



# FALKLAND ISLANDS BIOSECURITY

PROTECTING OUR HOME, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

## A Guide To Importing Goods



Falkland Islands Government  
Department of Agriculture

## Biosecurity & Imports

The Falkland Islands are free from many of the pests and diseases which affect plants and animals in other parts of the world. However, the relatively pristine environment and unique wildlife is vulnerable to the introduction of invasive species, pests and diseases.

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.

Imported goods may carry such organisms and pose a threat not only to the environment but also the economy through negative effects on agriculture, tourism and fisheries.

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.



<b>PROHIBITED</b>	
<b>Plants, animals or other biological material injurious to the health or well being of people, animals or plants of the Falkland Islands.</b>	
<b>RESTRICTED - REQUIRING IMPORT PERMIT</b>	
<b>ANIMALS</b>	Live animals can only enter the Falkland Islands under Import License and accompanied by veterinary health certification—Contact the Veterinary Service
<b>MEAT &amp; MEAT PRODUCTS</b>	Meat (fresh or frozen) and products containing meat require a Food Of Animal Origin (FOAO) Import Permit and must be accompanied by zoosanitary certificate OR see <b>PERSONAL IMPORTS</b> .
<b>DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>	Dairy products (except some UHT products see below) require FOAO Import Permit and must be accompanied by zoosanitary certification OR see <b>PERSONAL IMPORTS</b> .
<b>EGGS</b>	Eggs require a FOAO Import Permit and must be accompanied by zoosanitary certification OR see <b>PERSONAL IMPORTS</b> .
<b>PLANT MATERIAL FRUIT &amp; VEGETABLES</b>	ALL plant material require a Plant Import Permit and must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate OR see <b>PERSONAL IMPORTS</b> .
<b>PRODUCTS OF BIOLOGICAL ORIGIN</b>	<u>Unprocessed</u> products of biological origin may require an Import Permit and be accompanied by relevant certification. Feathers, skins, leathers, wool, bone, embryos, semen, veterinary products - check with the DoA.
<b>RESTRICTED - NOT REQUIRING IMPORT PERMIT</b>	
<b>SHEARING EQUIPMENT</b>	Used shearing equipment including clothing & footwear. Must be free from organic matter.
<b>AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT</b>	Used agricultural equipment including clothing & footwear. Must be free from organic matter.
<b>OUTDOOR SPORTS EQUIPMENT</b>	Used outdoor sports equipment. Fishing & camping gear, golf clubs, hiking poles etc. Must be free of organic matter.
<b>PLANT SEEDS</b>	Seeds must be in commercial packaging, clearly labelled with species and quantity. Some species of plant (eg. Japanese Knotweed) are prohibited.
<b>ALLOWED</b>	
<b>PROCESSED MEATS &amp; MEAT PRODUCTS</b>	Tinned or Highly processed cooked meats or meat products. Must be in sealed packaging, detailing type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin. Tinned meats and ready made meals.
<b>UHT DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>	UHT milk and UHT yoghurts of any origin. Must be in sealed packaging, detailing type of product and clearly marked UHT.

<b>PROCESSED DAIRY PRODUCTS</b>	Highly processed or cooked dairy products and foodstuffs containing such. Dried milk powder, puddings, baby foods.
<b>PROCESSED FRUIT VEGETABLES</b>	Processed plant material. Must be in sealed packaging, detailing type of product, processing method, manufacturer and country of origin. Dried fruits & vegetables, dried herbs & spices, rice, nuts and canned products.
<b>FISH &amp; FISH PRODUCTS</b>	Fish and fish products, fresh, frozen or processed.

## Personal Imports

Certain fruits, meats and dairy produce may be carried to the Falklands as a Personal Import without the need of an import permit or sanitary certificate. This allows each passenger to carry a maximum of 5kg of goods providing certain 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.
- They must be commercially packaged (or labelled), be free of soil, insects and other organic matter.
- Accompanied by a proof of purchase (receipt) showing the name of the supplier, date of purchase, item & quantity of units.

