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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2025/1447

of 18 July 2025

amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 laying down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation) ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 18(8), points (c), (d) and (e), thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 ⁽²⁾ lays down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625.
- (2) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1141 ⁽³⁾ amends Section III, point 3, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽⁴⁾ by authorising game-handling establishments to receive and handle farmed ratites and farmed even-toed game mammals which are slaughtered at the place of origin. Practical arrangements for official controls and related activities in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 only refer to slaughterhouses and should, as a consequence of the amendments to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, also refer to game-handling establishments. Article 7(2), Article 9, Articles 10(1), 27(2), 33(1), 34(1), Article 39(2), point (a), Article 48(2), point (b), Annex I, point 5, and Annex II, points 1(b) and (c), to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (3) Articles 9 and 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 lay down obligations for the competent authorities or their representatives in general and the official veterinarian in particular as regards checks of food chain information. Certain ambiguities and differences in implementation have been observed as regards checks that may be carried out by any representative of the competent authorities and checks that are to be carried out by the official veterinarian. Since the verification of food chain information is part of ante-mortem inspection as defined in Article 17, point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, that verification is to be carried out in principle by the official veterinarian in accordance with Article 18(2), points (a) and (b), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625, taking into account the derogations provided for in Article 18(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Article 3 of Commission Delegated Regulation

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 95, 7.4.2017, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/625/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 of 15 March 2019 laying down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005 as regards official controls (OJ L 131, 17.5.2019, p. 51, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2019/627/oj).

⁽³⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2024/1141 of 14 December 2023 amending Annexes II and III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards specific hygiene requirements for certain meat, fishery products, dairy products and eggs (OJ L, 2024/1141, 19.4.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2024/1141/oj).

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin (OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 55, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/853/oj>).

(EU) 2019/624⁽⁵⁾. In other cases than ante-mortem inspection, e.g. during audits, the checks of food chain information may be carried out by any representative of the competent authorities. Articles 9 and 10 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should be amended to more clearly reflect who is to carry out the checks of food chain information.

- (4) The list of Member States and zones thereof with disease-free status for tuberculosis (i.e. infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex (*M. bovis*, *M. caprae* and *M. tuberculosis*)) in bovine animals is laid down in Part I of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/620⁽⁶⁾. For reasons of legal clarity, it is necessary to update the reference to that list in Article 18(1), point (b), of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627.
- (5) Articles 18(3), 19(2), 20(2), 21(2), 22(2) and 23(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 provide that post-mortem inspection procedures in relation to domestic ungulates using incisions and palpations of carcasses and offal are to be carried out when there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare. Incisions and palpations may pose a risk of cross-contamination with pathogens potentially present on carcasses or offal. Not all additional post-mortem inspection procedures should therefore be imposed but only those that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk. Articles 18(3), 19(2), 20(2), 21(2), 22(2) and 23(2) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (6) Detailed rules on Union notification and Union reporting of listed transmissible animal diseases are laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002⁽⁷⁾. Therefore, for reasons of legal clarity, it is necessary to update the reference to Council Directive 64/432/EEC⁽⁸⁾ in Article 39(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627.
- (7) Article 40 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 lays down uniform practical arrangements for official controls related to compliance with requirements laid down in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 as regards food chain information contained in the records kept in accordance with Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽⁹⁾. Article 40 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 refers exclusively to slaughter in slaughterhouses. However, Section I, Chapter VIa, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 authorises, subject to certain requirements, the slaughter of domestic ungulates at the holding of provenance. Section III, point 3, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 authorises, subject to certain requirements, the slaughter of farmed ratites and farmed even-toed game mammals at the holding of provenance. Section I, Chapter VI, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 establishes requirements for the emergency slaughter of domestic ungulates outside the slaughterhouse. Article 40 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should be amended to cover those cases of slaughter at the holding of provenance and of emergency slaughter outside the slaughterhouse.

⁽⁵⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/624 of 8 February 2019 concerning specific rules for the performance of official controls on the production of meat and for production and relaying areas of live bivalve molluscs in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 131, 17.5.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2019/624/oj).

⁽⁶⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/620 of 15 April 2021 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the approval of the disease-free and non-vaccination status of certain Member States or zones or compartments thereof as regards certain listed diseases and the approval of eradication programmes for those listed diseases (OJ L 131, 16.4.2021, p. 78, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/620/oj).

