FALKLAND ISLANDS BIOSECURITY

PROTECTING OUR HOME, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

A Guide To Importing Goods

Falkland Islands Government
Department of Agriculture

Biosecurity & Imports

The Falklands have a limited range of existing pests and diseases and are vulnerable new introductions that could negatively impact agricultural production, fisheries, human and animal health and welfare, the natural environment, tourism, and sustainable development.

Biological invasions continue to increase globally, resulting in huge negative impacts on native biodiversity and agriculture, and sometimes threats to public health. Once an invasive species becomes established, eradication is often not possible and continuous control efforts are costly. Therefore, biosecurity as the sum of risk management practices in defence against biological threats is essential to minimise the risk of invasions.

Some items you may wish to bring to the Falklands can pose risks to the environment, economy, and inhabitants. Plant products—including fruits, vegetables, seeds, and cuttings—may carry pests or diseases, or could become invasive in the Islands. Food of animal origin—such as meat, dairy products, and eggs—can harbour pathogens that threaten livestock and wildlife. Likewise, contaminated footwear, outdoor clothing, camera bags, walking poles, and used fishing, camping, gardening, or agricultural equipment can introduce harmful organisms that threaten the Islands' unique biodiversity.

This guide is designed to give you more information on the classifications of imported goods. For more information or to apply for an import permit contact the biosecurity officer at the Department of Agriculture.

To protect the Falkland Islands imports are regulated and fall into three categories;

PROHIBITED - Goods are not permitted entrance into the Falkland Islands.

RESTRICTED - Goods must satisfy certain criteria before they may enter the country.

ALLOWED - Goods can be imported without restriction.

PROHIBITED	
Plants, animals or other biological material injurious to the health or wellbeing of the people, animals or plant life of the Falkland Islands.	
RESTRICTED - REQUIRING IMPORT PERMIT	
ANIMALS	Live animals may only enter the Falkland Islands under an Import Licence and must be accompanied by valid veterinary health certification. Contact the Veterinary Service for detailed requirements.
MEAT & MEAT PRODUCTS	Meat (fresh or frozen) and products containing meat require a Food of Animal Origin (FOAO) Import Permit and must be accompanied by a zoosanitary certificate, or under the conditions specified in Personal Imports.
DAIRY PRODUCTS	Dairy products (except certain UHT products—see below) require a FOAO Import Permit and must be accompanied by zoosanitary certification, or under the conditions specified in Personal Imports.
EGGS	Eggs require a FOAO Import Permit and must be accompanied by zoosanitary certification, or under the conditions specified in Personal Imports.
PLANT MATERIAL FRUIT & VEGETABLES	All plant material requires a Plant Import Permit and must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate, unless eligible under Personal Imports.
PRODUCTS OF BIOLOGICAL ORIGIN	Unprocessed products of biological origin may require an Import Permit and must be accompanied by the relevant certification. This includes items such as feathers, skins, leathers, wool, bone, embryos, semen, and veterinary products. Please check with the Department of Agriculture for specific requirements.
RESTRICTED - NOT REQUIRING IMPORT PERMIT	
SHEARING EQUIPMENT	Used shearing equipment, including clothing and footwear, must be thoroughly cleaned and free from all organic matter.
AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT	Used agricultural equipment, including clothing and footwear, must be thoroughly cleaned and free from all organic matter.
OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT	Used outdoor sports equipment —including fishing and camping gear, golf clubs, hiking poles, and similar items—must be free of all organic matter.
PLANT SEEDS	Seeds must be in commercial packaging and clearly labelled with the species and quantity. Some species of plant, such as Japanese Knotweed, are prohibited.
ALLOWED	
PROCESSED MEATS & MEAT PRODUCTS	Tinned or highly processed cooked meats and meat products must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly states the type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin. This includes items such as tinned meats and ready-made meals.

UHT DAIRY PRODUCTS	UHT milk and UHT yoghurts from any origin must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly states the type of product and is clearly marked as UHT.
PROCESSED DAIRY PRODUCTS	Highly processed or cooked dairy products and foodstuffs containing such ingredients must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly states the type of product, processing method, manufacturer, and country of origin. This includes items such as dried milk powder, puddings, and baby foods.
PROCESSED FRUIT VEGETABLES	Processed plant material must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly states the type of product, processing method, manufacturer, and country of origin. This category includes dried fruits and vegetables, dried herbs and spices, rice, nuts, and canned products.
OTHER PROCESSED GOODS	Highly processed or cooked goods such as bread, cakes, biscuits, pastries, grains, chocolate and confectionary must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly states the type of product, processing method, manufacturer, and country of origin.
FISH & FISH PRODUCTS	Fish and fish products—fresh, frozen, or processed—must be in sealed commercial packaging that clearly specifies the type of product, processing method, manufacturer, and country of origin. Alternatively, the passenger must present an export permit from the country of origin detailing the species and weight.