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

### Meat, Eggs & Dairy Products

- Meat, eggs and dairy products must be sourced from within the European Union.
- Meat and meat products must be in the original sealed packaging and bear the EU symbol.
- Meat and meat products sourced from a country outside the European Union can be sourced from a Non-EU approved establishment ([https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/international\\_affairs/trade/non-eu-countries\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/international_affairs/trade/non-eu-countries_en)) and be accompanied by a receipt.
- Milk and milk products must be clearly labelled as UHT.
- Eggs must bear the British Lion mark on the shell, be free of all faecal and other organic material and must not exceed 12 per person.

## Import Permits

Some restricted items can only be brought into the Falklands under an Import Permit. Import Permits contain a list of conditions that must be fulfilled prior to import.

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

There are several types of import permit but the most common are for 'Plant Materials' including fruit and vegetables, and 'FOAO' (Foods Of Animal Origin) which includes meat, meat products, dairy and eggs.

Import permits can cover any quantity or type of product within that classification, for example several types of fruit and vegetable can be imported on a single import permit, however an import containing both meat and fruits would require two import permits (one for plant material and one for FOAO).

	Commercial	Private
Annual Import Permit	£132.80	N/A
Single Import Permit	£16.10	£4.20

NOTE: If importing goods under an annual import permit you are required to send a completed 'Notification of Arrival' to the DoA at least three working days prior to the import taking place.

### **Importing Live Animals**

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

### **Phytosanitary & Zoosanitary Certificates**

Import Permits stipulate that plants and animal products are inspected or health checked by the relevant authority prior to being imported into the Falkland Islands. Following the health check a certificate is issued to show that the products are free from pathogens.

Health certificates for Plant or Food Of Animal Origin are called phytosanitary and zoosanitary certificates respectively. They are issued by the exporting country's plant & animal health

organisations (DEFRA in the UK or SAG in Chile for example).

Export health checks and the provision of health certificates is usually arranged by the supplier or exporter. It can be costly and is usually only undertaken for larger quantities of goods.

### **Clearance Certificates**

Containers with notifiable goods may not be released from the port or shipper without a clearance certificate. Clearance Certificates will be issued by the Biosecurity Officer on receipt of health certificates (copies if necessary) and invoices.

### **Inspections**

Imported goods are subject to inspection on arrival to the Falklands.

Before your goods arrive contact us to arrange a biosecurity inspection. Inspections should take place during normal working hours Monday to Friday 0800-1630 unless otherwise arranged with the Biosecurity Officer. Containers should not be opened prior to inspection.

Goods are inspected for the presence of pests, diseases and invasive species which could be on the imports or otherwise hidden among packing materials or in the container itself.

If there is any outstanding paperwork it should be handed to the Biosecurity Officer during the inspection.

### **Importers Checklist**

1. Does your import require an Import Permit? - If in doubt contact the Biosecurity Officer.
  - If the answer is 'yes', continue to step 2.
  - If the answer is 'no', check that your import fulfils all other relevant criteria and continue with your import.
2. Contact the Biosecurity Officer for an Import Permit application form.
3. Arrange for your goods to have an inspection and correct health certification.
4. Ensure that all import requirements as stated in the Import Permit are fulfilled before shipping the goods to the Falkland Islands.
5. If you have opted for an annual Import Permit ensure that at least three working days prior to the import you send a 'Notification of Arrival' to the Biosecurity Officer.
6. On arrival contact the Biosecurity Officer to arrange an inspection, and obtain a Clearance Certificate if required.

# Biosecurity

Department of Agriculture  
Stanley  
Falkland Islands  
FIQQ 1ZZ

Phone: (+500) 27355  
Fax: (+500) 27352  
E-mail: [biosecurity@doa.gov.fk](mailto:biosecurity@doa.gov.fk)

[www.fig.gov.fk/agriculture](http://www.fig.gov.fk/agriculture)



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