⁽⁷⁾ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002 of 7 December 2020 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to Union notification and Union reporting of listed diseases, to formats and procedures for submission and reporting of Union surveillance programmes and of eradication programmes and for application for recognition of disease-free status, and to the computerised information system (OJ L 412, 8.12.2020, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2020/2002/oj).

⁽⁸⁾ Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine (OJ L 121, 29.7.1964, p. 1977, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/1964/432/oj>).

⁽⁹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs (OJ L 139, 30.4.2004, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/852/oj>).

- (8) Article 42 of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 lays down measures to be taken in case of misleading food chain information. That article refers exclusively to slaughterhouses. To reflect recent amendments to Section III, points 1 and 2, of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Article 42 should be amended to cover game-handling establishments in the case of farmed game slaughtered at the holding of provenance.
- (9) Union disease control measures for certain listed animal diseases which may affect certain animals and consequently the fitness for human consumption of fresh meat from these animals are now laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁽¹⁰⁾ and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 ⁽¹¹⁾. Therefore, for reasons of legal clarity, it is necessary to update the references in Article 45, point (e), of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 accordingly.
- (10) The link between the form of the health mark required by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 and the requirements for a special health mark laid down for the control of certain animal diseases pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 should be clarified. Article 48(3) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should be amended accordingly.
- (11) Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 lays down practical arrangements for the health mark in accordance with Article 48 of that Implementing Regulation. Point 1(c) of that Annex II refers to the European Community, instead of the European Union. Abbreviations which refer to the European Union should therefore replace abbreviations which refer to the European Community. To alleviate the administrative burden for operators created by that replacement, a transitional period should be provided for, during which products bearing a health mark with an abbreviation referring to the European Community may remain on the market.
- (12) Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (13) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 is amended as follows:

- (1) in Article 7, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

‘2. In the course of audits in slaughterhouses or game-handling establishments, the competent authorities shall verify the evaluation of food chain information, as laid down in Section III of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.’;

- (2) Article 9 is replaced by the following:

‘Article 9

Obligations of the competent authorities as regards checks of documents other than the checks of the food chain information referred to in Article 10(1)

1. The competent authorities shall inform the food business operator of the holding of provenance of the minimum elements of food chain information to be supplied to the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment in accordance with Section III of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health (‘Animal Health Law’) (OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj>).

⁽¹¹⁾ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, p. 64, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj).

2. The competent authorities shall perform the necessary checks of documents to verify that:
 - (a) the food chain information is consistently and effectively communicated between the food business operator who raised or kept the animals before dispatch and the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment;
 - (b) the food chain information is valid and reliable;
 - (c) feedback of relevant information to the holding of provenance, if applicable, is provided in accordance with Article 39(5).
 3. Where animals are dispatched for slaughter to another Member State, the competent authorities at the holding of provenance and the place of slaughter shall cooperate to ensure that the food chain information provided by the food business operator of the holding of provenance is easily accessible to the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment receiving it.;
- (3) in Article 10, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:
- ‘1. When carrying out ante-mortem inspections, the official veterinarian shall verify the results of the checks and evaluations of food chain information provided by the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment in accordance with Section III of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004. The official veterinarian shall take those checks and evaluations into account when carrying out ante-mortem and post-mortem inspections, together with any other relevant information from the records of the animals’ holding of provenance.;
- (4) Article 18 is amended as follows:
- (a) in paragraph 1, point (b) is replaced by the following:
 - ‘(b) animals under 20 months old if kept without access to pastureland during their whole life in an officially tuberculosis-free Member State or zone thereof listed in Part I of Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/620 (*).
- (*) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/620 of 15 April 2021 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the approval of the disease-free and non-vaccination status of certain Member States or zones or compartments thereof as regards certain listed diseases and the approval of eradication programmes for those listed diseases (OJ L 131, 16.4.2021, p. 78, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/620/oj).;
- (b) in paragraph 3, the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:

‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal:;
- (5) in Article 19(2), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
- ‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal:;
- (6) in Article 20(2), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
- ‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal:;