Personal Imports

Certain fruits, meats, and dairy products may be brought into the Falkland Islands as *Personal Imports* without the need for an import permit or sanitary certificate. Each passenger is permitted to carry up to **5 kg** of eligible goods, provided that all required conditions are met.

Personal Imports must be declared to Customs on arrival and are subject to a biosecurity inspection.

Fruit

- Only the fruits listed below may be imported under Personal Imports and must be purchased from either the United Kingdom or Chile.
- Tall fruit must be commercially packaged or labelled and free from soil, insects and any other organic matter.
- Imports must be accompanied by proof of purchase (receipt) showing the supplier's name, date of purchase, item, and quantity.

Permitted Fruits: *Apples, Apricot, Avocado, Pear, Bananas, Bergamot, Cherry, Clementine, Coconuts, Figs, Grapes, Grapefruit, Guavas, Kiwi, Lemon, Lime, Lychee, Mandarin, Mangos, Nectarine, Orange, Papaya, Peach, Pears, Pineapples, Plum, Satsuma, and Tangerine.*

Meat, Eggs & Dairy Products

- Meat, eggs and dairy products must be sourced from within the United Kingdom or the European Union

- Meat, meat products and dairy products must be in the **original sealed packaging and bear the EU identification mark.**
- Meat and meat products sourced from outside the European Union may be accepted if they originate from a *Non-EU approved establishment* and are accompanied by a receipt List available at: https://food.ec.europa.eu/food-safety/biological-safety/food-hygiene/non-eu-countries-authorised-establishments_en).
- Milk and milk products must be clearly labelled as **UHT**.
- Eggs must bear the **British Lion Mark**, be free from faecal contamination and other organic material, and must not exceed **12 eggs per person**.

Import Permits

Some restricted items may only be brought into the Falkland Islands under an Import Permit. These permits include specific conditions that must be met before importation is allowed.

Import Permits are issued by the Department of Agriculture and are available in several formats to accommodate both commercial and private importers.

There are several types of import permit: however, the most common are:

- **Plant Material Permits** – covering items such as fruit and vegetables
- **Foods of Animal Origin (FOAO) Permits** – covering meat, meat products, dairy products and eggs.

Import Permits can authorise any quantity or combination of products *within the same classification*. For example, multiple types of fruit and vegetables may be imported under a single Plant Material Permit. However, a shipment containing products from different classifications—such as both meat and fruit—would require **two separate permits** (one for Plant Material and one for FOAO).

NOTE:

- Fees apply to the issuance of Import Permits. For details on current charges, please contact the Department of Agriculture.
- If importing goods under an annual Import Permit, you must submit a completed *Notification of Arrival* to the Department of Agriculture at least **three working days** before the import takes place.

<u>Importing Live Animals</u>

The importation of live animals is strictly controlled to prevent the introduction of unwanted organisms, pests, or diseases. For further information or guidance on importing live animals, please contact the **Veterinary Service** directly on (+500) 27366.

Sanitary Certificates

Import Permits require that plants and animal products undergo inspection or health checks by the relevant authority before being imported into the Falkland Islands. Once the inspection is completed, a certificate is issued confirming that the products are free from pathogens.

Health certificates for plant products are known as **phytosanitary certificates**, while those for Foods of Animal Origin are known as **zoosanitary certificates**. These are issued by the exporting country's official plant and animal health authority (for example, **DEFRA** in the United Kingdom or **SAG** in Chile).

Export health checks and the provision of health certificates is usually arranged by the supplier or exporter.

Clearance Certificates

Containers carrying notifiable goods may not be released from the port or shipper without a **Clearance Certificate**. Clearance Certificates are issued by the Biosecurity Officer upon receipt of the required documentation, including health certificates (copies are acceptable if necessary) and invoices.

Inspections

Imported goods are subject to inspection upon arrival in the Falkland Islands. Importers should contact the Biosecurity Unit **before the goods arrive** to arrange a biosecurity inspection. Inspections are normally carried out during standard working hours, Monday to Friday, 0800–1630, unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Biosecurity Officer. **Containers must not be opened prior to inspection.**

The purpose of these inspections is to detect any pests or diseases associated with the goods, packaging materials, or container environment.

Any outstanding paperwork must be presented to the Biosecurity Officer during the inspection.

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