

**Update of the Opinion  
of the  
SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE  
on the  
Geographical Risk of  
Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy  
(GBR)**

adopted by the SSC on 7 November 2002

In its update of the Opinion on the Geographical Risk of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (GBR) of 11 January 2002, the Scientific Steering Committee introduced a refinement of the external challenge BSE-risk<sup>1</sup> countries may pose to other countries if they import either live bovines or MBM<sup>2</sup> from them. Since the opinion of 11 January was published 7 more countries have been assessed as being BSE-risk countries. Therefore the following countries need to be added to table 3 of the opinion of 11 January 2002.

<b>Country Name</b>	<b>GBR</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>R2</b>
<b>1. Bulgaria</b>	III	1980	1986
<b>2. Croatia</b>	III	no data	1992
<b>3. Israel</b>	III		1980
<b>4. Latvia</b>	III		1980
<b>5. Malta</b>	III		1980
<b>6. San Marino</b>	III	1983	1990
<b>7. Turkey</b>	III	1980	1984

**Table 1: Countries in GBR III and IV and the year since when it is regarded possible (R1) or likely (R2) that exports of live bovine or MBM could have represented an external challenge to the importing country.**

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<sup>1</sup> BSE-Risk countries are all countries already assessed as GBR III or IV or with at least one confirmed domestic BSE case.

<sup>2</sup> For the purpose of the GBR assessment the abbreviation “MBM” refers to rendering products, in particular the commodities Meat and Bone Meal as such; Meat Meal; Bone Meal; and Greaves. With regard to imports it refers to the customs code 230110 “flours, meals and pellets, made from meat or offal, not fit for human consumption; greaves”.