- (7) in Article 21(2), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
- ‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal.’;
- (8) in Article 22(2), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
- ‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal.’;
- (9) in Article 23(2), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:
- ‘When there are indications of a possible risk to human health, animal health or animal welfare in accordance with Article 24, the official veterinarian shall proceed with those of the following post-mortem inspection procedures that are relevant based on indications of a possible risk, in accordance with Article 18(2), point (c), of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and Articles 7 and 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/624, using incision and palpation of the carcase and offal.’;
- (10) in Article 27, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:
- ‘2. Where the animals have been slaughtered outside the slaughterhouse, the official veterinarian at the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment shall verify the certificate.’;
- (11) in Article 33, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:
- ‘1. Where animals have reacted positively or inconclusively to tuberculin, or there are other grounds for suspecting infection, they shall be slaughtered or handled separately from other animals, taking precautions to avoid the risk of contamination of other carcasses, the production line and staff present in the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment.’;
- (12) in Article 34, paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:
- ‘1. Where animals have reacted positively or inconclusively to a brucellosis test, or there are other grounds for suspecting infection, they shall be slaughtered or handled separately from other animals, taking precautions to avoid the risk of contamination of other carcasses, the production line and staff present in the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment.’;
- (13) Article 39 is amended as follows:
- (a) in paragraph 2, point (a) is replaced by the following:
- ‘(a) the official veterinarian shall inform the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment.’;
- (b) paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:
- ‘3. The competent authorities shall enter the results of official controls in relevant databases, at least where the collection of such information is required under Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC, Articles 3 and 4 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002 (*) and Annex III to Directive 2007/43/EC.

(*) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2002 of 7 December 2020 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to Union notification and Union reporting of listed diseases, to formats and procedures for submission and reporting of Union surveillance programmes and of eradication programmes and for application for recognition of disease-free status, and to the computerised information system (OJ L 412, 8.12.2020, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2020/2002/oj).’;

(14) in Article 40, the following paragraph is added:

‘4. The official veterinarian shall also ensure that animals are not slaughtered unless he or she has verified the relevant food chain information in accordance with Article 9(2), point (b), in the case of:

- (a) emergency slaughter outside the slaughterhouse in accordance with Section I, Chapter VI, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004;
- (b) slaughter, other than emergency slaughter, at the holding of provenance of domestic bovine animals other than bison, ovine, caprine and porcine animals and domestic solipeds in accordance with Section I, Chapter VIa, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004;
- (c) slaughter at the holding of origin of farmed ruminants and farmed even-toed game mammals in accordance with Section III, point 3, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and of bison in accordance with Section III, point 4, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.’;

(15) in Article 42(2), the first sentence is replaced by the following:

‘The competent authorities shall take action against the food business operator responsible for the holding of provenance of the animals, or any other person involved, including the operator of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment.’;

(16) in Article 45, point (e) is replaced by the following:

- ‘(e) derives from animals affected by animal diseases for which animal health rules are laid down in, or are adopted on the basis of, Part III, Title II, or Article 259, of Regulation (EU) 2016/429, in particular derives from animals affected by animal diseases for which animal health rules are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 (*), except if it is obtained in conformity with the specific requirements provided for in Regulation (EU) 2016/429 and in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687; this exception shall not apply if otherwise provided for in the requirements on the official controls of tuberculosis and brucellosis provided for in Articles 33 and 34 of this Regulation;

(*) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, p. 64, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/687/oj).’;

(17) Article 48 is amended as follows:

- (a) in paragraph 2, point (b) is replaced by the following:

‘(b) the health mark is applied on the external surface of the carcass, by stamping in ink or hot branding, in such a manner that, if carcasses are cut in the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment into half carcasses or quarters, or half carcasses are cut into three pieces, each piece bears a health mark.’;

- (b) the following subparagraph is added in paragraph 3:

‘The requirements on the form of the health mark in Annex II of this Regulation may be replaced by the requirements for a special health mark laid down on the basis of Article 67, second subparagraph, point (a), Article 71(3) or (4), or Article 259 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.’;

(18) in Annex I, the heading of point 5 of the model document is replaced by the following:

‘5. Contact details of slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment (approval number)’;

(19) in Annex II, points 1(b) and (c) are replaced by the following:

- ‘(b) the approval number of the slaughterhouse or game-handling establishment;

- (c) (when the mark is applied in an establishment located in the Union) the abbreviations EC, EU, EL, UE, EE, AE, ES or EÚ. Those abbreviations must not appear on marks applied on meat imported into the Union from slaughterhouses or game-handling establishments located outside the Union.’;

Article 2

The health marks on meat fit for human consumption after ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection may continue to include the abbreviations CE, EC, EF, EG, EK, EO, EY, ES, EÜ, EB, EZ, KE or WE set out in point 1(c) of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627, as that point stood before the amendments made by this Regulation, until 31 December 2028.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 July 2025.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN