re-packers/re-labellers – we have currently 4 businesses registered as processors (re-packers/re-labellers).

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Storage depots/transport operators/logistics companies – We have no current plans to carry out checks at this type of premises.

- Controls of the marketing of PPPs – Authorisation/parallel trade permit holder – Currently checks of authorisation holders are carried out at a UK national level by the National Regulator the Health and Safety Executive’s, Chemical Regulation Division.

- Controls on the marketing of PPPs – Others – in the previous year we provided controls data on online sales of amateur use PPPs, under this category. No controls were carried out on online retailers of PPP in 2023.

Controls on users of PPP - Other professional users: No control data is available for 2023.

8.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

On marketing of PPPs	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators	Number of controlled operators where non-compliances were detected	Actions/measures	
				Administrative	Judicial
Entry points	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturers/formulators	0	0	0	0	
Packers/re-packers/re-labellers	0	0	0	0	
Distributors/wholesalers/retailers - professional and/or amateur use PPPs	11	14	9	11	
Storage depots/transport operators/logistics companies	0	0	0	0	
Authorisation/parallel trade permit holder	0	0	0	0	
Others	0	0	0	0	

On use of PPPs and sustainable use of pesticides	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators	Number of controlled operators where non-compliances were detected	Actions/measures	
				Administrative	Judicial
Agricultural users	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants under the EU Basic Payment Scheme or Rural Development schemes, subject to Cross Compliance (CC) controls	0	254	0	0	
Agriculture users outside the scope of CC controls	10	798	9	10	
Other professional users	0	0	0	0	
Others	0	0	0	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

No fraudulent or deceptive practices were identified.

8.5 Comment box

Non-compliance detected during official controls at:

Distributors/wholesalers/retailers — professional and/or amateur use PPPs: The BASIS programme of inspections focuses on PPP storage only and the risk to the water environment. Two main areas of non-compliance were identified:

- integrity of the storage structure, in that remedial works were identified to ensure that the stores were constructed in such a way as to prevent unwanted releases; and the capacity of the store and whether or not it is overstocked in terms of having adequate containment in the event of a spill.
- lack of or incomplete drainage plans and no emergency spill kit or insufficient spill kit.

Agricultural users: The main areas of non-compliance within the farming sector detected during this year's programme, included:

- Use of PPPs without a specified training certificate
- PPPs not being store in areas that are constructed in such a way as to prevent unwanted releases.

Other professional users: Although we had no official programme of inspections in 2023 covering professional users in the amenity sector we had one whistleblower case. Non-compliance issues identified, included:

- Storage of unauthorised PPPs (included storage of PPPs authorised for use in another MS i.e. Ireland and not UK/Northern Ireland)
- Use of unauthorised PPPs

We continue to educate and support all PPP operators to achieve and maintain compliance with the legislation. DAERA Staff within the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) provide technical support and training in the sustainable use of PPP's, and we work with industry and environmental stakeholders to disseminate advice on the safe use of PPPs and good agricultural practice.

Attachments

No

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Part II, Section 9 - Organic production and labelling of organic products

Country	Northern Ireland	Year	2023
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Have you already reported data for this period to DG Agriculture & Rural Development (AGRI) through the Organic Farming Information System (OFIS)?	Yes
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Comment box

There are ongoing issues with accessing the right areas of OFIS to upload reports. This has been raised with the Commission. NICA and the Commission are content for the attached standard model form to be submitted with our returns.

Attachments

Yes

File Name:	NI_Standard_Model_Form_-_Section_9_of_Part_II_of_Regulation_(EU)_2021-1935.docx
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About this dossier

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Part II, Section 10 - Use and labelling of protected designations of origin, protected geographical indications and traditional specialities guaranteed

Country Northern Ireland **Year** 2023

Have you any data to report in this period ? Yes

10.1 Overall conclusion on the level of compliance achieved

Audits were carried out on Lough Neagh Pollan (PDO) and Lough Neagh Eels (PGI). The Department has not been notified of any enforcement activity over the 12 month period. Based on this limited data, compliance appears to have been achieved.

10.2 Official controls

	Number of official controls performed
Pre-market	0
Conventional market	2
Electronic commerce	0

10.3 Comment box

No enforcement necessary following the 2 audits. No notifications of ad-hoc enforcement over the 12 month period.

10.4 Non-compliances and Actions/measures

	Detected during official controls performed	Total number of controlled operators	Number of controlled operators where non-compliances were detected	Actions/measures	
				Administrative	Judicial
Pre-market	0	0	0	0	0
Conventional market	0	0	0	0	
Electronic commerce	0	0	0	0	

Fraudulent and deceptive practices

No fraudulent and deceptive practices.

10.5 Comment box

No comments

Attachments No