Official Journal
of the European Union

EN
L series

2026/772

30.3.2026

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2026/772

of 26 March 2026

amending Annexes V and XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 as regards the entries for the United Kingdom and the United States in the lists of third countries, territories, or zones thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of poultry and germinal products of poultry, and of fresh meat of poultry and game birds

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to 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') ([1]), and in particular Article 230(1) and Article 232(1), point (b) thereof.

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EU) 2016/429 provides that consignments of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin from third countries or territories are only to be allowed to enter into the Union if the third countries or territories concerned are listed in accordance with Article 230(1) of that Regulation.

(2) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 ([2]) lays down the animal health requirements that consignments of certain species and categories of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin, from third countries, territories, or zones thereof, or compartments thereof in the case of aquaculture animals, must comply with in order to enter the Union.

(3) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 ([3]) lays down the lists of third countries, territories, or zones thereof, from which the entry into the Union of the species and categories of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin, falling within the scope of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, is permitted. Those lists and certain general rules concerning those lists are set out in Annexes I to XXII to that Implementing Regulation.

(4) More particularly, Annexes V and XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 set out the lists of third countries, territories, or zones thereof, authorised for the entry into the Union, respectively, of consignments of poultry and germinal products of poultry, and of fresh meat of poultry and game birds.

(5) On 20 March 2026, the United States has notified the Commission of four new outbreaks of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in poultry in the states of Michigan, Maryland, and Pennsylvania which were confirmed between 13 March 2026 and 17 March 2026 by laboratory analysis (RT-PCR).

([1]) OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/429/oj.

([2]) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 of 30 January 2020 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for entry into the Union, and the movement and handling after entry of consignments of certain animals, germinal products and products of animal origin (OJ L 174, 3.6.2020, p. 379, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/692/oj).

([3]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 of 24 March 2021 laying down the lists of third countries, territories or zones thereof from which the entry into the Union of animals, germinal products and products of animal origin is permitted in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 114, 31.3.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2021/404/oj).

(6) Following those recent outbreaks of HPAI, the veterinary authority of the United States notified the establishment of restricted zones of at least 10 km around the affected establishments and the implementation of a stamping-out policy to control the presence of HPAI and limit the spread of that disease.

(7) The United States has submitted further information to the Commission on the epidemiological situation on its territory and the measures that were taken to prevent the further spread of HPAI following those recent HPAI outbreaks.

(8) The information provided by the United States has been evaluated by the Commission. In view of the animal health situation in the areas under restrictions established by the veterinary authority of the United States, it is appropriate to suspend the entry into the Union of consignments of poultry and germinal products of poultry, and of fresh meat of poultry and game birds from the areas concerned by the new outbreaks in that third country in order to protect the animal health status of the Union, taking into account the dates when the outbreaks were confirmed. Therefore, the entries for the United States in the tables set out in Section B of Part 1 and in Part 2 of Annex V, and the table set out in Section B of Part 1 of Annex XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 should be amended accordingly.

(9) In addition, the United Kingdom and the United States have provided updated information to the Commission in relation to the epidemiological situation on their respective territories as regards earlier outbreaks of HPAI that gave rise to the suspension of the entry into the Union of consignments of poultry and germinal products of poultry, and of fresh meat of poultry and game birds, as set out in the table in Section B of Part 1 of Annex V, and in the table in Section B of Part 1 of Annex XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

(10) In particular, on 24 March 2026, the United Kingdom submitted updated information on the animal health situation and the measures it has taken in relation to seven outbreaks of HPAI in poultry in the county of Suffolk, in England, and in the council areas of Midlothian and Scottish Borders, in Scotland, which were confirmed between 18 December 2025 and 30 January 2026 by laboratory analysis (RT-PCR).

(11) On 17 March 2026, the United States submitted updated information on the animal health situation and the measures it has taken in relation to three outbreaks of HPAI in poultry in the state of Indiana which were confirmed between 17 November 2025 and 28 November 2025 by laboratory analysis (RT-PCR).

(12) The United Kingdom and the United States have informed the Commission that, following those earlier outbreaks of HPAI, they had implemented a stamping out policy in order to control and limit the spread of that disease, and they had also completed the requisite cleaning and disinfection following the implementation of the stamping out policy in the infected poultry establishments.

(13) The Commission has evaluated the information submitted by the United Kingdom and the United States in that regard and considers that they have provided appropriate guarantees that the animal health situation that had given rise to the suspension of the entry of consignments of poultry and germinal products of poultry, and of fresh meat of poultry and game birds into the Union from the affected zones, as set out in the table in Section B of Part 1 of Annex V, and in the table in Section B of Part 1 of Annex XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404, no longer represents a threat to animal or public health in the Union, and that, consequently, the entry into the Union of those consignments from the affected zones of the United Kingdom and the United States, from which entry into the Union had been suspended, should be re-authorised. Therefore, the entries for the United Kingdom and the United States in those tables in those Annexes should be amended accordingly.

(14) Taking into account the new HPAI outbreaks in the United States, and in order to avoid any unnecessary disruption in trade with the United Kingdom and the United States, the amendments to be made to Annexes V and XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 by this Regulation should take effect as a matter of urgency.

(15) 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

Annexes V and XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 are amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 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, 26 March 2026.

