

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 (Text with EEA relevance)

PART II

ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNION OF KEPT TERRESTRIAL ANIMALS AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLES 3 AND 5

TITLE 4

ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR HONEYBEES AND BUMBLE BEES

CHAPTER 1

General animal health requirements for honeybees and bumble bees

Article 63

Authorised categories of bees

Only consignments of the following categories of bees shall be permitted to enter the Union:

- (a) queen honeybees;
- (b) bumble bees.

Article 64

Dispatch to the Union of honeybees and bumble bees

Consignments of queen honeybees and bumble bees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if they comply with the following requirements:

- (a) the packaging material and queen cages used to dispatch the honeybees and bumble bees into the Union must:
 - (i) be new;
 - (ii) not have been in contact with any bees and brood combs;
 - (iii) have been subject to all precautions to prevent their contamination with pathogens causing diseases of honeybees or bumble bees;
- (b) the feedingstuff accompanying the honeybees and bumble bees must be free from pathogens causing their diseases;

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- (c) the packaging material and accompanying products must have undergone a visual examination prior to dispatch to the Union to ensure that they do not pose an animal health risk and do not contain:
- (i) in the case of honeybees, *Aethina tumida* (Small hive beetle) and *Tropilaelaps* mite in any of their life stages;
 - (ii) in the case of bumble bees, *Aethina tumida* (Small hive beetle), in any of their life stages.

CHAPTER 2

Specific animal health requirements for queen honeybees

Article 65

The apiary of origin of queen honeybees

Consignments of queen honeybees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if the honeybees of the consignment originate from an apiary which is situated in an area:

- (a) of at least a 100 km radius, including where appropriate the territory of a neighbouring third country:
 - (i) where infestation with *Aethina tumida* (Small hive beetle) or infestation with *Tropilaelaps* spp. has not been reported;
 - (ii) there are no restrictions in place due to a suspicion, case or outbreak of the diseases referred to in (i);
- (b) of at least 3 km radius, including where appropriate the territory of a neighbouring third country:
 - (i) American foulbrood has not been reported for a period of at least 30 days prior to the date of loading for dispatch to the Union;
 - (ii) there are no restrictions in place due to a suspicion or a confirmed case of American foulbrood during the period referred to in point (i);
 - (iii) where there had been a previous confirmed case of American foulbrood before the period referred to in point (i), all hives were subsequently checked by the competent authority in the third country or territory of origin and all infected hives were treated and subsequently inspected with favourable results within a period of 30 days from the date of last recorded case of that disease.

Article 66

The hive of origin of queen honeybees

Consignments of queen honeybees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if the honeybees of the consignment originate from hives from which samples of the comb have been tested for American foulbrood with negative results within the period of 30 days prior to the date of loading for dispatch to the Union.

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Article 67

The consignment of queen honeybees

Consignments of queen honeybees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if such consignments are in closed cages, each containing one single queen honeybee with a maximum of 20 accompanying attendants.

Article 68

Additional guarantees for queen honeybees destined to certain Member States or zone as regards the infestation with *Varroa* spp. (*Varroosis*)

Consignments of queen honeybees destined to a Member State or zone with disease-free status for infestation with *Varroa* spp. (*Varroosis*) shall only be permitted to enter the Union if such consignments comply with the following requirements:

- (a) the honeybees of the consignment must originate from a third country or territory or zone thereof free from infestation with infestation with *Varroa* spp. (*Varroosis*);
- (b) in the third country or territory of origin or zone thereof, infestation with *Varroa* spp. (*Varroosis*) has not been reported for a period of 30 days prior to the date of loading for dispatch to the Union;
- (c) every precaution has been taken to avoid contamination of the consignment with *Varroa* spp. during loading and dispatch to the Union.

CHAPTER 3

Specific animal health requirements for bumble bees

Article 69

The establishment of origin of bumble bees

Consignments of bumble bees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if the bumble bees of the consignment:

- (a) have been bred and kept in an environmentally isolated bumble bee production establishment which:
 - (i) has facilities which ensure that the production of bumble bees is carried out inside of a flying insect-proof building;
 - (ii) has facilities and equipment which ensure that the bumble bees are further isolated in separate epidemiological units and each colony in closed containers within the building throughout the whole production;
 - (iii) the storage and handling of pollen within the facilities is isolated from the bumble bees throughout the whole production of bumble bees until it is fed to them;

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- (iv) has standard operating procedures to prevent the entry of small hive beetle into the establishment and to regularly survey for the presence of small hive beetle within the establishment;
- (b) within the establishment referred to in point (a), the bumble bees must come from an epidemiological unit in which infestation with *Aethina tumida* (Small hive beetle) has not been detected.

Article 70

The consignment of bumble bees

Consignments of bumble bees shall only be permitted to enter the Union if such consignments have been dispatched to the Union in closed containers, each containing a colony of a maximum of 200 adult bumble bees, with or without a queen.

CHAPTER 4

Specific animal health requirements for handling after the entry of queen honeybees and bumble bees

Article 71

Handling after the entry of queen honeybees and bumble bees

1 Following their entry into the Union, queen honeybees must not be introduced in local colonies unless they are transferred from the transport cage to new cages in accordance with paragraph 2 with the permission and, as appropriate, under the direct supervision of the competent authority.

2 Following the transfer in new cages as referred to in paragraph 1, the transport cages, attendants, and other material that accompanied the queen honeybees from the third country of origin must be submitted to an official laboratory for examination to rule out the presence of *Aethina Tumida* (Small hive beetle), including eggs and larvae, and any signs of the *Tropilaelaps* mite.

3 Operators receiving bumble bees shall destroy the container and the packaging material that accompanied them from the third country or territory of origin but they may keep them in the container in which they entered into the Union until the end of the lifespan of the colony.

Article 72

Specific obligations for the competent authorities in the Member States

The competent authority of the Member State of the place of destination of consignments of honeybees or bumble bees shall:

- (a) supervise the transfer from the transport cage to the new cages referred to in Article 71(1);

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- (b) ensure the submission by the operator of the materials referred to in Article 71(2);
- (c) ensure that the official laboratory referred to in Article 71(2) have arrangements in place to destroy the cages, attendants and the material after the laboratory examination provided for in that provision.

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