



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Amended EU regulations, effective from July 1st 2013, bring EU trade requirements more in line with World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). In order to demonstrate Scrapie freedom an increased surveillance period of seven years is now added and is required for some countries. There will be 2 categories of status for SMS members.

1) Negligible Risk ±this is equivalent to Scrapie free and is for flocks/herds showing compliance for 7 years. Movement of sheep and goats (and their embryos/semen) to the 4 member states(see below) with an approved control programme can only take place from holdings with this status. Some South American countries also stipulate animals of Negligible Risk status

±is freedom for at least 3 years and is intended for all the other member states that do not have an approved scrapie control programme in place. This is similar to the current situation. Controlled risk flocks may achieve Negligible risk status after being monitored for 7 years.

Questions and Answers

Q: Why have these changes been introduced?

A: To align EU rules in this area with those recommended by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), mainly to enable Member States (MSs) which are considered Negligible Risk or have an approved National Scrapie Control Programme to protect their status by only allowing ovine/caprine animals of a similar health status.

Q: When will these changes come into effect?

A: These changes came into effect from 1 July 2013.

Q: Is there a transitional period?

A: Yes.

Q: What is this transitional period?

A: The transitional period only relates to how the holding of origin is classified in terms of the classical scrapie risk. Until 31 December 2014 evidence of Controlled and/or Negligible Risk can be provided by routes other than membership of a government approved scheme.

However, from 1 January 2015, it must be through such a scheme which, in the United Kingdom, is the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme (SMS). The SMS is provided by SAC Consulting: [Premium Sheep and Goat Health Scheme \(PSGHS\)](#).. SAC Consulting is part of S F R W O D Q G ¶ V 5 X U D O & R O O H J H 6 5 8 &

A: If you are a current member of the SMS or intend to join in the future please contact