For the Commission
The President
Ursula VON DER LEYEN

ANNEX

Annexes V and XIV to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 are amended as follows:

(1) Annex V is amended as follows:

(a) in Part 1, Section B is amended as follows:

(i) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.445 is replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.445	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		18.12.2025	19.3.2026'

(ii) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the rows for the zones GB-2.449 and GB-2.450 are replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.449	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		22.12.2025	19.3.2026
	GB-2.450		N, P1		24.12.2025	19.3.2026'

(iii) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.459 is replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.459	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		11.1.2026	19.3.2026'

(iv) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.461 is replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.461	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		15.1.2026	18.3.2026'

(v) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the rows for the zones GB-2.464 and GB-2.465 are replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.464	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		24.1.2026	19.3.2026
	GB-2.465		N, P1		30.1.2026	20.3.2026'

(vi) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1142 is replaced by the following:

'**US** United States	US-2.1142	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		17.11.2025	25.3.2026'

(vii) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1161 is replaced by the following:

'**US** United States	US-2.1161	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		21.11.2025	25.3.2026'

(viii) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1172 is replaced by the following:

'**US** United States	US-2.1172	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		28.11.2025	25.3.2026'

(ix) in the entry for the United States, the following rows for the zones US-2.1332 to US-2.1335 are added after the row for the zone US-2.1331:

'**US** United States	US-2.1332	BPP, BPR, DOC, DOR, SP, SR, POU-LT20, HEP, HER, HE-LT20	N, P1		12.3.2026	
	US-2.1333		N, P1		13.3.2026	
	US-2.1334		N, P1		13.3.2026	
	US-2.1335		N, P1		17.3.2026'	

(b) In Part 2, in the entry for the United States, the following descriptions of the zones US-2.1332 to US-2.1335 are added after the description of the zone US-2.1331:

'United States	US-2.1332	State of Michigan Kent 01 Kent County: A circular zone of a 10 km radius starting with North point (GPS coordinates: 85.3092733°W 42.9462896°N)
	US-2.1333	State of Michigan Kent 02 Kent County: A circular zone of a 10 km radius starting with North point (GPS coordinates: 85.3169823°W 42.9525204°N)
	US-2.1334	State of Maryland Cecil 05 Cecil County: A circular zone of a 10 km radius starting with North point (GPS coordinates: 75.7930405°W 39.4839319°N)
	US-2.1335	State of Pennsylvania Lancaster 71 Lancaster County: A circular zone of a 10 km radius starting with North point (GPS coordinates: 76.4576612°W 40.1574134°N)'

(2) in Annex XIV, in Part 1, Section B is amended as follows:

(a) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.445 is replaced by the following:

'**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.445	POU, RAT	N, P1		18.12.2025	19.3.2026
		GBM	P1		18.12.2025	19.3.2026'

(b) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zones GB-2.449 and GB-2.450 are replaced by the following:

‘**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.449	POU, RAT	N, P1		22.12.2025	19.3.2026
		GBM	P1		22.12.2025	19.3.2026
	GB-2.450	POU, RAT	N, P1		24.12.2025	19.3.2026
		GBM	P1		24.12.2025	19.3.2026’

(c) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.459 is replaced by the following:

‘**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.459	POU, RAT	N, P1		11.1.2026	19.3.2026
		GBM	P1		11.1.2026	19.3.2026’

(d) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zone GB-2.461 is replaced by the following:

‘**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.461	POU, RAT	N, P1		15.1.2026	18.3.2026
		GBM	P1		15.1.2026	18.3.2026’

(e) in the entry for the United Kingdom, the row for the zones GB-2.464 and GB-2.465 are replaced by the following:

‘**GB** United Kingdom	GB-2.464	POU, RAT	N, P1		24.1.2026	19.3.2026
		GBM	P1		24.1.2026	19.3.2026
	GB-2.465	POU, RAT	N, P1		30.1.2026	20.3.2026
		GBM	P1		30.1.2026	20.3.2026’

(f) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1142 is replaced by the following:

‘**US** United States	US-2.1142	POU, RAT	N, P1		17.11.2025	25.3.2026
		GBM	P1		17.11.2025	25.3.2026’

(g) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1161 is replaced by the following:

‘**US** United States	US-2.1161	POU, RAT	N, P1		21.11.2025	25.3.2026
		GBM	P1		21.11.2025	25.3.2026’

(h) in the entry for the United States, the row for the zone US-2.1172 is replaced by the following:

‘**US** United States	US-2.1172	POU, RAT	N, P1		28.11.2025	25.3.2026
		GBM	P1		28.11.2025	25.3.2026’

(i) in the entry for the United States, the following rows for the zones US-2.1332 to US-2.1335 are added after the row for the zone US-2.1331:

‘**US** United States	US-2.1332	POU, RAT	N, P1		12.3.2026	
		GBM	P1		12.3.2026	
	US-2.1333	POU, RAT	N, P1		13.3.2026	
		GBM	P1		13.3.2026	
	US-2.1334	POU, RAT	N, P1		13.3.2026	
		GBM	P1		13.3.2026	
	US-2.1335	POU, RAT	N, P1		17.3.2026	
		GBM	P1		17.3.2026’	